



320i
325i
325xi
330i
330xi

Congratulations, and thank you for choosing a BMW.

Thorough familiarity with your vehicle will provide you with enhanced control and security when you drive it. Therefore we have one request:

Please take the time to read this Owner's Manual and familiarize yourself with the information that we have compiled for you before starting off in your new BMW. The manual contains important data and instructions intended to assist you in obtaining maximum satisfaction from your BMW's unique array of advanced technical features. It also contains information on vehicle maintenance designed to enhance operating safety while simultaneously helping you to maintain your BMW's value throughout an extended service life. For additional information refer to the supplemental manuals.

This Owner's Manual should be considered a permanent part of this vehicle. It should stay with the vehicle when sold to provide the next owner with important operating, safety and maintenance information.

This manual is supplemented by a Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models) or a Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models).

We recommend that you read this publication thoroughly.

Your BMW is covered by the following warranties:

- New Vehicle Limited Warranty
- Limited Rust Perforation Warranty
- Federal Emissions System Defect Warranty
- Federal Emissions Performance Warranty
- California Emission Control System Limited Warranty

Detailed descriptions of these warranties are provided in the Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models) or in the Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models).

We wish you an enjoyable driving experience.

BMW AG

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Notes on the Owner's Manual

We have made every effort to ensure that you are able to find what you need in this Owner's Manual as quickly as possible. The fastest way to find specific topics is by using the detailed index at the end. If you wish to gain only an initial overview of your vehicle, you will find this in the first chapter. The detailed table of contents is intended to stimulate your interest and encourage you to read the remainder of the manual.

Should you wish to sell your BMW at some time in the future, please remember to hand over this Owner's Manual to the new owner; it is part of the vehicle.

If you have any additional questions, your BMW center will be glad to advise you.

Symbols used



Indicates precautions that must be followed precisely in order to avoid the possibility of personal injury and serious damage to the vehicle. ◀



Contains information that will assist you in gaining the optimum benefit from your vehicle and enables you to care more effectively for your vehicle. ◀



Refers to measures that can be taken to help protect the environment. ◀

◀ Marks the end of a specific item of information.

* Indicates special equipment, country-specific equipment and optional extras.



Identifies systems or components, which can either be activated or adapted to suit an individual driver's requirements ("Vehicle Memory", "Key Memory"), refer to page 55. ◀
Remember that activation and adjustments on some of these systems can only be performed at your BMW center. ◀

Your individual vehicle

On purchasing your BMW, you have decided in favor of a model with individualized equipment and features. This Owner's Manual describes all models and equipment that BMW offers within the same group.

We hope you will understand that equipment and features are included that you might not have chosen for your vehicle. You can easily identify any differences with the aid of the asterisk * used to identify all optional equipment and accessories.

If your BMW features equipment which is not described in this Owner's Manual (car radio or telephone, for instance), Supplementary Owner's Manuals are enclosed. We ask you to read these manuals as well.

Status at time of printing

BMW pursues a policy of continuous, ongoing development conceived to ensure that our vehicles continue to embody the highest quality and safety standards combined with advanced, state-of-the-art technology. For this reason, it is possible that the features described in this Owner's Manual could differ from those on your vehicle. Nor can errors and omissions be entirely ruled out. You are therefore asked to appreciate that no legal claims can be recognized on the basis of the data, illustrations or descriptions in this Owner's Manual.

For your own safety



Use unleaded gasoline only. Fuels containing up to and including 10 % ethanol or other oxygenates with up to 2.8 % oxygen by weight (i.e. 15 % MTBE or 3 % methanol plus an equivalent amount of co-solvent) will not void the applicable warranties covering defects in materials or workmanship. Field experience has indicated significant differences in fuel quality (volatility, composition, additives, for example) among gasolines offered for sale in the United States and Canada. The use of poor-quality fuels may result in driveability, starting and stalling problems, especially under certain environmental conditions, such as high ambient temperature and high altitude.

Should you encounter driveability problems which you suspect could be related to the fuel you are using, we recommend that you respond by switching to a recognized high-quality brand.

Failure to comply with these recommendations may result in unscheduled maintenance.

Obey all applicable safety rules when handling gasoline. ◀



Important safety information!

