

GENERIC · BODY

B0130

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

B0130

Driver Seatbelt Tension Sensor Circuit

B0130 indicates that the body control module (BCM) or occupant classification system has detected an abnormal signal from the driver seatbelt tension sensor circuit. This sensor measures the force exerted by the seatbelt on the driver's buckle or retractor, and the code sets when the voltage or resistance falls outside the expected range for a specified time.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Body	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems

Symptoms you may notice

- The seatbelt warning light stays illuminated or flashes continuously.
- The airbag or supplemental restraint system (SRS) warning light may also turn on.
- The driver seatbelt reminder chime may sound intermittently or not at all.
- In some vehicles, the passenger airbag may be disabled or the restraint system may default to a safe mode.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with the seatbelt functioning normally.

Common causes, most likely first

- Faulty driver seatbelt tension sensor or buckle assembly.
- Damaged or corroded wiring harness or connector at the seatbelt sensor.
- Open or short circuit in the sensor circuit due to chafed wires under the seat.
- Failed body control module (BCM) or occupant classification module.
- Poor electrical connection at the BCM or sensor ground point.
- Aftermarket seat covers or objects interfering with the sensor mechanism.

How to diagnose and fix it

- Inspect the seatbelt buckle and sensor connector for physical damage, corrosion, or loose pins.
- Check the wiring harness under the driver seat for chafing, pinching, or broken wires.
- Measure the sensor resistance and compare to the manufacturer's specification.
- Test the sensor circuit for opens, shorts to ground, and shorts to voltage using a multimeter.
- Verify power and ground at the sensor connector with the ignition on.
- If the sensor and wiring test good, check for technical service bulletins (TSBs) or software updates for the BCM.
- Replace the seatbelt tension sensor or buckle assembly if it fails the resistance test, then clear the code and verify repair.

Before you replace the seatbelt buckle

- A common oversight is failing to check the sensor ground circuit, which can cause a false B0130 even when the sensor itself is good.
- The code can be set by a low battery or charging system issue that causes voltage spikes, so always verify battery health first.
- On some vehicles, the seatbelt tension sensor is part of the occupant classification system, and a fault can disable the passenger airbag, so address it promptly.
- After any repair, the BCM may require a relearn or calibration procedure for the occupant classification system to clear the code permanently.
- Do not overlook aftermarket accessories or spilled liquids that can contaminate the sensor connector and cause intermittent faults.

Can I keep driving with B0130?

You can generally drive with B0130, but the restraint system may be compromised, so avoid collisions and have the fault diagnosed soon. If the airbag light is also on, the airbags may not deploy in a crash, so drive cautiously and seek repair promptly.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with body code capability
- Digital multimeter
- Wire repair kit (splices, heat shrink, electrical tape)
- Trim removal tools
- Manufacturer service information for wiring diagrams and resistance specs

Reading B0130

- B** Body: airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 1** Airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems.
- 30** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

B0131 A/V Sensor Washer Fluid C Control Circuit · **B0132** A/V Sensor Washer Fluid D Control Circuit · **B0133** A/V Sensor Washer Fluid E Control Circuit · **B0134** A/V Sensor Washer Fluid F Control Circuit



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Push-Button Start Works: Keyless Ignition](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/b0130/>

