

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P057E

OBD-II TROUBLE CODE

P057E

Brake Pedal Position Sensor A Circuit Intermittent/Erratic

P057E means the powertrain control module (PCM) has detected an intermittent or erratic signal from the brake pedal position sensor A circuit, which is the primary input used for brake torque management and cruise control release. The PCM expects a smooth, predictable voltage change as the pedal moves, and it flags this code when the signal jumps, drops out, or behaves inconsistently over a short period.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Vehicle speed, idle control and auxiliary inputs

Symptoms you may notice

- The brake warning light or check engine light illuminates on the dashboard.
- Cruise control may disengage unexpectedly or refuse to set.
- The engine may hesitate or surge slightly when the brake pedal is pressed or released.
- Some vehicles may exhibit a delayed or harsh downshift when braking.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the fault is intermittent.
- In rare cases, the vehicle may enter a reduced-power limp mode if the PCM cannot trust the brake signal.

Common causes, most likely first

- Worn or contaminated brake pedal position sensor (also called brake pedal travel sensor) internal contacts.
- Loose, corroded, or damaged electrical connector at the sensor or PCM.
- Chafed or broken wires in the sensor circuit, often near the pedal assembly or firewall.
- Poor ground connection for the sensor or PCM, causing voltage reference instability.
- Mechanical binding or misalignment of the brake pedal linkage or sensor mounting.
- Failing PCM or a software calibration issue that misinterprets a valid signal (less common).
- Aftermarket accessories or wiring tapped into the brake circuit causing electrical noise.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Scan all modules for stored codes and freeze-frame data to confirm P057E is current and not a history code from a past event.
- 2 Visually inspect the brake pedal position sensor, its connector, and the wiring harness for looseness, corrosion, or chafing.
- 3 Back-probe the sensor signal wire and ground while slowly pressing and releasing the brake pedal, looking for a smooth voltage sweep without dropouts or spikes.
- 4 Check the sensor's reference voltage and ground circuits for correct values and test for excessive resistance or voltage drop.
- 5 Remove and inspect the sensor for mechanical wear or contamination; clean or replace it if the signal is erratic during the sweep test.
- 6 Verify the brake pedal linkage moves freely and the sensor is properly aligned and secured.
- 7 Clear the codes and perform a road test with cruise control and braking events to confirm the repair, then recheck for pending codes.

What a brake pedal sensor sweep test reveals

- A sensor can pass a static resistance check but still produce an erratic signal when the pedal is moved slowly, so a live voltage sweep test is essential.
- The brake pedal position sensor often shares a reference voltage with other sensors, so a fault elsewhere on that circuit can set P057E without the sensor itself being bad.
- Intermittent codes frequently appear after a battery replacement or jump-start, when voltage spikes disturb the PCM's learned brake pedal zero point.
- Some vehicles use the brake pedal position signal for adaptive cruise control and collision avoidance, so a failing sensor may set additional codes in those systems before P057E appears.
- A misadjusted brake light switch or a sticking brake pedal can mimic a faulty position sensor, so always verify the pedal returns fully and the switch clicks cleanly.

Can I keep driving with P057E?

You can usually drive the vehicle to a repair shop, but avoid using cruise control and be prepared for unexpected brake assist or engine behavior. If the brake warning light is on or the pedal feels abnormal, stop driving and have the system inspected immediately.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and graphing capability
- Digital multimeter with back-probe pins
- Wiring diagram for the brake pedal position sensor circuit
- Basic hand tools for trim and pedal assembly access
- Contact cleaner and dielectric grease



Reading P057E

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.
7E	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

C0040 Left Rear Wheel Speed Sensor Circuit · **P0504** Brake Switch 'A'/'B' Correlation · **P057B** Brake Pedal Position Sensor A Circuit Range/Performance · **P057C** Brake Pedal Position Sensor A Circuit Low · **P057D** Brake Pedal Position Sensor A Circuit High

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How ABS Works: Anti-Lock Brakes in X-Ray](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p057e/>