For your own safety, use genuine parts and accessories approved by BMW.

When you purchase accessories tested and approved by BMW and Original BMW Parts, you simultaneously acquire the assurance that they have been thoroughly tested by BMW to ensure optimum performance when installed on your vehicle.

BMW warrants these parts to be free from defects in material and workmanship.

BMW will not accept any liability for damage resulting from installation of parts and accessories not approved by BMW.

BMW cannot test every product on the market to determine whether it can be used on a BMW safely and without risk to either the vehicle, its operation, or its occupants.

Original BMW Parts, BMW Accessories and other products approved by BMW, together with professional advice on using these items, are available from all BMW centers.

Installation and operation of non-BMW approved accessories such as alarms, radios, amplifiers, radar detectors, wheels, suspension components, brake dust shields, telephones (including operation of any portable cellular phone from within the vehicle without using an externally mounted antenna) or transceiver equipment (such as CB, walkie-talkie, ham radio or similar) may cause extensive damage to the vehicle, compromise its safety, interfere with the vehicle's electrical system or affect the validity of the BMW Limited Warranty. See your BMW center for additional information.

Do not use key or remote control to lock doors or luggage compartment with anyone inside the vehicle. Refer to page 34 for more details. ◀



Maintenance, replacement, or repair of the emission control devices and systems may be performed by any automotive repair establishment or individual using any certified automotive part. ◀

Symbol on vehicle parts



Indicates that you should consult the relevant section of this Owner's Manual for information on a particular part or assembly.

The following applies only to vehicles owned and operated in the US.

REPORTING SAFETY DEFECTS

If you believe that your vehicle has a defect which could cause a crash or could cause injury or death, you should immediately inform the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in addition to notifying BMW of North America, LLC, P.O. Box 1227, Westwood, New Jersey 07675-1227, Telephone (201) 307-4000.

If NHTSA receives similar complaints, it may open an investigation, and if it finds that a safety defect exists in a group of vehicles, it may order a recall and remedy campaign. However, NHTSA cannot become involved in individual problems between you, your dealer, or BMW of North America, LLC.

To contact NHTSA, you may either call the Auto Safety Hotline toll-free at 1-800-424-9393 (or 366-0123 in Washington, D.C. area) or write to: NHTSA, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590. You can also obtain other information about motor vehicle safety from the Hotline.



Overview

Controls and features

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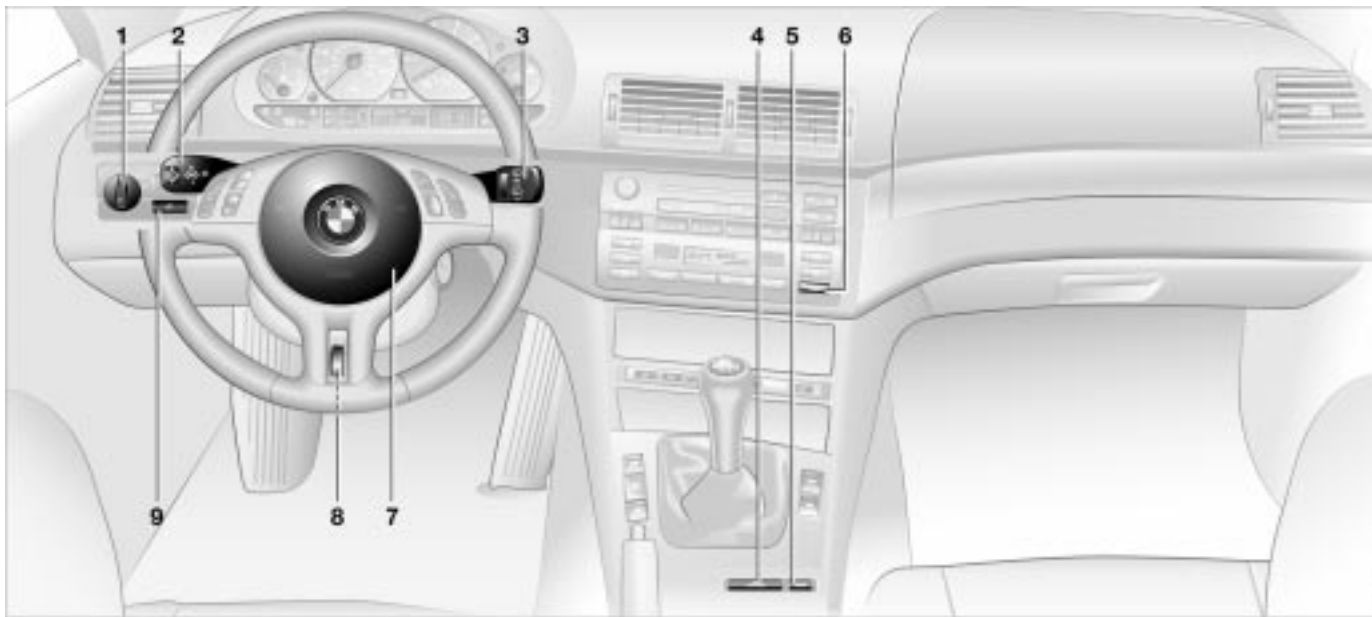
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12 Control button for the clock [68](#)

