

GENERIC · CHASSIS

C0640

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

C0640

Brake Pressure Sensor J Range/Performance

C0640 indicates that the antilock braking system (ABS) control module has detected an out-of-range or erratic signal from the brake pressure sensor designated as 'J'. The sensor's voltage or pressure reading does not match expected values under the current driving conditions, so the module stores this code and may disable ABS and stability control functions.

SYSTEM

Chassis

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Brakes, steering and suspension

Symptoms you may notice

- ABS warning light illuminated on the dashboard
- Traction control or stability control warning light also on
- Reduced braking performance during hard stops, with ABS not activating
- Brake pedal feels firmer or spongier than usual
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially during normal driving

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty brake pressure sensor J, worn or internally shorted
- 2 Damaged or corroded wiring harness or connector at the sensor
- 3 Contaminated brake fluid or air in the hydraulic system affecting pressure readings
- 4 Failed ABS control module, though less common
- 5 Low brake fluid level or a leak in the hydraulic circuit
- 6 Mechanical binding in the brake master cylinder or proportioning valve

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check brake fluid level and inspect for visible leaks at the master cylinder and calipers
- 2 Perform a visual inspection of the sensor J connector and wiring for corrosion, chafing, or loose pins
- 3 Use a scan tool to read live pressure sensor data and compare it to a mechanical pressure gauge
- 4 Test the sensor's reference voltage and signal return with a digital multimeter
- 5 Bleed the brake system thoroughly to remove air and restore proper hydraulic pressure
- 6 Replace the brake pressure sensor J if testing confirms it is out of specification
- 7 Clear the code and perform a road test to verify the repair and ensure the ABS module reinitializes



What a brake pressure sensor code really means

- A low brake fluid level from worn pads or a small leak can trigger this code without any sensor failure, so always check fluid first.
- The sensor's signal can be skewed by air trapped in the ABS hydraulic unit, which is why a proper bleed procedure is critical after any hydraulic work.
- Corroded terminals at the sensor connector often mimic a failed sensor, and cleaning them can resolve the code without parts replacement.
- This code does not always mean the ABS module is faulty; module failure is rare and should only be suspected after all sensor and wiring tests pass.
- A failing wheel speed sensor or tone ring can sometimes set related codes that confuse diagnosis, so scan all modules for stored codes before condemning the pressure sensor.

Can I keep driving with C0640?

You can usually drive the vehicle with this code, but ABS and stability control may be disabled, so avoid hard braking or slippery conditions until repaired. If the brake pedal feels abnormal or fluid is low, stop driving and have the system inspected immediately.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with ABS live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Brake pressure gauge
- Bleeder kit
- Socket set and trim removal tools

Reading C0640

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

Often seen with

C0050 Right Rear Wheel Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **C0110** ABS Pump Motor Circuit Malfunction · **C0641** Brake Pressure Sensor K Circuit/Open · **C0642** Brake Pressure Sensor K Circuit High · **C0643** Brake Pressure Sensor K Circuit Low



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How ABS Works: Anti-Lock Brakes in X-Ray](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/c0640/>

