

MAZDA · POWERTRAIN

P1534

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P1534 · Mazda

Restraint Deployment Indicator Circuit

P1534 on Mazda vehicles indicates that the restraint control module has detected a fault in the electrical circuit that drives the passenger airbag deployment indicator, which is the light that tells occupants whether the passenger airbag is active or disabled. The module monitors the voltage and current on this circuit and sets the code when the signal falls outside the expected range, meaning the indicator lamp may not illuminate or extinguish as commanded.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- The passenger airbag indicator light may stay on constantly, never illuminate, or flash erratically regardless of seat occupancy.
- The supplemental restraint system warning light on the instrument cluster is illuminated.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with the airbag system otherwise functioning normally.
- The passenger airbag may be disabled when it should be active, or the indicator may show the wrong status.
- In some cases the seat belt reminder or passenger sensing system behaves inconsistently.

Common causes, most likely first

- Failed passenger airbag indicator lamp or LED assembly in the center stack or overhead console.
- Damaged, chafed, or disconnected wiring between the restraint control module and the indicator lamp.
- Corroded or loose electrical connector at the indicator lamp or at the restraint control module.
- Faulty passenger seat weight sensor or occupant classification system sending implausible data that affects the indicator command.
- Internal failure of the restraint control module driver circuit for the indicator lamp.
- Blown fuse or poor ground connection serving the indicator circuit.
- Aftermarket accessories or previous audio/electrical work that disturbed the indicator circuit wiring.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the code with a Mazda-capable scan tool and record any freeze-frame data before clearing anything.
- 2 Inspect the passenger airbag indicator lamp and its connector for visible damage, corrosion, or loose pins.
- 3 Check the fuse and ground connections that supply the indicator circuit, referring to the Mazda wiring diagram for the specific model.
- 4 Measure resistance and voltage on the indicator circuit wires between the restraint control module and the lamp, looking for opens, shorts, or excessive resistance.
- 5 Test the indicator lamp directly with a known-good power source to confirm whether the lamp itself has failed.
- 6 If wiring and lamp test good, substitute a known-good restraint control module only after confirming all other circuits are intact.
- 7 Clear the code and perform a full restraint system self-test to confirm the repair and ensure no other codes return.

Why the passenger airbag light lies

- A common misdiagnosis is replacing the restraint control module when the actual fault is a burned-out indicator LED that no longer draws the current the module expects to see.
- The passenger airbag indicator circuit often shares a connector or ground path with the seat weight sensor, so a fault in the occupant classification system can set P1534 without any problem in the lamp itself.
- On some Mazda models the indicator lamp is part of a larger center console or overhead console assembly, and technicians miss a simple unplugged connector behind the trim after radio or dash work.
- P1534 does not necessarily mean the airbags will not deploy; it specifically flags the indicator circuit, so the system may still function while the status light is unreliable.
- Clearing the code without repairing the circuit will usually result in the code returning immediately on the next key cycle because the module runs a self-test of the indicator circuit at startup.

Can I keep driving with P1534?

You can generally drive the vehicle with P1534, but the passenger airbag status indicator may be unreliable, so do not assume the airbag is active or disabled based on the lamp. Have the circuit diagnosed promptly, especially if you carry passengers in the front seat, and avoid relying on the indicator until it is repaired.

Tools that help

- Mazda-capable OBD-II scan tool with restraint system access
- Digital multimeter
- Trim removal tools
- Mazda service information and wiring diagrams for the specific model
- Test light or known-good 12V power source



Reading P1534

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

Often seen with

P1533 Intake Camshaft Control Circuit Bank 2 Electrical Malfunction · **P1535** Intake Camshaft Control Circuit Bank 2 Short To Ground · **P1533** A/C Low Side Temperature Sensor Circuit · **P1535** A/C High Side Temperature Sensor Circuit · **P1533** AAI Circuit Malfunction · **P1533** A/C Evaporator Temperature Sensor Circuit High Voltage · **P1535** A/C High Side Temperature Sensor Circuit · **P1533** B Camshaft Position Actuator Control Circuit Signal Low Bank · **B0051** Driver Frontal Deployment Control Open · **B0052** Passenger Seat Belt Sensor · **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/mazda-p1534/>