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Indicator and warning lamps

Technology that monitors itself

The system runs an operational check on the indicator and warning lamps identified with the ● symbol each time you switch on the ignition. They each light up once for different periods of time.

If a fault should occur in one of these systems, the corresponding lamp does not go out after the engine is started, or it lights up while the vehicle is moving. You will see how to react to this below.

Red: stop immediately



Battery charge current ●

The battery is no longer being charged. Indicates a defective alternator drive belt or a problem with the alternator's charge circuit. Please contact the nearest BMW center.



If the drive belt is defective, stop and switch off the engine immediately to prevent overheating and serious engine damage. If the drive belt is defective, increased steering effort is also required. ◀



Engine oil pressure ●

Stop the vehicle immediately and switch off the engine. Check the engine oil level; top off as required. If the oil level is correct: please contact the nearest BMW center.



Do not continue driving, as the engine could sustain serious damage from inadequate lubrication. ◀



Brake warning lamp ●

If the lamp comes on when the parking brake is not engaged: check the brake fluid level. Before driving further, be sure to comply with the instructions on pages [106](#) and [118](#)



Brake warning lamp for Canadian models.



Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC)/Flat Tire Monitor ●

In addition, an acoustic signal is sounded: a tire failure has occurred. Reduce vehicle speed immediately and stop the vehicle. Avoid hard brake applications. As you steer the vehicle, use caution and avoid overcorrecting. For additional information: refer to pages [78](#) and [80](#)

18 Indicator and warning lamps

Red and yellow: continue driving cautiously



The brake warning lamp comes on together with the yellow indicator lamps for ABS and ASC+T/DSC:



The entire ABS, CBC, ASC+T/DSC and ADB/ADB-X/DBC control system has failed.



Continue driving cautiously and defensively. Avoid hard brake applications. Please have the system checked by your BMW center as soon as possible.

For additional information: refer to pages [72](#), [73](#)



CBC, ABS and ASC+T/DSC and ADB/ADB-X/DBC indicator and warning lamps for Canadian models.



Red: an important reminder



Parking brake warning lamp
Comes on when the parking brake is applied – an additional acoustic signal sounds when starting off.

For additional information: refer to page [58](#)



Parking brake warning lamp for Canadian models.



Fasten safety belts ●

An acoustic warning also sounds in some versions. Lights up either for several seconds or until the belt is engaged, depending upon version.

For additional information on safety belts: refer to page [45](#)



Airbags ●

Please have the system inspected by your BMW center.

For additional information: refer to page [49](#)

Orange: consult the nearest BMW center



Automatic transmission
The transmission has responded to a malfunction by reverting to operation in its emergency default program. Please consult the nearest BMW center.

For additional information: refer to page [59](#)

Indicator and warning lamps

Yellow: check as soon as possible



Antilock Brake System (ABS) ●
ABS has been deactivated in response to system malfunction.

Conventional braking performance remains available with no loss of efficiency. Please have the system inspected at your BMW center.

For additional information: refer to page [105](#)



ABS warning lamp for Canadian models.



