2011-2015 Chevrolet Cruze - Check Engine Light /

2011-2015 Chevrolet Cruze | Easy | 15-30 minutes | $25 DIY

TOOLS

OBD-II scanner compatible with the vehicle Flashlight Notebook or phone for codes and freeze-frame data Safety glasses

PARTS

OBD2 scanner $25.00

STEPS

1. **Confirm warning severity - Steady or flashing? Steady with the 1.4-liter turbo driving** normally is a fault to diagnose promptly. Flashing means a severe misfire that can overheat the converter in minutes - back off the throttle, pull over safely, and stop driving...
2. **Connect the OBD-II scanner - With the Cruze off, find the 16-pin diagnostic connector** under the driver's-side dashboard by the steering column - the trapezoidal socket takes a standard OBD-II plug with light pressure. Switch the ignition ON and connect your scanner.
3. **Read and record codes - Write down all confirmed, pending, and permanent codes plus** freeze-frame data before clearing anything. Also watch for P0496 from a sticking EVAP purge valve and P0128 from a lazy thermostat.
4. **Check the likely cause - Also check the small orange check valve inside the intake** manifold, a known weak point on this engine, and look over the corrugated PCV hose to the turbo for cracks. Verify with testing - a code names the system, not the failed part.
5. **Repair and verify - Recheck fuel trims at idle and cruise - trims that settle near zero** confirm the vacuum leak is truly gone. If P0171 or the misfire codes return, the PCV fault or another intake leak is still present and needs another look.

TORQUE