On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) Computer

- Standard equipment in 1996 and newer vehicles.
- Continually monitors the emissions control systems to maintain proper engine operation.

OBD Test

- The vehicle's OBD computer is connected to the emissions test unit to directly analyze emissions control systems information.
- During normal vehicle operation, a Diagnostic Trouble Code (DTC) is stored in the on-board computer when an emissions-related fault is found. The OBD test can reveal saved DTCs.

Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL)

- Appears as "Service Engine Soon," "Check Engine," or "MIL" dashboard panel light.
- Lights up when the vehicle's OBD computer detects an emissions-related fault.
- Lights up when the vehicle's emissions surpass the certification standards by 50 percent.

Benefits of OBD Test

- Greater accuracy and faster completion.
- Analysis, using DTCs, aids in identifying problems with your vehicle's emission control systems for a better diagnosis.
- Immediate detection and correction of engine faults helps prevent expensive repairs in the future, lowers emissions, and provides better performance and fuel economy.

YOUR VEHICLE'S EMISSIONS TEST RESULTS

NJINSPECTIONS.com

PLEASE RECYCLE

Find a list of repair facilities at
bit.ly/NJ_InspectRepairFacilities

888.NJMOTOR
(888-656-6867)

609-292-6500

NJMVC.gov

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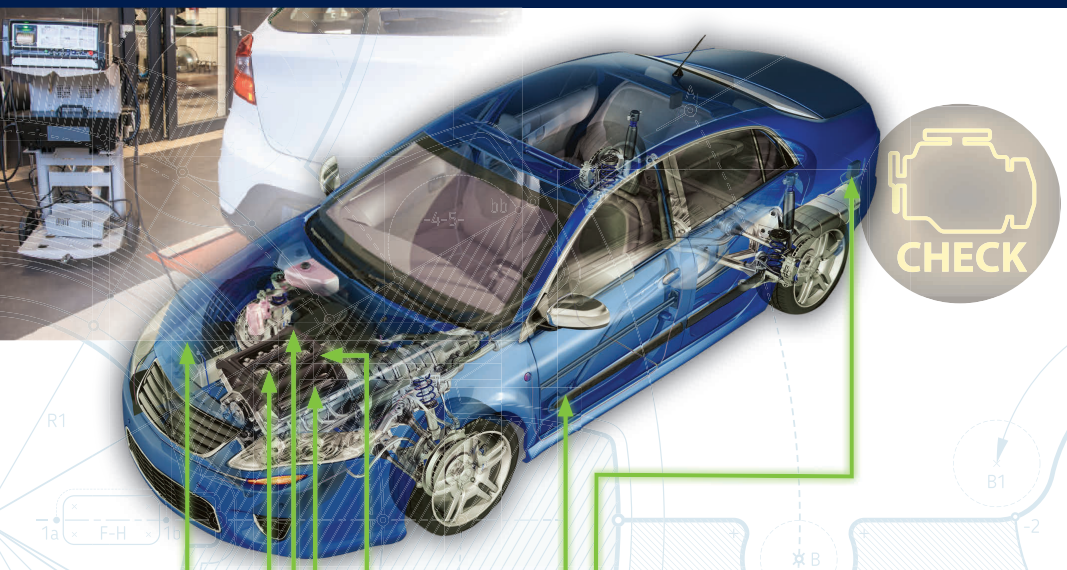
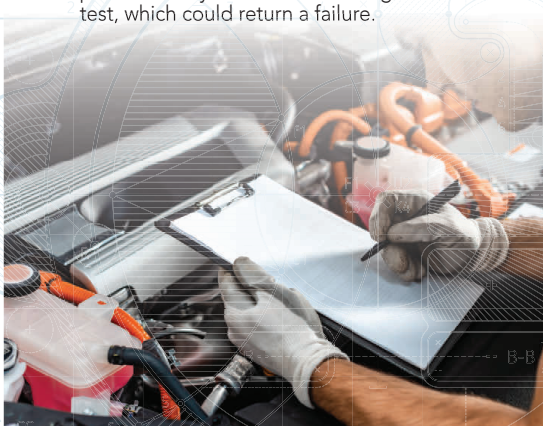
Common Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTCs) and Causes



▲ CODE	▲ COMMON CAUSE
P0455	Gas cap, lines, or components causing fuel vapor leak
P0420	Catalytic converter failing to reduce emissions
P0141	Improper operation of oxygen sensor heater
P0128	Coolant temperature insufficient (possibly malfunctioning thermostat)
P0171/P0174	Exhaust contains excess oxygen
P0300/P0301	Fuel or the ignition system causing engine misfire problems
P0401	Unsatisfactory valve/passage flow in exhaust gas recirculation

Readiness and No Communication

- An OBD test will indicate "Fail for Communication" if the vehicle's OBD system can't provide data.
- The OBD test will indicate "Fail for Readiness" if enough monitors have not executed their checks.
- A monitor is regarded as "Ready" when it has successfully executed a check.
- "Ready" monitors only default to "Not Ready" when battery power has been disconnected for repairs or if the computer memory has been erased.

Getting Your Vehicle Ready

- Monitors will generally become "Ready" after several days of both city and highway driving. This is commonly referred to as a drive cycle.
- After a few minutes of normal driving, most vehicles without emissions control systems problems will be "Ready," but vehicles with complications may need more time.
- Even when "Ready" is indicated, emissions problems may be detected during the OBD test, which could return a failure.