Engine oil level

Comes on while driving: the engine oil level has fallen to the absolute minimum; refill as soon as possible. Do not drive more than approx. 30 miles (50 km) until you do. For additional information: refer to page [115](#)



Engine oil level

Comes on after the engine has been shut off: add engine oil at your earliest opportunity (next time you stop to refuel). For additional information: refer to page [115](#)



Brake pads ●

Have the brake pads checked. For additional information: refer to page [106](#)



Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC)/Flat Tire Monitor ●
Check tire inflation pressures, refer to pages [24](#), [78](#), [80](#)



Automatic Stability Control plus Traction (ASC+T)/Dynamic Stability Control (DSC) ●

Indicator lamp flashes:

The system is actively regulating drive torque and braking force.

The indicator lamp stays lit:

ASC+T has been switched off with the button or it is defective, or the DSC has been switched off, ADB is operational. Please consult the nearest BMW center in case of a malfunction.

For additional information: beginning on page [72](#)

BMW 325xi, 330xi:

DSC has been switched off manually or there is a system malfunction.

ADB-X is operational in its standby mode. If the warning lamp fails to go out when you press the DSC button again, this indicates a system malfunction affecting both DSC and ADB-X. Please consult the nearest BMW center.

For additional information: refer to page [75](#)



Indicator lamp for Automatic Stability Control plus Traction (ASC+T)/Dynamic Stability Control (DSC) and brake warning lamp ●

The indicator lamps remain on:

The DSC and ADB/DBC have been switched off with the button or are defective.

Please consult the nearest BMW center. For additional information: refer to page [73](#)

BMW 325xi, 330xi:

DSC and ADB-X system malfunction. There is no provision for deactivating ADB-X.

Please consult the nearest BMW center. For additional information: refer to page [75](#)



DSC and ADB indicator and warning lamps for Canadian models.



Dynamic Brake Control (DBC) ●
Malfunction in DBC system.

Conventional braking efficiency is available and unrestricted. Have the system repaired at your BMW center as soon as possible. For additional information: refer to page [74](#)

20 Indicator and warning lamps



Add washer fluid
The washer fluid is too low. Top off the fluid at the earliest opportunity. For additional information: refer to page [114](#)



SERVICE ENGINE SOON ●
If the indicator lamp comes on either continuously or intermittently, this indicates a fault in the emissions-related electronic systems. Although the vehicle remains operational, you should have the systems checked at your BMW center at the earliest possible opportunity. For additional information: refer to page [121](#).



SERVICE ENGINE SOON
warning lamp for Canadian models.



Engine electronics ●
There is a fault in the electronic engine-management system. You can continue to drive with reduced engine output or engine speed. Please have the system inspected by your BMW center.



Add coolant
The coolant level is too low. Add coolant at the earliest opportunity. For additional information: refer to page [117](#)

Green: for your information



Turn signal indicator
Flashes when the turn signals are on.

Rapid flashing indicates a system malfunction.

For additional information: refer to page [61](#)



Cruise control
Lights up when the cruise control is activated: available for operation via the multifunction steering wheel.

For additional information: refer to page [64](#)



Fog lamps
Lights up whenever you switch on the fog lamps.

For additional information: refer to page [83](#)

Blue: for your information




High beams
Comes on when the high beams are on or the headlamp flasher is actuated.

For additional information: refer to pages [61](#), [83](#)

Multifunction steering wheel (MFL)*

The buttons integrated in the multifunction steering wheel (MFL) are provided so that you can operate a number of accessories quickly and without being distracted from traffic conditions. You may operate:

- ▷ Selected radio functions
- ▷ The cruise control
- ▷ Selected cellular phone functions.

 The controls are active only when the corresponding systems and accessories are switched on. ◀



Press briefly:
Receive a phone call, initiate dialing,
terminate a call.



Switch between phone and radio,
cassette and CD.



Forward:

- ▷ Radio
Press briefly: station scan in FM band
Extended pressure: search function
- ▷ CD
Press briefly: jump to next track
Extended pressure: search function in track
- ▷ Cassette
Press briefly: stop track scan or fast forward
Extended pressure: fast forward
- ▷ Phone
Scan personal phone book.



Rewind: functions as fast forward.



