GE Washer Error Codes: The Ultimate Diagnostic Reference Guide

This comprehensive reference list is formatted for easy integration into your PDF. It covers the most common GE washing machine error codes, explaining what they mean, how to clear them, and whether the repair is safe for a homeowner or requires a professional.

Error Code E22: Water Fill Timeout

- **Explanation:** The washing machine is taking too long to fill with water and has timed out to prevent burning out the valves.
- **Source of Issue:** Closed home water supply valves, kinked inlet hoses, clogged inlet screens, or a failing internal water inlet valve.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** Check that the water supply is fully on and the hoses aren't bent. Disconnect the hoses and clean the small metal filter screens. Unplug the washer for 1 minute to reset the code.
- **Verdict: DIY** for checking valves and cleaning screens; **Qualified Tech** if the internal valve assembly needs replacement.

Error Code E23: Flood Protect / Overfill

- **Explanation:** The machine senses that it contains too much water and is triggering the drain pump to prevent flooding.
- **Source of Issue:** A stuck-open water inlet valve or a faulty water level pressure switch.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** Unplug the washer. *Note: If water continues to flow into the tub while the machine is unplugged, the mechanical valve is broken. Turn off your home's water supply to the washer immediately.*
- **Verdict: Qualified Tech**. This requires replacing internal electrical or plumbing components.

Error Code E30: Drain Pump Not Detected

- **Explanation:** The main control board is not receiving a signal from the drain pump.
- **Source of Issue:** A loose wiring harness, a broken wire, or a completely dead drain pump motor.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** Unplug the machine for 1 minute to see if a hard reset restores communication.
- **Verdict: Qualified Tech**. Requires accessing the lower cabinet and using a multimeter to test voltage.

Error Code E31: Slow Drain Timeout

- **Explanation:** The tub is not emptying water fast enough during the drain cycle.
- **Source of Issue:** A clogged drain pump filter (coin trap), a blocked drain hose, or a failing drain pump.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** Open the bottom access panel, place a towel down, and clean out the pump filter. Clear any kinks in the external drain hose. Press Start/Pause to resume.
- **Verdict: DIY** for cleaning the filter and hose; **Qualified Tech** if the pump motor is burned out.

Error Codes E38 / E39: Dispenser Error

- **Explanation:** The detergent, bleach, or fabric softener dispenser is failing to operate.
- **Source of Issue:** The mechanical mechanism or motor that directs water into the dispenser drawer is jammed or broken.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** Remove the dispenser drawer and clean out any hardened detergent or fabric softener. Unplug the machine for 1 minute.
- **Verdict: Qualified Tech**. If cleaning the drawer fails, the internal dispenser motor must be replaced.

Error Codes E42 / E45 / E46: Drive Motor Faults

- **Explanation:** The drive motor is overheating, struggling to turn, or sending unexpected signals to the control board.
- **Source of Issue:** Overheating due to massive loads, loose wiring, or a failing drive motor.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** Unplug the machine and let it sit for 30 minutes to allow the motor to cool down.
- **Verdict: Qualified Tech**. Diagnosing motor faults requires specialized electrical testing.

Error Codes E48 / E49: Motor Overload / Drum Binding

- **Explanation:** The drum is trying to rotate, but there is too much resistance.
- **Source of Issue:** The load of laundry is excessively heavy, or an article of clothing is physically wedged between the inner tub and outer drum.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** Open the door and remove half of the wet laundry. Restart the cycle.
- **Verdict: DIY** for adjusting the load size; **Qualified Tech** if the drum is physically jammed and requires disassembly.

Error Codes E54 / E57 / E58: Inverter / Control Board Failure

- **Explanation:** The main control board has lost communication with the motor control board (inverter).

- **Source of Issue:** Power surges, blown capacitors, or a completely failed circuit board.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** Perform a hard reset by unplugging the washing machine for 5 full minutes.
- **Verdict: Qualified Tech**. This is a complex electrical issue requiring board replacement.

Error Codes E60 through E64: Door Lock Mechanism Failure

- **Explanation:** The machine cannot verify that the door is safely closed and locked.
- **Source of Issue:** A jammed latch, dirty lock contacts, a failed internal lock switch, or a sagging door hinge.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** Wipe down the latch and door strike with a damp cloth. Lift up slightly on the door while closing it. Unplug the washer for 1 minute to attempt a forced unlock.
- **Verdict: DIY** for cleaning and realigning; **Qualified Tech** for replacing the door lock assembly.

Error Codes E70 / E71: UI Communication Error

- **Explanation:** The buttons and display panel (User Interface) cannot communicate with the main computer.
- **Source of Issue:** Loose ribbon cables or a failed user interface board.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** Unplug the machine for 2 minutes to reboot the software.
- **Verdict: Qualified Tech**.

Error Code UE / UB: Unbalanced Load

- **Explanation:** The drum is vibrating too violently during the spin cycle.
- **Source of Issue:** Wet laundry is clumped on one side of the drum, throwing off the machine's center of gravity.
- **How to Clear/Reset:** The machine will automatically pause. Open the door, manually separate and redistribute the wet clothes evenly around the drum, and press Start.
- **Verdict: DIY**.