



P0DD8

Hybrid/EV Battery Cell Balancing Circuit L

P0DD8 indicates that the hybrid or electric vehicle battery management system has detected a fault in the cell balancing circuit for battery module or group 'L'. The computer monitors the voltage equalization process and sets this code when the circuit for that specific section does not respond or report as expected, which can lead to uneven state of charge across the pack.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the hybrid/EV system warning light or service vehicle soon message
- Reduced electric-only range or lower overall fuel economy
- A noticeable decrease in available power or acceleration
- The vehicle may refuse to enter EV mode or may default to engine-only operation
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially in early stages
- In some cases, the high-voltage battery may not accept a full charge

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty cell balancing circuit wiring or connector at the battery module
- 2 Open or shorted balancing resistor or balancing control board within the battery pack
- 3 Failed battery management system (BMS) module or control unit
- 4 Degraded or failing battery cell causing the balancing circuit to work outside normal parameters
- 5 Corrosion or water intrusion in the high-voltage battery pack connectors
- 6 Software glitch in the BMS requiring a recalibration or update



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Retrieve all stored codes and freeze-frame data using an OBD-II scanner capable of reading hybrid/EV-specific codes
- 2 Inspect the high-voltage battery pack connectors and wiring for signs of corrosion, damage, or loose pins
- 3 Perform a visual inspection of the battery module 'L' balancing circuit board for burnt components or loose solder joints
- 4 Check the balancing circuit resistance and continuity according to the manufacturer's service information
- 5 Test the battery cell voltages and compare them to detect imbalance or a weak cell
- 6 Reprogram or recalibrate the BMS with the latest software if applicable
- 7 Replace the faulty balancing circuit board, wiring harness, or battery module as needed

Balancing circuit faults often misdiagnosed

- A weak or failing cell in the 'L' module can cause the balancing circuit to set this code even when the circuit itself is intact, so cell health must be verified before replacing circuit components.
In many vehicles, the balancing circuit is integrated into the battery module and not serviceable separately, requiring module replacement rather than a simple board swap.
- Intermittent connections at the high-voltage battery pack connectors are a common cause that can be missed if the code is cleared without a thorough wiggle test.
- The code may set only after a balancing cycle is commanded, so a test drive or forced balancing routine may be needed to reproduce the fault.

Related codes for other balancing circuits (e.g., P0DD6, P0DD7, P0DD9) often accompany this code and should be diagnosed together to avoid overlooking a shared power or ground issue.

Can I keep driving with P0DD8?

It is generally safe to drive with this code as long as the vehicle does not show severe power loss or a flashing warning light, but avoid long trips or heavy loads until diagnosed. Prolonged driving with an active balancing fault can accelerate battery degradation, so schedule service promptly.

Tools that help

- Hybrid/EV-capable OBD-II scanner
- Digital multimeter with high-voltage safety rating
- Insulation tester (megohmmeter)
- Manufacturer service information and wiring diagrams
- Battery cell voltage tester or battery pack analyzer



Reading P0DD8

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- D** Hybrid propulsion.
- D8** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0A04 Motor Electronics Coolant Temperature Sensor Circuit Intermi · **P0AFA** Hybrid/EV Battery System Voltage Low · **P0DD6** Hybrid/EV Battery Cell Balancing Circuit K Stuck Off · **P0DD7** Hybrid/EV Battery Cell Balancing Circuit K Range/Performance · **P0DD9** Hybrid/EV Battery Cell Balancing Circuit L 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/p0dd8/>