Volume.



Cruise control: to select a stored setting.

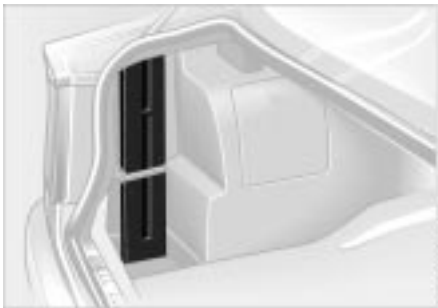


Cruise control: store and accelerate (+)
or decelerate and store (-).




Cruise control: activate/interrupt/deactivate.

22 Hazard warning triangle* Refueling




The hazard warning triangle is stored in a storage case on the left side of the luggage compartment.

 Always observe all legal regulations requiring a warning triangle to be carried in the vehicle. ◀




Fuel filler door

 Always switch off the engine before refueling, as it is not possible to add fuel with the engine running, and attempts may also trigger the SERVICE ENGINE SOON lamp. ◀

Press on the rear edge of the fuel filler door to open and close it.


If an electrical malfunction occurs, you can unlock the fuel filler door manually:

1. Unlock the trim panel on the right side of the luggage compartment
2. Pull the button with the fuel pump symbol.

 Always observe all safety precautions posted at the service station when handling fuel. Never carry spare fuel containers in your vehicle. Whether empty or full, these containers can leak, cause an explosion, or lead to fire in the event of a collision. ◀



Simple and environmentally friendly


 Open the filler cap carefully to prevent fuel from spraying out. Fuel spray may cause injury. ◀


Keep the filler cap in the bracket (arrow) attached to the fuel filler door.

When refueling, insert the filler nozzle all the way into the filler pipe. Pulling the nozzle out of the pipe during refueling

- ▷ results in premature pump shutoff
- ▷ and will reduce the effectiveness of the vapor recovery system on the pump.

As long as the filler nozzle is used properly, the fuel tank is full whenever the nozzle shuts off the first time.

 Refill early to avoid damaging the catalytic converter; never attempt to drive to the last drop of fuel in the tank. ◀


 Close the fuel cap carefully after refueling until a click is heard. While closing, be sure not to squeeze the strap which is fastened to the cap. A loose or missing cap will activate the CHECK FILLER CAP lamp* or the SERVICE ENGINE SOON lamp. ◀

Tank capacity: approx. 16.6 gal. (63 liters), incl. a reserve capacity of approx. 2.1 gal. (8 liters).

The engine uses lead-free gasoline only.

Required fuel:

- ▷ Premium Unleaded Gasoline, min. 91 AKI.
AKI = Anti Knock Index

 Never use leaded fuel, as it would cause permanent and irreversible damage to the oxygen sensor and the catalytic converter. ◀

24 Tire inflation pressures



The specified inflation pressures are provided on a sticker attached to the B-pillar and visible with the driver's door open.

Checking tire pressures

All tire pressure and ambient air temperature specifications are stated in the units usually used in your country (psi; kilopascal) (refer also the following tire inflation pressures table).

Vehicles with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC)/Flat Tire Monitor:

After correcting the inflation pressures, reactivate the system, refer to pages [78](#), [80](#).

Another instruction plate regarding inflation pressures on the door pillar indicates which system is equipped on your vehicle.



Check tire pressures on a regular basis – at least twice a month – and before every extended journey. Otherwise, incorrect tire pressure can lead to poor handling, to tire damage and accidents.

Remember to check the inflation pressure in the space-saver or standard spare tire.


Inflate the spare tire to the highest inflation pressure of any tire on your vehicle. ◀

Comply with tire approval specifications

The inflation pressures in the table apply to BMW approved tire sizes and tire manufacturers. Your BMW center is familiar with these pressures. Higher pressures may be specified for tires made by other manufacturers.

Your vehicle is equipped with tires that not only meet US standards, but also European standards. We recommend the exclusive use of BMW approved tires.

