

HONDA · POWERTRAIN

P1508

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P1508 · Honda

IAC Valve Circuit Failure

P1508 on Honda vehicles indicates that the Powertrain Control Module (PCM) has detected an electrical fault in the Idle Air Control (IAC) valve circuit. The PCM monitors the IAC valve's electrical integrity and sets this code when the circuit resistance or current draw falls outside the expected range, which can prevent the valve from properly regulating idle speed.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Honda specific	Medium	Intermediate	Vehicle speed, idle control and auxiliary inputs

Symptoms you may notice

- Check Engine Light illuminated on the dashboard
- Engine idle speed fluctuates or surges unpredictably
- Engine stalls when coming to a stop or when the throttle is released
- Idle speed is too high or too low compared to normal
- Rough or erratic idle quality, sometimes accompanied by shaking
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially in early stages

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty Idle Air Control (IAC) valve (internal winding open or shorted)
- 2 Damaged or corroded electrical connector at the IAC valve
- 3 Broken, chafed, or shorted wires in the IAC valve circuit
- 4 Carbon buildup or mechanical binding inside the IAC valve passages
- 5 Failed Powertrain Control Module (PCM) driver circuit (rare)
- 6 Poor ground connection for the IAC valve circuit



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Connect an OBD-II scanner and verify P1508 is the only stored code; check for related idle or sensor codes.
- 2 Inspect the IAC valve electrical connector for corrosion, loose pins, or damage; clean and reseat as needed.
- 3 Perform a resistance test on the IAC valve windings using a multimeter and compare to Honda specifications for the vehicle model.
- 4 Check the IAC valve circuit wiring for continuity, shorts to ground, and shorts to power between the PCM and the valve.
- 5 Remove the IAC valve and inspect for carbon buildup or mechanical sticking; clean the valve and throttle body passages thoroughly.
- 6 If the valve fails electrical or mechanical tests, replace the IAC valve with a known-good unit and clear the code.
- 7 After repair, start the engine and verify idle quality; perform an idle relearn procedure if required, then test-drive to confirm the code does not return.

IAC valve circuit checks that prevent misdiagnosis

- A sticking IAC valve due to carbon buildup can set P1508 without any electrical fault, so always inspect and clean the valve passages before condemning the valve or wiring.
- Honda IAC valves are often replaced unnecessarily when the real problem is a corroded connector or a chafed wire near the intake manifold; a thorough visual and continuity check saves time and money.
- The PCM may set P1508 intermittently if the IAC valve connector is loose or the pins are backed out, so wiggle-test the harness while monitoring live data or resistance.
- On some Honda models, a failing IAC valve can cause idle surging that mimics a vacuum leak; use a smoke machine or propane test to rule out unmetered air before replacing the valve.
- After replacing the IAC valve or repairing the circuit, some Hondas require an idle learn procedure or the PCM may relearn incorrectly and set a false code; consult the factory service information for the specific model.

Can I keep driving with P1508?

You can usually drive the vehicle with P1508 set, but expect unstable idle, possible stalling at stops, and reduced engine smoothness. Avoid prolonged idling in traffic and have the fault diagnosed promptly to prevent stalling in unsafe situations.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scanner with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Socket set and screwdrivers
- Carburetor or throttle body cleaner
- Factory service information or wiring diagram for the specific Honda model



Reading P1508

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 1** Manufacturer-specific code (Honda): its meaning depends on the make.
- 5** Vehicle speed, idle control and auxiliary inputs.
- 08** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0121 Throttle Position Sensor A Circuit Range/Performance · **P0505** Idle Control System Malfunction · **P0506** Idle Control System RPM Lower Than Expected · **P0507** Idle Control System RPM Higher Than Expected · **P0511** Idle Air Control Circuit

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/honda-p1508/>

