



P0DC8

Hybrid/EV Battery Cell Balancing Circuit H

P0DC8 indicates that the hybrid or electric vehicle battery management system has detected a fault in the cell balancing circuit for battery module H, which is the eighth module in the pack. The computer monitors the voltage equalization path for that group of cells and sets this code when the balancing current or circuit response falls outside the expected range.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Professional	Hybrid propulsion

Symptoms you may notice

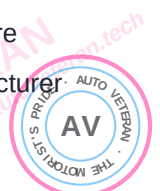
- Illumination of the hybrid system warning light or service vehicle soon message
- Reduced electric-only range or slower charging times
- The vehicle may enter a reduced power limp mode
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light
- Battery state of charge gauge may behave erratically or show incorrect readings
- In some cases, the internal combustion engine may run more frequently to compensate

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Open or shorted cell balancing wire or connector at module H
- 2 Failed cell balancing resistor or transistor inside the battery management circuit
- 3 Faulty battery management system (BMS) control module
- 4 Corroded or damaged pins in the high-voltage battery pack harness
- 5 Internal failure of the battery module H cells causing abnormal balancing current
- 6 Loose or improper connection at the module H sense/balance connector

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Retrieve all stored codes and freeze-frame data using an OBD-II scanner capable of hybrid battery diagnostics
- 2 Visually inspect the battery pack harness and connectors for module H for corrosion, damage, or loose pins
- 3 Perform a resistance and continuity test on the balancing circuit wiring from the BMS to module H
- 4 Check the balancing resistor and transistor on the module H circuit board for signs of overheating or failure
- 5 Verify battery module H cell voltages and compare them to adjacent modules to identify imbalance
- 6 If wiring and components test good, substitute a known-good BMS module to rule out internal failure
- 7 Clear codes and perform a battery pack relearn or balancing procedure as required by the manufacturer



What the balancing circuit code really means

- A P0DC8 can be set by a simple loose connector at the battery module, so always check the harness before condemning the battery pack.
- The balancing circuit often works only during charging or key-off periods, so the fault may not appear during a short test drive.
- Some vehicles use the same code for a performance issue in the balancing circuit rather than a total failure, meaning the battery may still function but with reduced efficiency.
- High-voltage battery packs require special safety procedures; never probe the balancing circuit without proper insulated tools and training.
- A weak or failing 12-volt auxiliary battery can cause erratic BMS behavior and set this code, so check the low-voltage system first.

Can I keep driving with P0DC8?

You can usually continue driving to a service center, but avoid heavy acceleration and long trips because the battery may not balance properly and could reduce performance or range. If the hybrid system warning light flashes or the vehicle enters limp mode, stop safely and seek professional assistance.

Tools that help

- Hybrid/EV-capable OBD-II scanner with battery pack data
- Digital multimeter with high-voltage safety rating
- Insulated hand tools
- Battery module balancing tester or manufacturer-specific diagnostic software
- Service information for high-voltage battery pack specifications

Reading P0DC8

P	Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
0	Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
D	Hybrid propulsion.
C8	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0AFA Hybrid/EV Battery System Voltage Low · **P0B24** Hybrid/EV Battery A Voltage Unstable · **P0DC7** Hybrid/EV Battery Cell Balancing Circuit G Range/Performance · **P0DC9** Hybrid/EV Battery Cell Balancing Circuit H Stuck On



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Regenerative Braking Works in Electric Cars](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p0dc8/>

