

AUDI P1296: COOLING SYSTEM MALFUNCTION

OVERVIEW

Severity	:	High
DIY Difficulty Level	:	Intermediate
Repair Cost	:	\$50-\$200
Can I Still Drive?	:	Yes (Short-term only)

What Does The Audi P1296 Code Mean?

This code is set in this condition:

Key on, engine not running, the Engine Control Module (ECM) will use the intake air temperature as a replacement value for an engine start (start temperature replacement value) as soon as there is a Diagnostic Trouble Code (DTC) stored in DTC memory for the Engine Coolant Temperature (ECT) sensor. The temperature then rises according to a program stored in the ECM. When the engine has reached normal operating temperature a fixed replacement value will be displayed. This fixed value is also dependent upon the intake air temperature.

What Are The Potential Causes Of The Audi P1296 Code?

Below are some potential causes of this DTC:

- Engine coolant temperature sensor has failed
- An open circuit or a short to B+ is present
- Sensor circuit is short to ground
- ECM has failed

Reference Sources

[Audi P1296](#), DTCDECODE.