

GM · POWERTRAIN

P1200

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P1200 · GM

Injector Control Circuit

P1200 on a GM vehicle indicates that the engine control module has detected an abnormal condition in the injector control circuit, which is the wiring and driver stage that fires the fuel injectors. The computer monitors the circuit for opens, shorts, or excessive current draw and sets this code when the expected electrical response is missing or out of range.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	GM specific	Medium	Intermediate	Fuel and air metering (injector circuits)

Symptoms you may notice

- Illuminated check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Rough idle or misfire that may worsen when the engine is cold or under load
- Hesitation or stumble during acceleration
- Reduced engine power or limp mode in some applications
- Poor fuel economy or strong fuel odor from the exhaust
- Hard starting or intermittent no-start condition

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Damaged or chafed injector harness wiring, especially near hot exhaust components
- 2 Corroded or loose injector connector terminals
- 3 Faulty fuel injector with an open or shorted internal coil
- 4 Failed injector driver inside the engine control module
- 5 Poor engine ground or power feed to the injector circuit
- 6 Aftermarket alarm or remote start wiring tapped into the injector circuit

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Scan all modules and record freeze-frame data to identify which injector circuit is affected
- 2 Visually inspect the injector harness and connectors for chafing, corrosion, or loose pins
- 3 Measure injector coil resistance with a multimeter and compare across injectors
- 4 Perform a voltage drop test on the injector power feed and ground circuits
- 5 Use a noid light or oscilloscope to confirm the ECM driver is pulsing the injector
- 6 Repair or replace the faulty section of harness or the affected injector
- 7 Clear the code and verify the repair with a road test and live data review



What the injector circuit code really means

- A P1200 is often caused by a wiring problem rather than a failed injector, so resistance checks alone can miss an intermittent harness fault.
- The code can be set by a single bad injector driver in the ECM, which is frequently misdiagnosed as a faulty injector and leads to unnecessary parts replacement.
- Aftermarket accessories such as remote starters or alarm systems that splice into injector wiring are a common hidden cause on older GM trucks and SUVs.
- On some GM platforms, a weak battery or poor ground can trigger this code because the injector driver needs a stable voltage reference to operate correctly.
- A noid light test confirms the driver is pulsing but does not verify injector spray quality, so a flow test may still be needed after the electrical fault is repaired.

Can I keep driving with P1200?

You can usually drive the vehicle to a repair shop if the engine is running smoothly, but avoid heavy acceleration or long trips because a misfiring injector can overheat the catalytic converter. If the engine is misfiring badly or enters limp mode, stop driving and have the vehicle towed.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and freeze-frame capability
- Digital multimeter
- Noid light or oscilloscope
- Injector connector pin removal tools
- Factory service information for wiring diagrams

Reading P1200

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 1** Manufacturer-specific code (GM): its meaning depends on the make.
- 2** Fuel and air metering (injector circuits).
- 00** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0171 System Too Lean (Bank 1) · **P0200** Injector Circuit Malfunction · **P0201** Injector Circuit Malfunction - Cylinder 1 · **P0202** Injector Circuit Malfunction - Cylinder 2 · **P0300** Random/Multiple Cylinder Misfire Detected



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Airbags Work: A 50 km/h Crash in Slow Motion](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/gm-p1200/>

