

GENERIC · CHASSIS

C0498

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

C0498

Lateral Acceleration Sensor Circuit

C0498 means the electronic stability control (ESC) module has detected a fault in the lateral acceleration sensor circuit, which measures how hard the vehicle is cornering. The computer compares the sensor signal against plausible limits and other motion sensors, and it sets this code when the voltage or data stream falls outside the expected range.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Chassis	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Brakes, steering and suspension

Symptoms you may notice

- The stability control (ESC) and traction control warning lights illuminate steadily on the dashboard.
- The stability control system is disabled, so the vehicle will not intervene during a skid or loss of grip.
- A message such as 'Service StabiliTrak' or 'ESC Off' may appear in the driver information center.
- The vehicle may feel normal in everyday driving because the sensor only matters during hard cornering or evasive maneuvers.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the fault is intermittent.
- In rare cases, the ABS or brake warning light may also come on if the module shares the same sensor network.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 A damaged or chafed wire in the lateral acceleration sensor harness, often near the sensor mounting point or where the harness flexes.
- 2 Corroded or loose electrical connectors at the sensor or at the ESC module, allowing intermittent signal loss.
- 3 A failed lateral acceleration sensor, typically due to internal electronics or moisture intrusion.
- 4 A sensor that has come loose from its mounting bracket and is no longer reading the correct axis of movement.
- 5 Low system voltage or a weak battery that causes the sensor reference voltage to drop out of range.
- 6 A faulty ESC module that cannot process the sensor signal correctly, though this is less common than wiring issues.
- 7 Aftermarket accessories or poor previous repairs that disturbed the sensor wiring or mounting.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Scan all modules for codes and record freeze-frame data to see the exact conditions when C0498 set.
- 2 Inspect the lateral acceleration sensor harness and connectors for chafing, corrosion, or loose pins, and repair as needed.
- 3 Check battery voltage and charging system output to rule out low voltage as the root cause.
- 4 Verify the sensor is securely mounted and that its mounting surface is clean and free of debris.
- 5 Use a scan tool to view live lateral acceleration data while driving a safe cornering maneuver and compare it to expected values.
- 6 Perform a resistance and voltage drop test on the sensor circuit wiring if live data looks erratic or frozen.
- 7 Replace the lateral acceleration sensor if wiring and power are confirmed good, then clear codes and perform any required calibration or zero-point reset.

Lateral acceleration sensor traps to avoid

- A common mistake is replacing the sensor first when the real fault is a chafed wire behind a trim panel or near a seat track that flexes with body movement.
- The lateral acceleration sensor is often mounted under the center console or front seat, so spilled drinks or floor leaks can corrode connectors and cause intermittent codes.
- Some vehicles require a zero-point calibration of the new sensor with a scan tool after replacement, and skipping that step will set the code again immediately.
- A weak battery or failing alternator can cause a low reference voltage that mimics a bad sensor, so always check charging system health before condemning parts.
- This code does not always mean the sensor itself has failed; the ESC module can set it when it sees implausible data compared to the yaw rate and steering angle sensors.

Can I keep driving with C0498?

You can usually drive the vehicle normally because the stability control is disabled but the brakes still work, though you should avoid aggressive cornering or evasive maneuvers until the fault is repaired. If the ABS or brake warning light is also on, have the system inspected promptly.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and ESC module access
- Digital multimeter for voltage and resistance checks
- Trim removal tools to access the sensor mounting location
- Wiring diagram for the specific vehicle to trace the sensor circuit
- Torque wrench for sensor mounting bolts if replacement is needed



Reading C0498

- C** Chassis: brakes, steering and suspension.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 4** Brakes, steering and suspension.
- 98** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

C0050 Right Rear Wheel Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **C0051** Front Left ABS Solenoid 1 Circuit Malfunction · **C0499** Lateral Acceleration Sensor Range/Performance · **C0710** Steering Position Signal Malfunction · **U0126** Lost Communication With Steering Angle Sensor Module

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/c0498/>

