



P1371 · Jaguar

Ignition Coil Cylinder 1 Early Activation Fault

P1371 on a Jaguar means the engine control module (ECM) has detected that the ignition coil for cylinder 1 is firing earlier than the commanded dwell time allows, indicating an early activation fault in that coil's primary circuit. The ECM monitors the coil's charge and discharge timing and flags this code when the coil triggers before the expected spark event.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Jaguar specific	Medium	Intermediate	Ignition system and misfire

Symptoms you may notice

- Illuminated check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Rough idle or misfire sensation, especially when the engine is cold
- Hesitation or stumble during acceleration
- Reduced engine power or limp mode in some cases
- Slight increase in fuel consumption
- Occasional backfire or popping from the exhaust

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty ignition coil on cylinder 1 (internal short or degraded insulation)
- 2 Worn or damaged spark plug causing abnormal coil discharge
- 3 Corroded or loose electrical connector at the cylinder 1 coil
- 4 Damaged wiring in the coil primary circuit (chafed, open, or shorted)
- 5 Failed ignition control module or ECM driver for that coil
- 6 Poor engine ground affecting coil operation

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Inspect the cylinder 1 ignition coil connector and wiring for corrosion, looseness, or damage
- 2 Swap the cylinder 1 coil with another cylinder and see if the code follows the coil
- 3 Replace the spark plug on cylinder 1 if worn or fouled
- 4 Check coil primary and secondary resistance with a multimeter and compare to specifications
- 5 Perform a wiggle test on the coil harness while monitoring live misfire data
- 6 Verify the ECM driver signal to the coil with an oscilloscope if the fault persists
- 7 Replace the ignition coil on cylinder 1 if all other checks pass



Before you replace the cylinder 1 coil

- A swapped coil that moves the fault to another cylinder confirms the coil is the culprit, but if the code stays on cylinder 1 the problem is in the wiring or ECM driver.
- Corroded pins in the coil connector are a common cause on older Jaguars and can mimic a failing coil without setting a misfire code.
- This code can be set by a spark plug that is worn or gapped incorrectly, altering the coil's discharge characteristics and triggering early activation detection.
- A weak battery or charging system fault can cause voltage spikes that confuse the ECM's coil timing logic, so always check system voltage first.
- The ECM may store P1371 intermittently if the coil is beginning to fail, so a coil that tests good when cold may still be faulty when hot.

Can I keep driving with P1371?

You can drive the car short distances to a repair shop, but avoid hard acceleration and prolonged driving because a misfiring cylinder can damage the catalytic converter and cause further engine problems.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and misfire monitoring
- Digital multimeter
- Oscilloscope (for advanced diagnosis)
- Socket set and spark plug wrench
- Contact cleaner and dielectric grease

Reading P1371

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 1** Manufacturer-specific code (Jaguar): its meaning depends on the make.
- 3** Ignition system and misfire.
- 71** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P1372 Cylinder 6 Ignition Circuit Short To Ground · **P1374** Cylinder 7 Ignition Circuit Short To B+ · **P1316** Spark Plug Voltage Detection Circuit Malfunction Front Bank · **P1316** Misfire Rate Exceeds Emissions · **P1372** Ignition Coil Cylinder 2 Early Activation Fault · **P1374** Ignition Coil Cylinder 4 Early Activation Fault · **P1316** Spark Plug Voltage Detection Circuit Malfunction Front Bank · **P1372** Crankshaft Position Sensor Circuit Performance · **P1374** 3X Reference Circuit · **P1316** Injector Circuit IDM Codes Detected · **P1372** Crankshaft Position Sensor Circuit Performance · **P1374** 3X Reference Circuit · **P0301** Cylinder 1 Misfire Detected · **P0351** Ignition Coil A Primary/Secondary Circuit Malfunction



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/jaguar-p1371/>

