

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P055F

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P055F

Engine Oil Pressure Out of Range

P055F indicates that the engine control module (ECM) has detected an engine oil pressure reading that falls outside the expected range for the current operating conditions. The ECM compares the oil pressure sensor signal against a calculated model based on engine speed, load, and temperature, and sets this code when the actual pressure is too low or too high for too long. This is a generic code, so the exact threshold and enabling criteria vary by manufacturer, but the underlying fault is always an oil pressure that does not match what the engine computer expects.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

High

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Vehicle speed, idle control and auxiliary inputs

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the oil pressure warning light or a check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Low oil pressure warning message displayed on the driver information center
- Engine may enter reduced power mode or limp mode as a protective measure
- Unusual engine noises such as ticking or knocking, especially at idle or under load
- Rough running or stalling in severe cases where oil pressure is critically low
- Oil pressure gauge reading abnormally low or high, if the vehicle is equipped with a gauge

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Low engine oil level due to leaks or consumption, causing the pump to draw air
- 2 Faulty engine oil pressure sensor or a damaged sensor wiring connector
- 3 Clogged or restricted oil filter or oil pickup tube screen
- 4 Worn engine bearings or a failing oil pump reducing actual oil pressure
- 5 Incorrect oil viscosity or severely degraded oil that does not flow properly
- 6 Sticking or faulty oil pressure relief valve in the oil pump
- 7 Corroded or shorted wiring in the oil pressure sensor circuit



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check the engine oil level with the dipstick and top up if low; inspect for visible leaks around the engine
- 2 Verify oil condition and viscosity match the manufacturer's specification, and change the oil and filter if overdue
- 3 Use a scan tool to read live oil pressure data and compare it with a mechanical oil pressure gauge connected to the oil gallery
- 4 Inspect the oil pressure sensor connector and wiring for corrosion, damage, or loose pins, and repair as needed
- 5 Test the oil pressure sensor with a multimeter or replace it with a known-good unit if the signal is erratic or out of spec
- 6 Remove and inspect the oil filter and oil pickup tube for sludge or debris; clean or replace restricted components
- 7 If actual oil pressure is low, perform a mechanical oil pressure test and inspect the oil pump and engine bearings for wear

What a P055F code really tells you

- A P055F code can be set by a sensor that is reading correctly but reporting a pressure that is genuinely out of range, so always confirm actual oil pressure with a mechanical gauge before replacing parts.
- Many vehicles set this code intermittently due to a failing oil pressure sensor that only acts up when hot or at certain engine speeds, so a single snapshot reading may not reveal the fault.
- Low oil pressure at idle only, with normal pressure at higher RPM, often points to worn engine bearings or a weak oil pump rather than a sensor problem.
- Some engines use a variable displacement oil pump controlled by the ECM, and a fault in that control circuit can trigger P055F even when the mechanical pump is healthy.
- After an oil change, using the wrong viscosity or a filter with a faulty anti-drainback valve can cause a temporary pressure deviation that sets this code.

Can I keep driving with P055F?

If the oil pressure warning light is on or the engine is making knocking or ticking noises, stop driving immediately and have the vehicle towed to avoid catastrophic engine damage. If only the check engine light is on and the engine sounds normal, you may drive cautiously to a nearby repair shop, but avoid high speeds and heavy loads until the fault is diagnosed.



Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Mechanical oil pressure test gauge kit
- Digital multimeter
- Oil filter wrench
- Socket set and wrenches
- Flashlight and inspection mirror

Reading P055F

P	Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
0	Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
5	Vehicle speed, idle control and auxiliary inputs.
5F	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0520 Engine Oil Pressure Sensor/Switch Circuit Malfunction · **P0521** Engine Oil Pressure Sensor/Switch Circuit Range/Performance · **P0522** Engine Oil Pressure Sensor/Switch Circuit Low Voltage · **P0523** Engine Oil Pressure Sensor/Switch Circuit High Voltage · **P0524** Engine Oil Pressure Too Low

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Engine Cooling System Trainer: How Engines Stay Cool](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p055f/>

