

VOLKSWAGEN · POWERTRAIN

P1119

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P1119 · Volkswagen

Oxygen Sensor Heater Circuit Bank 2 Sensor 1 Short To Ground

P1119 on Volkswagen vehicles means the engine control module (ECM) has detected a short to ground in the heater circuit for the pre-catalytic oxygen sensor on bank 2, sensor 1. The ECM monitors the heater element's current draw and flags this code when the circuit is grounded before the heater element, preventing the sensor from reaching operating temperature quickly.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Volkswagen
specific

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Fuel and air
metering

Symptoms you may notice

- Illuminated check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Slightly higher fuel consumption during cold starts because the sensor stays in open-loop longer
- Occasional rough idle or hesitation when the engine is cold
- Failed emissions test due to incomplete oxygen sensor monitor
- In rare cases, a blown fuse for the oxygen sensor heater circuit

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Chafed or damaged heater circuit wiring shorting to the engine block or chassis
- 2 Failed oxygen sensor heater element internally shorted to ground
- 3 Corroded or water-intruded connector at the bank 2 sensor 1 oxygen sensor
- 4 Pinched harness between the sensor and the ECM caused by previous repairs
- 5 Faulty ECM driver for the heater circuit (rare but possible)

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Scan all modules for stored codes and freeze-frame data to confirm P1119 is active and not a ghost code
- 2 Inspect the bank 2 sensor 1 oxygen sensor connector and harness for chafing, corrosion, or moisture intrusion
- 3 Measure resistance between the heater circuit terminals at the sensor and ground to check for an internal short
- 4 Disconnect the ECM and check for continuity to ground on the heater control wire to isolate a harness short
- 5 Check the oxygen sensor heater fuse and replace it if blown, then recheck for shorts before installing a new sensor
- 6 Replace the bank 2 sensor 1 oxygen sensor if the heater element is shorted internally
- 7 Clear codes and perform a road test to verify the heater circuit monitor completes without resetting the code



What a shorted heater circuit really means

- A short to ground in the heater circuit often blows the oxygen sensor heater fuse, so always check the fuse before condemning the sensor itself.
- Volkswagen's ECM strategy may disable the heater circuit entirely when a short is detected, so the sensor never reaches operating temperature and the engine stays in open-loop longer than normal.
- The bank 2 sensor 1 designation refers to the sensor before the catalytic converter on the bank opposite cylinder one, which on VR6 and V6 engines is often the harder one to reach.
- A chafed harness near the exhaust manifold or transmission bell housing is a common cause that gets missed when technicians replace the sensor without inspecting the wiring.
- This code does not always mean the sensor is faulty; a shorted heater wire can mimic a failed sensor and lead to repeat replacements if the harness is not repaired.

Can I keep driving with P1119?

You can usually drive the vehicle short distances to a repair shop, but avoid heavy loads and long trips because the engine may stay in open-loop and run rich, which can damage the catalytic converter over time. If the check engine light starts flashing, stop driving and have the vehicle towed.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with Volkswagen-specific software
- Digital multimeter
- Wiring diagram for the bank 2 sensor 1 heater circuit
- Fuse puller and test light
- Socket set and oxygen sensor wrench

Reading P1119

P	Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
1	Manufacturer-specific code (Volkswagen): its meaning depends on the make.
1	Fuel and air metering.
19	The exact fault within that area.



Often seen with

P1120 Oxygen Sensor Heater Circuit Bank 2 Sensor 1 Open · **P1118** Oxygen Sensor Heater Circuit Open Bank 1 Sensor 2 · **P1120** Accelerator Pedal Position Sensor Circuit · **P1120** Starter Switch High Input · **P1120** Secondary Throttle Position Sensor Circuit Fault · **P1120** Throttle Position Sensor Out Of Range Low · **P1118** Engine Coolant Temperature Above Maximum Voltage · **P1120** Throttle Position Sensor 1 Circuit · **P1118** Manifold Absolute Temperature Circuit Low Input · **P1120** Throttle Position Sensor Out of Range · **P1118** Engine Coolant Temp Signal Out-Of Range High · **P1120** Throttle Position (TP) Sensor 1 Circuit · **P1120** Pedal Position Sensor Circuit · **P1118** Mass Or Volume Air Flow Circuit High Input Bank 2 · **P0135** O2 Sensor Heater Circuit Malfunction (Bank 1 Sensor 1) · **P0155** O2 Sensor Heater Circuit Malfunction (Bank 2 Sensor 1) · **P0141** O2 Sensor Heater Circuit Malfunction (Bank 1 Sensor 2)

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [EV Powertrain Trainer: How an Electric Car Drives](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/volkswagen-p1119/>

