



P08A9

Clutch Pedal Position Sensor A Circuit Low

P08A9 means the engine control module (ECM) has detected a low-voltage signal on the clutch pedal position sensor A circuit, indicating the sensor is reporting a pedal position outside the expected range or the circuit is shorted to ground. The ECM compares this signal against other inputs and its expected voltage window, and when the voltage stays below the calibrated threshold for a set time, it logs this code and may disable certain clutch-dependent functions.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- The check engine light or a dedicated clutch system warning illuminates on the dashboard.
- The engine may not start because the clutch pedal position is not recognized, preventing the starter from engaging.
- Cruise control may become inoperative or disengage unexpectedly because the ECM cannot confirm clutch pedal status.
- The vehicle may hesitate or stumble during gear changes if the ECM uses clutch position for torque management.
- A stored code may be the only sign, with no noticeable change in driveability on many vehicles.
- Some vehicles may enter a reduced-power or limp mode that limits engine speed.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 A faulty clutch pedal position sensor A that has failed internally and is outputting a low or grounded signal.
- 2 Damaged or chafed wiring in the sensor circuit, often where the harness flexes near the pedal assembly.
- 3 A poor electrical connection at the sensor connector or the ECM, including corrosion or loose pins.
- 4 A short to ground in the signal wire between the sensor and the ECM.
- 5 An improperly adjusted or misaligned clutch pedal assembly that holds the sensor outside its normal sweep.
- 6 A failed or misadjusted clutch pedal position switch that shares the same circuit on some designs.
- 7 Rarely, an internal ECM fault that misreads the sensor input, though this is the least likely cause.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Connect a scan tool and read live data for the clutch pedal position sensor to confirm the low signal and check for related codes.
- 2 Visually inspect the sensor, connector, and wiring harness for damage, corrosion, or loose pins, and repair any obvious faults.
- 3 Check the sensor's reference voltage and ground at the connector with a multimeter to isolate a supply or ground problem.
- 4 Perform a resistance or voltage sweep test on the sensor through its full travel to identify a dead spot or short.
- 5 Verify the clutch pedal mechanical adjustment and sensor mounting, correcting any misalignment before replacing parts.
- 6 If the sensor fails the electrical tests, replace it with a quality part and clear the code, then recheck live data.
- 7 If the circuit tests good but the code persists, check for intermittent wiring faults and consult the factory service information for ECM diagnostics.

Clutch sensor faults that fool technicians

- A low signal code often comes from a simple mechanical problem, such as a worn pedal bushing or a sensor that has slipped out of adjustment, rather than a failed sensor.
- The clutch pedal position sensor frequently shares a ground or reference voltage with other pedals or switches, so a fault in a neighbouring circuit can drag the signal low and set this code.
- On many vehicles, the ECM will not command the starter unless it sees a valid clutch pedal position, so a no-crank complaint can be the first symptom even though the code points to a sensor circuit.
- Intermittent low signals are commonly caused by a wire that rubs through near the pedal bracket, and the code may only set during certain driving conditions or temperature swings.
- Replacing the sensor without checking the connector terminal tension and the pedal stop adjustment often leads to a repeat code and an unnecessary second repair.

Can I keep driving with P08A9?

You can usually drive the vehicle if it starts and runs normally, but avoid relying on cruise control and be prepared for a no-start condition if the clutch signal drops out completely. If the engine will not crank or the vehicle enters limp mode, stop driving and have the circuit diagnosed promptly.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Wiring diagram or factory service information
- Basic hand tools for trim and pedal assembly access
- Terminal pick and electrical contact cleaner



Reading P08A9

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 8** Transmission.
- A9** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0704 Clutch Switch Input Circuit Malfunction · **P083F** Clutch Pedal Switch A/B Correlation · **P08A7** Clutch Pedal Position Sensor A Circuit/Open · **P08A8** Clutch Pedal Position Sensor A Circuit Range/Performance · **P08AA** Clutch Pedal Position Sensor A Circuit High

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/p08a9/>

