

JAGUAR · POWERTRAIN

P1374

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P1374 · Jaguar

Ignition Coil Cylinder 4 Early Activation Fault

P1374 on a Jaguar indicates that the engine control module (ECM) has detected an early activation fault for the ignition coil on cylinder 4, meaning the coil fired before the commanded timing or the feedback signal arrived outside the expected window. The ECM monitors the coil's primary circuit and ionization feedback to flag this as a pending or confirmed fault when the activation event occurs too soon relative to the crankshaft position signal.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Jaguar specific

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Ignition system and misfire

Symptoms you may notice

- Illuminated check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Intermittent misfire or rough running, especially under load or during acceleration
- Slight hesitation or stumble when the engine is cold or during light throttle
- Reduced fuel economy due to incomplete combustion on cylinder 4
- In rare cases, a flashing check engine light if the misfire becomes severe enough to risk catalytic converter damage

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty ignition coil on cylinder 4 (internal short or degraded insulation causing early triggering)
- 2 Worn or contaminated spark plug on cylinder 4, altering ionization feedback
- 3 Damaged or chafed wiring harness to the cylinder 4 coil, causing intermittent signal shorts
- 4 Corroded or loose electrical connector at the cylinder 4 coil
- 5 Engine control module (ECM) software calibration issue or internal driver fault
- 6 Poor engine ground or voltage supply fluctuation affecting coil charging
- 7 Mechanical issue such as low compression or valve problem on cylinder 4 that mimics an ignition fault



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Perform a visual inspection of the cylinder 4 coil, connector, and wiring for damage or corrosion
- 2 Swap the cylinder 4 ignition coil with a known-good coil from another cylinder and see if the fault follows the coil
- 3 Replace the spark plug on cylinder 4 and check gap and condition
- 4 Use a multimeter to check resistance and continuity of the coil primary and secondary circuits, and inspect the harness for shorts to ground or power
- 5 Check for technical service bulletins (TSBs) or ECM software updates specific to Jaguar models for this code
- 6 If the fault persists after coil and plug replacement, perform a compression test and cylinder leak-down test to rule out mechanical issues
- 7 As a last resort, diagnose the ECM driver circuit with an oscilloscope or substitute a known-good ECM for testing

When P1374 is not the coil itself

- A swapped coil that does not move the fault suggests the problem lies in the wiring harness or ECM driver, not the coil.
- Early activation faults can be triggered by a failing crankshaft position sensor or reluctor ring, causing timing reference errors that the ECM interprets as coil fault.
- Jaguar models with coil-on-plug ignition are sensitive to spark plug brand and gap; using incorrect plugs can cause ionization feedback anomalies.
- Intermittent faults often appear only during cold start or high load, so a road test with a scan tool recording live data is more reliable than a static check.
- Some aftermarket coils have different inductance characteristics that can set P1374 even when they function, so OEM or equivalent quality parts are recommended.

Can I keep driving with P1374?

You can usually continue driving if the check engine light is steady and the engine runs smoothly, but avoid aggressive acceleration or heavy loads until diagnosed. If the light flashes or you feel a noticeable misfire, stop driving to prevent catalytic converter damage.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and misfire counters
- Digital multimeter
- Spark plug socket and wrench
- Ignition coil puller or pry tool
- Oscilloscope (for advanced signal analysis)



Reading P1374

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

Often seen with

P1316 Spark Plug Voltage Detection Circuit Malfunction Front Bank · **P1000** OBD II Monitor Testing Not Completed · **P1000** OBD Systems Readiness Test Not Complete · **P1316** Misfire Rate Exceeds Emissions · **P1316** Spark Plug Voltage Detection Circuit Malfunction Front Bank · **P1000** OBD System Readiness Test Not Complete · **P1316** Injector Circuit IDM Codes Detected · **P0304** Cylinder 4 Misfire Detected · **P0354** Ignition Coil D 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-p1374/>

