



TECH CENTER TIPS

Tech Tip # MF-2022-2

IMPORTANT: General Motors Catalytic Converter Break-In Steps

The following steps are directly cited from General Motors Service Bulletin #PIP3119P

THE ISSUE

“Service Engine Soon” Light Comes on After Catalytic Converter Replacement

Owners of some GM vehicles that have recently had their catalytic converters replaced may see the “Service Engine Soon” (SES) light come on. The same light may also appear on low mileage GM vehicles that have yet to be broken in. You may see DTC codes P0420 and/or P0430 when diagnosing the problem with an OBDII reader.

THE FIX

Make Sure Your Catalytic Converter is Broken In

This problem can occur after replacing your vehicle’s catalytic converter due to the fact that the converter hasn’t yet had a chance to properly out-gas and break in. Fortunately, breaking in your replacement catalytic converter is a fairly straightforward process. Simply follow these steps:

1. Drive vehicle at sustained highway speed for 25 to 30 minutes
2. Bring vehicle to a stop
3. Shut off engine for 1 minute
4. Restart the engine and resume highway speed for an additional 10 to 15 minutes
5. Bring vehicle to a stop
6. Shut off engine for 1 minute
7. Restart the engine and check that the SES light is off

If you’re still seeing DTC codes P0420 and/or P0430 present on your OBDII reader after completing the steps above, further vehicle diagnostic testing may be necessary to determine the cause and repair required.

AFFECTED MODELS

Year	Make	Model	Details
2002-2018	Cadillac	Escalade	All V8 Models
2002-2013	Chevrolet	Avalanche	All V8 Models
2002-2018	Chevrolet	Express	All V8 Models
2002-2018	Chevrolet	Silverado	All V8 Models
2002-2018	Chevrolet	Suburban	All V8 Models
2002-2018	Chevrolet	Tahoe	All V8 Models
2002-2018	GMC	Savana	All V8 Models
2002-2018	GMC	Sierra	All V8 Models
2002-2018	GMC	Yukon	All V8 Models
2003-2010	Hummer	H	All V8 Models