

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P0805

OBD-II TROUBLE CODE

P0805

Clutch Position Sensor Circuit

P0805 indicates that the powertrain control module (PCM) has detected an abnormal signal from the clutch position sensor circuit, which monitors the clutch pedal travel on manual-transmission vehicles. The PCM expects a specific voltage range as the clutch is engaged or disengaged, and it sets this code when the signal is out of range, erratic, or missing entirely.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Transmission

Symptoms you may notice

- The check engine light or service engine soon light illuminates on the dashboard.
- The engine may hesitate or stumble when shifting gears, especially from a stop.
- Cruise control may become inoperative or disengage unexpectedly.
- The engine may not start unless the clutch pedal is pressed further than usual, or it may crank without firing.
- In some vehicles, the transmission may not engage smoothly or may feel like it is slipping during gear changes.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, particularly if the sensor signal is only intermittently out of range.

Common causes, most likely first

- A faulty clutch position sensor that has worn out or developed an internal short or open circuit.
- Damaged or corroded wiring and connectors between the sensor and the PCM, often due to heat, vibration, or moisture intrusion.
- A misadjusted or loose sensor mounting bracket that prevents the sensor from reading the clutch pedal position correctly.
- A worn clutch pedal assembly or linkage that causes the sensor to receive incorrect mechanical input.
- A defective PCM or a software glitch in the PCM that misinterprets a valid sensor signal.
- Aftermarket or incorrect clutch components that alter the pedal travel and confuse the sensor.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Use an OBD-II scanner to retrieve the code and freeze-frame data, then visually inspect the clutch position sensor and its wiring for obvious damage or corrosion.
- 2 Check the sensor's electrical connector for tightness and clean any corrosion; apply dielectric grease if needed.
- 3 Test the sensor's resistance or voltage output with a multimeter while slowly pressing and releasing the clutch pedal, comparing readings to the manufacturer's specifications.
- 4 Verify that the sensor is properly mounted and that the clutch pedal moves the sensor through its full range without binding or excessive play.
- 5 If the sensor fails the electrical test, replace it with a quality OEM or equivalent part, then clear the code and test-drive the vehicle.
- 6 If the sensor tests good, inspect the wiring harness for continuity and shorts between the sensor and the PCM, repairing any damaged wires.
- 7 As a last resort, check for PCM software updates or, if all else fails, diagnose the PCM itself for internal faults.

Clutch sensor faults that mimic other issues

- A misadjusted clutch pedal position sensor can cause the PCM to think the clutch is engaged when it is not, leading to erratic idle or stalling that is often misdiagnosed as a vacuum leak or idle air control problem.
- On some vehicles, the clutch position sensor shares a ground circuit with other sensors, so a bad ground can set P0805 along with codes for the throttle position or accelerator pedal sensors.
- The sensor is often a simple potentiometer, and wear in the resistive track can cause intermittent dead spots that only appear at certain pedal positions, making the code difficult to reproduce.
- After replacing a clutch or performing transmission work, the sensor may need to be relearned or recalibrated with a scan tool, otherwise P0805 may return even with a new sensor.
- A failing clutch master cylinder can alter pedal travel and cause the sensor to read out of range, so technicians should check the hydraulic system before condemning the sensor.

Can I keep driving with P0805?

You can usually drive the vehicle with P0805, but avoid aggressive acceleration and frequent gear changes until the fault is repaired, as the PCM may limit engine torque or disable cruise control. If the engine stalls or refuses to start, have the vehicle towed to a repair shop.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Wire probe set or back-probe pins
- Service manual or wiring diagram for the specific vehicle
- Basic hand tools (sockets, wrenches, screwdrivers)



Reading P0805

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

Often seen with

P0806 Clutch Position Sensor Circuit Range/Performance · **P0807** Clutch Position Sensor Circuit Low · **P0808** Clutch Position Sensor Circuit High · **P0830** Clutch Pedal Switch 'A' Circuit · **P0831** Clutch Pedal Switch 'A' Circuit Low

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Manual Car Driving Simulator: Learn Clutch Control](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p0805/>

