Kenmore Dryer Diagnostic & Error Code Compendium

Kenmore dryers are primarily manufactured by Whirlpool, LG, or Samsung, leading to a variety of potential error code formats. This guide covers the most common codes found across Kenmore Elite, HE, and standard series dryers.

Safety First

Before attempting any repairs, ensure the dryer is unplugged from the power source. For gas dryers, shut off the gas supply line before disconnecting any components.

Error Code Reference Table

Code	Problem Explanation	How to Fix & Clear	Difficulty Level
F01	Main Electronic Control Board Failure	The primary circuit board has detected an internal memory or relay failure.	**Pros:** Requires control board replacement.
F02	Keypad or User Interface Failure	A button is stuck or the interface board cannot communicate with the main board.	**DIY/Pros:** Try cleaning the ribbon cable; replace UI if failure persists.
F20	Heater Relay Failure	The main control board is not detecting the heater relay engaging.	**Pros:** Requires testing the control board relays and wiring.

Code	Problem Explanation	How to Fix & Clear	Difficulty Level
F22 / F23	Exhaust Thermistor Fault	The sensor monitoring the air temperature leaving the drum is open (F22) or shorted (F23).	**DIY:** Replace the exhaust thermistor (located on the blower housing).
F24 / F25	Inlet Thermistor Fault	The sensor monitoring incoming air heat is open (F24) or shorted (F25).	**DIY:** Check wiring to the heater box thermistor; replace if necessary.
F28 / F29	Moisture Sensor Error	The metal strips inside the drum are not communicating properly with the board.	**DIY:** Clean sensor strips with rubbing alcohol to remove dryer sheet residue.
F30	Restricted Airflow	The system detects a significant blockage in the exhaust venting.	**DIY:** Clean the lint screen and the entire vent run to the outside.
F31	L2 Line Voltage Error	The dryer is only receiving 120V instead of the required 240V.	**Pros:** Check house breakers and the power cord connection at the terminal block.
F40 / F41	Communication Error	Loss of communication between the Main Board and the UI Board.	**DIY:** Inspect the wiring harness for loose connections.
F70 / F71	Central Control / UI Mismatch	The boards are not "talking" to each other or have incompatible software.	**Pros:** Usually requires replacing both the UI and Main Control board.
AF	Airflow Issue	Low airflow detected, often a precursor to F30.	**DIY:** Clean the exhaust vent and check for crushed ducting behind the unit.
PF	Power Failure	The dryer lost power during a cycle.	**DIY:** Press "Stop/Cancel" to clear and restart the cycle.
L2	Low Voltage	Similar to F31; the heater isn't getting enough juice to run.	**Pros:** Electrical issue with the wall outlet or breaker.

Code	Problem Explanation	How to Fix & Clear	Difficulty Level
dE	Door Error	The dryer thinks the door is open when it is closed.	**DIY:** Check the door latch and the door switch for continuity.
E1 / E2	Thermistor Failure (Old Models)	General sensor failure on older Kenmore/LG manufactured units.	**DIY:** Replace the thermistor located near the thermal fuse.
S1 / S2	Steam System Error	Issues with the water inlet valve or the steam nozzle (Steam Models only).	**DIY:** Check water supply and inspect the inlet valve for clogs.

How to Clear Error Codes

Most Kenmore error codes can be cleared using one of the following methods:

1. **The Hard Reset:** Unplug the dryer from the wall outlet for exactly 5 minutes. This allows the capacitors on the control board to discharge and reset the logic.
2. **The Cancel Method:** Press the **Stop/Cancel** button twice in rapid succession.
3. **Diagnostic Mode Exit:** If the dryer is stuck in a test mode, pressing the **Start** button or unplugging the unit will typically return it to standby.

When to Call a Professional

While replacing a thermistor or cleaning a vent is a straightforward DIY task, any error code involving the Main Electronic Control Board (F01, F70) or Electrical Supply (F31, L2) should generally be handled by a professional. These repairs involve high-voltage testing or expensive components that can be easily damaged if handled incorrectly.

For further assistance, please refer to the wiring diagram located in the "hidden" plastic pouch behind the bottom toe panel or inside the control console. If you're in over your head or want to ensure the job is done right the first time, give the experts at **Hill Country Repairs** **512-230-7132** a call for reliable **local appliance repair**.