

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P06CD

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P06CD

Cylinder 9 Glow Plug Incorrect

P06CD is a generic powertrain code indicating that the engine control module has detected an incorrect condition in the glow plug circuit for cylinder 9, typically on diesel engines with individually controlled glow plugs. The module monitors the glow plug's electrical characteristics and sets this code when the feedback signal does not match the expected value for that cylinder.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Low	Intermediate	Computer and output circuits

Symptoms you may notice

- Illuminated check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Extended cranking time or rough idle when the engine is cold
- White smoke from the exhaust after a cold start
- Misfire or rough running during the warm-up phase
- Reduced fuel economy or increased emissions during cold operation

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty glow plug on cylinder 9
- 2 Damaged or corroded electrical connector at the cylinder 9 glow plug
- 3 Open or shorted wiring in the glow plug circuit for cylinder 9
- 4 Failed glow plug control module or relay affecting that circuit
- 5 Poor ground connection for the glow plug circuit
- 6 Engine control module software issue or internal fault (less common)

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Inspect the glow plug connector and wiring for cylinder 9 for damage, corrosion, or looseness
- 2 Measure the resistance of the cylinder 9 glow plug and compare it to the manufacturer's specification
- 3 Check for battery voltage and ground at the glow plug connector during the glow plug activation period
- 4 Test the glow plug control module output for cylinder 9 with a suitable scan tool or oscilloscope
- 5 Replace the faulty glow plug if resistance is out of specification or the plug does not heat
- 6 Repair or replace damaged wiring or connectors in the cylinder 9 glow plug circuit
- 7 Clear the diagnostic trouble codes and verify the repair by performing a cold start and monitoring glow plug operation



Glow Plug Circuit Checks Before Replacement

- A glow plug that tests good on resistance can still set this code if the control module's feedback circuit is faulty, so always verify the module's output signal.
- Corroded terminals at the glow plug connector are a frequent cause of incorrect feedback and are often overlooked when the plug itself tests fine.
- This code can be set by a weak battery or poor ground, as low voltage during glow plug activation can mimic a faulty plug.
- On some engines, the glow plug control module is integrated into the engine control module, making diagnosis more complex and expensive if the module is faulty.
- Do not replace all glow plugs just because one is faulty; address the specific cylinder and verify the circuit to avoid unnecessary repairs.

Can I keep driving with P06CD?

You can generally continue driving with this code, but cold starts may be rough and emissions can increase. Avoid heavy loads or long idling until the fault is repaired, and address it promptly to prevent further issues.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Glow plug socket set
- Wiring diagram for the vehicle
- Oscilloscope (optional for signal testing)

Reading P06CD

P	Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
0	Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
6	Computer and output circuits.
CD	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0380 Glow Plug/Heater Circuit A Malfunction · **P0670** Glow Plug Module Control Circuit · **P0679** Cylinder 9 Glow Plug Circuit · **P06CC** Cylinder 8 Glow Plug Incorrect · **P06CE** Cylinder 10 Glow Plug Incorrect



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a MAP Sensor Works: Engine Vacuum and Load](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p06cd/>

