

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P04C8

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P04C8

Fuel Fill Door Open Request Sensor/Switch Circuit

P04C8 indicates that the powertrain control module (PCM) has detected an abnormal signal from the fuel fill door open request sensor or switch circuit. The PCM expects a specific voltage or state change when the fuel fill door is opened or closed, and this code sets when the signal is out of range or inconsistent with the door's actual position.

SYSTEM Powertrain	CODE TYPE Generic (all makes)	SEVERITY Low	FIX DIFFICULTY Intermediate	AREA Auxiliary emission controls
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Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light (malfunction indicator lamp).
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, as the fuel fill door may still open and close normally.
- The fuel fill door may not open when requested, especially on vehicles with an electronic release.
- A message on the driver information center indicating the fuel door is open when it is closed.
- Inability to release the fuel fill door using the interior button or remote release.
- The fuel fill door may open unexpectedly or fail to latch securely.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty fuel fill door open request sensor or switch.
- 2 Damaged or corroded wiring harness or connector at the fuel fill door.
- 3 Blown fuse or poor ground connection for the fuel door circuit.
- 4 Failed fuel fill door actuator or release mechanism.
- 5 PCM software issue or internal fault in the fuel door control circuit.
- 6 Mechanical binding or obstruction preventing the door from fully closing or opening.
- 7 Water intrusion into the sensor or connector causing intermittent signals.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the fuel fill door opens and closes smoothly and that the sensor or switch is not physically damaged.
- 2 Check all fuses related to the fuel fill door system and replace any that are blown.
- 3 Inspect the wiring harness and connector at the fuel fill door for corrosion, chafing, or loose pins; clean or repair as needed.
- 4 Test the fuel fill door open request sensor or switch with a multimeter for proper continuity or voltage changes when the door is operated.
- 5 Check the ground connection for the fuel door circuit and ensure it is clean and tight.
- 6 If the sensor or switch tests faulty, replace it and clear the code.
- 7 If the code persists after sensor replacement, diagnose the PCM and its software for proper operation, including checking for technical service bulletins.

Before replacing the fuel door sensor

- A common oversight is assuming the sensor is at fault when the real problem is a damaged wire in the flexible boot between the body and the fuel door, which can break from repeated flexing.
- The code can be set by a simple blown fuse that also affects other circuits, so always check fuses before condemning the sensor.
- On some vehicles, the fuel fill door open request signal is monitored only when the vehicle is in park or the ignition is off, so intermittent faults may not appear during a quick test drive.
- A misadjusted fuel fill door striker or latch can cause the sensor to read 'open' when the door is closed, triggering the code without any electrical fault.
- After repairs, the code may require several drive cycles to clear from history, so do not assume the fix failed if the light remains on immediately after clearing.

Can I keep driving with P04C8?

The vehicle remains safe to drive because the fuel fill door is not a safety-critical system, but you should avoid forcing the door open or closed and address the issue promptly to prevent fuel vapor leaks or water intrusion. If the door cannot be opened, refueling may be impossible, so plan to repair it soon.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool
- Digital multimeter
- Trim removal tool
- Socket set
- Test light
- Electrical contact cleaner



Reading P04C8

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 4** Auxiliary emission controls.
- C8** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0455 EVAP System Leak Detected (Large) · **P0456** Evaporative Emission System Leak Detected (very small leak) · **P04C9** Fuel Fill Door Open Request Sensor/Switch Performance/Stuck · **P04CA** Fuel Fill Door Open Request Sensor/Switch Circuit Low · **P04CB** Fuel Fill Door Open Request Sensor/Switch Circuit High

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/p04c8/>

