

GENERIC · NETWORK

# U0188

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

## U0188

### Lost Communication With Digital Disc Player/Changer Module 'B'

U0188 is a generic network communication code indicating that a control module on the vehicle's data bus has stopped receiving messages from the digital disc player or changer module labeled 'B'. The computer detects this when expected periodic messages from that entertainment module fail to arrive within a set time window, often after the module stops responding or loses power.

|         |                     |          |                |                                          |
|---------|---------------------|----------|----------------|------------------------------------------|
| SYSTEM  | CODE TYPE           | SEVERITY | FIX DIFFICULTY | AREA                                     |
| Network | Generic (all makes) | Low      | Intermediate   | Lost communication with a control module |

#### Symptoms you may notice

- The warning light (check engine or service vehicle soon) illuminates on the dashboard.
- The disc player or changer does not respond to controls and may appear completely dead.
- The infotainment screen may show a communication error or fail to recognize the CD changer.
- Other unrelated modules may log communication codes if the fault disrupts the shared data bus.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the disc player is rarely used.
- Intermittent operation of the disc player before it stops working entirely.

#### Common causes, most likely first

- Failed or intermittent digital disc player/changer module 'B' itself.
- Blown fuse or poor power/ground connection at the disc player module.
- Damaged or corroded wiring in the communication bus circuit to the module.
- Loose or dirty connector pins at the module or at a bus splice point.
- A shorted or open data bus line caused by another module or aftermarket accessory.
- Low battery voltage or charging system issues causing modules to drop offline.
- Water intrusion or physical damage to the module or its harness.



## How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify battery voltage and charging system output; a weak battery can cause communication codes.
- 2 Check all fuses related to the disc player/changer and the infotainment system, and replace any blown fuse.
- 3 Inspect the module's power and ground connections for tightness, corrosion, and voltage drop.
- 4 Disconnect and inspect the communication bus connector at the disc player module for bent pins or corrosion.
- 5 Use a scan tool to clear the code and observe live data to see if the module reappears on the bus.
- 6 If the module remains offline, perform a resistance or voltage check on the bus lines to rule out a short or open circuit.
- 7 If wiring and power are good, substitute a known-good module or perform a module swap to confirm the fault.

## Before you replace the disc player module

- A completely dead disc player often points to a blown fuse or lost ground rather than a failed module, so check those first.
- Aftermarket accessories wired into the infotainment bus can disrupt communication and set U0188 even when the disc player is fine.
- The code can set intermittently if the module's connector is loose or corroded, so wiggle-test the harness while watching live data.
- Some vehicles require the new module to be configured or learned by the scan tool after replacement, or the code will return.
- U0188 can be a secondary code caused by a low battery or a different module shorting the bus, so always check for other communication codes.

## Can I keep driving with U0188?

The vehicle remains safe to drive because the disc player is an entertainment accessory and does not affect engine, braking, or steering operation. Avoid using the disc player until the fault is repaired, and address any other communication codes promptly to prevent bus-wide issues.

## Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and communication bus capabilities
- Digital multimeter
- Fuse puller and test light
- Trim removal tools
- Wiring diagram for the vehicle



## Reading U0188

- U** Network: communication between the vehicle's control modules.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 1** Lost communication with a control module.
- 88** The exact fault within that area.

## Often seen with

**U0155** Lost Communication With Body Control Module · **U0164** Lost Communication With HVAC Control Module · **U0187** Lost Communication With Digital Disc Player/Changer Module ' · **U0189** Lost Communication With Digital Disc Player/Changer Module ' · **U0190** Lost Communication With Digital Disc Player/Changer Module '

## See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Coil-on-Plug Ignition Works: Coil and Spark Plug](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u0188/>

