

JAGUAR · POWERTRAIN

P1534

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P1534 · Jaguar

Restraint Deployment Indicator Circuit

P1534 on Jaguar vehicles means the Restraint Control Module (RCM) has detected a fault in the circuit that drives the restraint deployment indicator, which is the warning lamp that tells occupants the airbag and seatbelt systems are ready. The module monitors the voltage and continuity on the indicator control wire and sets this code when the signal falls outside the expected range, often because the lamp circuit is open, shorted, or drawing abnormal current.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Jaguar specific

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Vehicle speed, idle control and auxiliary inputs

Symptoms you may notice

- The airbag or restraint system warning light stays illuminated continuously after the bulb-check phase.
- The warning light may flash intermittently or fail to illuminate at all when the ignition is first switched on.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with no change in how the vehicle drives or handles.
- A supplementary message such as 'Restraint System Fault' may appear in the instrument cluster display on later Jaguar models.
- The seatbelt reminder chime or lamp may behave erratically if the same cluster circuit is affected.
- In some cases the restraint system is disabled, meaning airbags will not deploy in a collision.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Failed restraint deployment indicator bulb or light-emitting diode (LED) in the instrument cluster.
- 2 Open or damaged wiring between the Restraint Control Module and the instrument cluster indicator circuit.
- 3 Corroded or loose connector pins at the RCM or at the back of the instrument cluster.
- 4 Short to ground or short to voltage on the indicator control wire, often from chafed insulation behind the dashboard.
- 5 Internal fault in the instrument cluster printed circuit board affecting the lamp driver.
- 6 Water ingress or corrosion in the RCM connector area, common on older Jaguar models with blocked drain tubes.
- 7 A faulty RCM that is unable to drive the indicator circuit correctly, though this is less common than wiring issues.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the code with a Jaguar-compatible scan tool and record any freeze-frame data before clearing anything.
- 2 Check the restraint warning lamp operation during the ignition-on bulb-check phase to confirm whether the lamp itself works.
- 3 Inspect the instrument cluster connector and the RCM connector for corrosion, loose pins, or pushed-out terminals.
- 4 Perform a continuity and voltage-drop test on the indicator control wire between the RCM and the cluster, looking for opens or high resistance.
- 5 Check for shorts to ground or battery voltage on the indicator circuit with the RCM disconnected and the cluster disconnected.
- 6 If wiring and connectors pass, substitute a known-good instrument cluster or RCM only after confirming power and ground supplies are correct.
- 7 Clear the code and perform a full restraint system self-test to confirm the repair, then road-test to ensure the lamp behaves correctly.

Why the airbag light lies about this code

- A blown indicator bulb or failed LED is the single most common cause of P1534 on Jaguars, yet many technicians replace the RCM first because the code points to the module.
- The RCM does not always store this code for a hard failure; a momentary glitch during cranking when battery voltage drops can set it, so check the battery and charging system before condemning parts.
- On some Jaguar models the same indicator circuit is shared with the seatbelt reminder, so a fault in the seatbelt buckle switch or its wiring can indirectly trigger P1534.
- Aftermarket alarm or remote-start installations frequently tap into the instrument cluster wiring and can introduce a short or open on the indicator circuit that mimics a failed module.
- Clearing the code without repairing the underlying circuit will usually result in the code returning within a few drive cycles, so always road-test and re-scan before returning the car.

Can I keep driving with P1534?

The vehicle remains safe to drive in the sense that brakes and steering are unaffected, but the restraint system may be disabled, so avoid any situation where airbag deployment could be needed and have the fault repaired promptly. Do not ignore the warning light, because a disabled airbag offers no protection in a collision.

Tools that help

- Jaguar-compatible OBD-II scan tool with restraint system capability
- Digital multimeter with continuity and voltage-drop functions
- Trim removal tools for instrument cluster access
- Wiring diagram for the specific Jaguar model and year
- Test light or logic probe for checking lamp driver signals



Reading P1534

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

Often seen with

P1535 Intake Camshaft Control Circuit Bank 2 Short To Ground · **P1536** Intake Camshaft Control Circuit Bank 2 Open · **P1535** A/C High Side Temperature Sensor Circuit · **P1536** A/C System ECT Overtemperature · **P1536** Parking Brake Switch Circuit Failure · **P1535** A/C High Side Temperature Sensor Circuit · **P1536** A/C System ECT Overtemperature · **U0151** Lost Communication With Restraints Control Module

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/jaguar-p1534/>

