Roomba 700 / 800 Series

Independent Repair & Troubleshooting Reference

This is an independently researched and written reference guide compiled from publicly available repair documentation, iRobot's own published error-code charts, and community repair sources. It is **not** an official iRobot manual and is not affiliated with, endorsed by, or sourced from iRobot's internal service documentation.

Applies to: Roomba 760, 770, 780, 790, 800, 870, 880, 890 and similar 700/800-series models

How errors are announced: Two-tone “uh-oh” sound followed by a narrated voice message, plus a blinking troubleshooting indicator on select models. Press CLEAN to repeat the message.

700/800-series models share the same core error-code scheme as the 500/600 series, with the addition of dedicated suction (8) and bumper (9) errors not present on older models.

Compiled by DIYFixIt.tech • For personal repair reference use

Contents

1. Routine Maintenance Schedule

2. Error Code Reference Chart

3. Common Problems & Repairs

4. Battery Replacement Procedure

5. Reset Procedure

6. Safety Notes

7. Sources

1. Routine Maintenance Schedule

A large share of problems on this series are maintenance issues rather than hardware failures. Keeping to this schedule prevents most of the errors covered later in this guide.

Part	Recommended Frequency
Dust bin	Empty after each cleaning run
Filter	Clean weekly (more often with pets)
Main brushes	Clean weekly (more often with pets)
Front caster wheel	Clean every 2 weeks
Side brush & cliff sensors	Clean monthly
Charging contacts (robot & dock)	Wipe clean monthly, or at first sign of charging errors

2. Error Code Reference Chart

Error	Meaning	Fix
1	Side wheel stuck or hanging	Flip robot over, check both side wheels for debris; confirm each wheel retr
2	Main or side brush jammed	Remove brushes, cut away wrapped hair/thread, clean the brush cage bef
5	Side wheel drive stall	Remove hair/debris from the wheel axle; spin wheel by hand to confirm fre
6	Dirty cliff sensor(s)	Wipe all four cliff sensors on the underside with a dry cloth.
8	Vacuum/airflow blockage or clogged filter	Clean or replace the filter; check for blockages in the airflow path.
9	Bumper dirty, compressed, or malfunctioning	Clean the bumper thoroughly; press it gently inward to check it springs bac
14	Bin missing or not detected	Reinstall the dust bin fully, wipe bin contacts, then press CLEAN to restart.
Charging 3 / 5	Charging system fault	Clean charging contacts on robot and Home Base with a dry cloth.

3. Common Problems & Repairs

Symptom: Roomba won't charge

Wipe the metal charging contacts on both the robot's underside and the Home Base — this resolves the large majority of charging failures. If it persists with a genuine iRobot battery, the charging circuit itself may need service.

Symptom: Brush won't spin or spins slowly

Nearly always hair or thread wrapped around the brush ends or bearings. Remove both brushes, cut away debris with scissors, and clean the brush cage itself before reinstalling.

Symptom: Roomba loses suction / picks up less debris

Check and clean or replace the filter first — a clogged filter is the most common cause of reduced suction on 700/800-series models, and is what triggers Error 8.

Symptom: Roomba reports a bumper problem or seems overly sensitive to touch

Clean the bumper fully, including the small gap around its edges where debris collects. Press it inward slowly to confirm it depresses and springs back smoothly — a bumper that sticks in the pressed position will misreport contact constantly.

Symptom: Roomba stops and reports a bin issue even though the bin is installed

Remove the bin fully and wipe both the bin's own contacts and the robot's corresponding contacts with a dry cloth — a thin film of dust on either side is enough to break the detection circuit.

4. Battery Replacement Procedure

1. Turn the Roomba off completely and disconnect it from the Home Base.
2. Flip the robot over.
3. Remove the screws on the battery compartment cover (typically 4 screws).
4. Remove the old battery and inspect the compartment terminals for corrosion or damage.
5. Insert the new battery, matching terminal orientation exactly.
6. Replace the cover and screws.
7. Dock the robot on the Home Base and allow a full initial charge (typically 2–3 hours) before first use.

5. Reset Procedure

Hold the CLEAN button for approximately 10 seconds until the unit displays "RST". Note this clears scheduled cleaning times, which will need to be reprogrammed afterward.

6. Safety Notes

Always power the robot off before opening any panel, brush cage, or battery compartment. Brush motors have significant torque — keep fingers clear while testing brush movement. Before removing any battery, confirm it is not hot, swollen, or leaking — a damaged lithium-ion battery can release hazardous gases. Recycle old batteries through a proper battery recycling program rather than regular trash.

7. Sources

Compiled and independently written from iRobot's official error message charts and support articles (homesupport.irobot.com, support.irobot.ca), iFixit's community repair guides, and other independent repair documentation. No content copied verbatim.

Provided for informational purposes as an independent reference. For warranty repairs or unresolved issues, contact iRobot support directly.