

2022 CHEVROLET CORVETTE SERVICE MANUAL

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Immobilizer Description and Operation

The immobilizer system functions are provided by the Steering Column Lock Module, the Body Control Module (BCM), and the Engine Control Module (ECM), as well as any control modules which store and report the environment identifier. The Body Control Module uses low frequency antennas in different locations on the vehicle to determine the location of the transmitter. Multiple transmitting antennas are used to ensure complete coverage of the vehicle interior and rear compartment. These antennas transmit to the keyless entry transmitter.

When the vehicle Stop/Start switch is pressed, the low frequency antennas emit a challenge to the keyless entry transmitter. The transmitter receives this challenge and emits it's response as an RF message. The BCM then compares this value to a value stored in memory. The BCM also monitors various control modules to determine if the stored environment identifiers match.

If the correct transponder is detected, the electric steering column is unlocked, and there is no start disable from OnStar the BCM will send the prerelease allowed message via serial data to the ECM. The vehicle will be allowed up to 3 seconds run time. If the theft check is incorrect, the environment identifier check fails, the incorrect transponder is detected, the electric steering column is locked, or there is a start disable from OnStar, the BCM will send a negative response and the ECM will not start the vehicle or will immediately shut off the vehicle if prerelease allowed the vehicle to start.

If RF communication is interrupted, a "No Remote Detected" message will be displayed on the DIC. In these cases, the transmitter can be placed in the transmitter pocket. The immobilizer coil antenna is located in the immediate vicinity of the transmitter pocket. Placing the transmitter in the pocket/slot will create a low powered coupling between the transmitter and immobilizer coil antenna, allowing communications to occur and enabling vehicle starting.

The components of the immobilizer system are as follows:

- BCM
- ECM
- Steering column lock control module
- Immobilizer coil antenna
- Low frequency antenna
- Ignition key/Keyless entry transmitter
- Security indicator
- Various control modules which store and report the environment identifier

Body Control Module (BCM)

The immobilizer system is an integral part of the BCM and is controlled internally within the BCM. The BCM can learn up to 8 keys (transponder values). The BCM uses low frequency antennas in three different locations on the vehicle to determine the location of the transmitter. Multiple antennas are used to ensure complete coverage of the vehicle interior and rear compartment. The BCM monitors the ignition mode switch. When the ignition mode is changed, the BCM will command, or $\tilde{A}\hat{c}\hat{A}\hat{c}\hat{p}\hat{e}\hat{r}\hat{g}\tilde{A}\hat{c}\hat{A}\hat{c}\hat{A}$, the low frequency antenna.

The BCM uses the following inputs:

- Environment identifier exchange with various modules
- Encrypted code from the vehicle key, received by the immobilizer coil antenna if the keyless entry transmitter signal isn't detected as indicated by the "No Remote Detected" message
- Encrypted code from the vehicle key

The BCM uses the following outputs:

- Prerelease Allowed signal communication with ECM

- Challenge/Response with ECM

When a transponder value is received by the BCM, the BCM will compare this value to the learned key code stored in memory. The BCM then performs one of the following functions:

- If the encrypted code value matches the values stored in the BCM memory, the BCM will send the Prerelease Allowed signal to the ECM via serial data.
- If the encrypted code unique value does not match the value stored in the BCM, the BCM will send the start disable message to the ECM via serial data.
- If the BCM is unable to receive the vehicle key encrypted code value, the BCM will not send any messages to the ECM.

Engine Control Module (ECM)

The ECM receives the BCM Prerelease Allowed signal and simultaneously the ECM sends a challenge to the BCM via the serial data circuit upon seeing the vehicle transition from OFF to any other power mode. Both the ECM and BCM perform a calculation on this challenge. If the calculated response from the BCM equals the calculation performed by the ECM, the ECM will allow vehicle starting.

Low Frequency Antenna

When commanded, or when the vehicle is in the OFF mode, the low frequency antenna broadcasts a challenge to the keyless entry transmitter. Because of the low power of the antenna, this challenge is only broadcast in an approximate three meter range of the antenna. Multiple antennas are used to ensure complete coverage of the vehicle interior and rear compartment.

Steering Column Lock Control Module

On vehicles with electronic steering column lock that use a steering column lock control module the immobilizer system will prevent vehicle starting if there is a fault or no communication with the steering column lock control module.

Keyless Entry Transmitter

Each keyless entry transmitter contains a transponder with a unique encrypted value. The transponder's encrypted value is fixed and unable to be changed. The immobilizer system uses the keyless entry transmitter transponder value to determine if a valid keyless entry transmitter is being used to start the vehicle.

Security Indicator

The BCM will command the Instrument Cluster to illuminate the security indicator when the vehicle is ON to indicate a fault has occurred within the immobilizer system.