

GENERIC · BODY

B0532

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

B0532

Left Rear Door Lock Actuator Circuit

B0532 indicates that the body control module (BCM) has detected an abnormal condition in the electrical circuit for the left rear door lock actuator. The BCM monitors the voltage and current on the actuator's control circuit and sets this code when the signal falls outside the expected range, typically indicating an open, short, or excessive resistance in the wiring or actuator itself.

SYSTEM

Body

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Low

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems

Symptoms you may notice

- The left rear door lock does not respond to the power lock switch, key fob, or central locking command.
- The left rear door may remain locked or unlocked regardless of attempts to change its state.
- A warning light on the dashboard, often the door ajar or security light, may illuminate.
- The central locking system may exhibit erratic behavior, such as other doors locking but not the left rear.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, as the door may still operate manually.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty left rear door lock actuator (most common).
- 2 Damaged or corroded wiring in the door jamb boot, leading to an open or short circuit.
- 3 Loose or corroded electrical connector at the actuator or BCM.
- 4 Blown fuse or relay in the door lock circuit (though less common for a single door).
- 5 Water intrusion into the actuator or connector causing corrosion.
- 6 BCM internal fault (rare, but possible if all other causes are ruled out).

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the code with a scan tool and check for any related codes in the BCM.
- 2 Inspect the wiring harness and connector at the left rear door jamb for damage, corrosion, or loose pins.
- 3 Test the actuator with a multimeter or by applying power and ground directly to confirm operation.
- 4 Check the fuse and relay associated with the door lock circuit if accessible.
- 5 If the actuator fails testing, replace it and clear the code.
- 6 If wiring is faulty, repair or replace the affected section and clear the code.
- 7 After repair, test all door lock functions and ensure the code does not return.



Before you replace the door lock actuator

- A common misdiagnosis is replacing the actuator when the real problem is a broken wire in the flexible boot between the door and body, which can be visually inspected by peeling back the boot.
- The BCM may set this code if the actuator motor is drawing excessive current due to mechanical binding in the door latch assembly, so check for smooth operation before condemning the electrical parts.
- On some vehicles, the left rear door lock actuator shares a ground with other components, and a poor ground can cause this code along with other unrelated symptoms.
- After replacing the actuator, some vehicles require a relearn procedure for the door locks, so consult the factory service information to avoid a repeat code.
- This code can be set intermittently by water intrusion after a car wash or heavy rain, so check for moisture in the connector and apply dielectric grease during repair.

Can I keep driving with B0532?

The vehicle is safe to drive because the left rear door can still be locked and unlocked manually, but avoid relying on the power lock system for that door. Have the fault repaired soon to prevent further electrical issues or a completely inoperative door lock.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool
- Multimeter
- Trim removal tools
- Torx or Phillips screwdrivers
- Test light
- Factory service information

Reading B0532

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

Often seen with

B0530 Driver Door Lock Actuator Circuit · **B0531** Passenger Door Lock Actuator Circuit · **B0533** Right Rear Door Lock Actuator Circuit



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a Padlock Works: Pin Tumbler Lock in X-Ray](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/b0532/>

