



C05D5

Brake Master Cylinder Cut Off Valve

The C05D5 code indicates that the anti-lock brake system (ABS) control module has detected a fault in the brake master cylinder cut-off valve circuit, which is used to isolate the master cylinder during certain ABS events. The computer sets this code when the valve's electrical circuit does not match expected resistance or voltage, or when the valve fails to respond to a command.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the ABS warning light on the dashboard
- Illumination of the traction control or stability control warning light
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with normal brake pedal feel
- Reduced or disabled ABS function during hard braking
- In rare cases, a slightly longer brake pedal travel or soft pedal if the valve is stuck open
- Diagnostic trouble codes stored in the ABS module that may affect other systems

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty brake master cylinder cut-off valve solenoid or its internal coil
- 2 Damaged or corroded wiring harness or connector at the valve
- 3 Open or short circuit in the valve control circuit
- 4 Failed ABS control module driver for the cut-off valve
- 5 Contaminated brake fluid causing valve sticking or internal damage
- 6 Low brake fluid level or air in the hydraulic system affecting valve operation

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the code with a scan tool and check for any related ABS codes
- 2 Inspect the cut-off valve connector and wiring for corrosion, damage, or loose pins
- 3 Measure the resistance of the cut-off valve solenoid and compare to specification
- 4 Check for power and ground signals at the valve connector during an active test
- 5 Perform a brake fluid flush if contamination is suspected and bleed the system
- 6 Replace the brake master cylinder cut-off valve or the ABS module if testing confirms a failure
- 7 Clear codes and perform a road test to verify the repair



What most technicians overlook on C05D5

- A sticking cut-off valve can cause intermittent ABS operation without setting a code until the fault occurs multiple times, so a road test with live data is essential.
- Corroded wiring near the ABS module connector is a common cause that is often missed when only the valve itself is tested.
- The cut-off valve is sometimes integrated into the ABS hydraulic control unit, making replacement more involved than a simple solenoid swap.
- Brake fluid that has absorbed moisture can cause internal valve corrosion, leading to this code even when electrical tests pass.
- After replacing the valve or ABS module, a dealer-level scan tool may be required to perform calibration or bleeding procedures.

Can I keep driving with C05D5?

The vehicle remains safe to drive under normal conditions because the base brakes still function, but ABS and stability control may be disabled. Avoid hard braking or emergency maneuvers until the fault is repaired, and have the system diagnosed promptly.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with ABS capabilities
- Digital multimeter
- Brake fluid tester
- Socket and wrench set
- Factory service information for wiring diagrams and specifications

Reading C05D5

C	Chassis: brakes, steering and suspension.
0	Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
5	Brakes, steering and suspension.
D5	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

C0035 Left Front Wheel Speed Sensor Circuit Range/Performance · **C0040** Left Rear Wheel Speed Sensor Circuit · **C0110** ABS Pump Motor Circuit Malfunction · **C05D4** Brake Master Cylinder Piston Position Sensor Calibration Not · **C05D6** Power Steering Control Module Processor Performance



See it working

Watch the animated explainer **Four-Stroke Engine Cutaway: Intake to Exhaust** on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/c05d5/>