Tire inflation pressures

BMW Tires					
All pressure specifications in the table are indicated in psi (kilopascal) with cold tires (cold = ambient temperature)					
320i	205/55 R 16 91 H M+S, 205/55 R 16 91 H, 225/50 R 16 92 W, 225/45 R 17 91 W	29 (200)	33 (230)	33 (230)	41 (280)
	225/45 ZR 17	29 (200)	–	33 (230)	–
	245/40 ZR 17	–	33 (230)	–	41 (280)
	205/50 R 17 93 V M+S extra load, 205/50 R 17 93 W extra load, 195/65 R 15 91 Q M+S, 205/60 R 15 91 Q M+S, 205/55 R 16 91 Q M+S, 225/50 R 16 92 Q M+S, 205/50 R 17 93 Q M+S extra load, 225/45 R 17 91 Q M+S	32 (220)	36 (250)	36 (250)	44 (300)
325i 325xi	205/55 R 16 91 H M+S, 205/55 R 16 91 H, 225/50 R 16 92 W (not 325xi), 225/45 R 17 91 W	30 (210)	35 (240)	35 (240)	42 (290)
	225/45 ZR 17	30 (210)	–	35 (240)	–
	245/40 ZR 17	–	35 (240)	–	42 (290)
	205/50 R 17 93 V M+S extra load, 205/50 R 17 93 W extra load, 205/55 R 16 91 Q M+S, 225/50 R 16 92 Q M+S (not 325xi), 205/50 R 17 93 Q M+S extra load, 225/45 R 17 91 Q M+S	33 (230)	38 (260)	38 (260)	45 (310)
330i 330xi	225/45 R 17 91 W	30 (210)	35 (240)	35 (240)	42 (290)
	225/45 ZR 17	30 (210)	–	35 (240)	–
	245/40 ZR 17	–	35 (240)	–	42 (290)
	205/50 R 17 93 V M+S extra load, 205/50 R 17 93 W extra load, 205/50 R 17 93 Q M+S extra load, 225/45 R 17 91 Q M+S	33 (230)	38 (260)	38 (260)	45 (310)
All	Space-saver spare tire	61 (420)			



Overview

Controls and features

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Overview

Controls

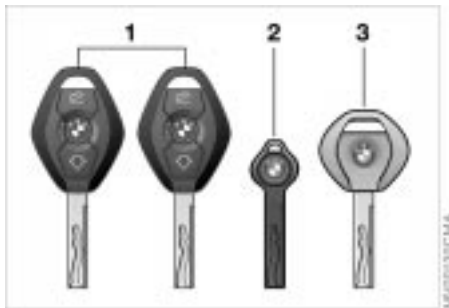
Maintenance

Repairs

Data


Index





The key set

- 1 Master key with remote control unit, for information on programming the Key Memory refer to page 55. You can mark individual keys for subsequent identification by applying the colored decals that you received when accepting delivery of your vehicle

 There is an extended-life battery in every master key that is charged automatically in the ignition lock as you drive.

For this reason, if you have a master key that is not being used otherwise, use those keys approximately once a year while driving for an extended period to charge the battery, refer also to page 29. ◀

- 2 Spare key for storage in a safe place, such as in your wallet. This key is not intended for constant use

- 3 Door and ignition key
The locks for the luggage compartment lid and the glove compartment cannot be operated with this key – this is useful for valet parking, for instance

Central locking system

The concept

The central locking system is ready for operation whenever the driver's door is closed. The system engages and releases the locks on the

- ▷ doors
- ▷ luggage compartment lid
- ▷ fuel filler door.

The central locking system can be operated

- ▷ from outside via the remote control as well as via the driver's door lock
- ▷ from inside by pressing a button.

Activating it from inside does not lock the fuel filler door, refer to page 32.

When the system is actuated from the outside, the anti-theft system is activated simultaneously. Both the door locks and release handles remain locked. The alarm system is also activated or deactivated.

If locked from the inside, the central locking system unlocks automatically in the event of an accident, except on doors that have been locked individually using the lock buttons, refer to page 31. In addition, the hazard warning flashers and interior lamps come on.

Opening and closing – via the remote control

The concept

The remote control gives you an exceptionally convenient method for unlocking and locking your vehicle. Furthermore, it provides two additional functions which you can only execute via the remote control:

- ▷ To switch on interior lamps, refer to page 30.

With this function, you can also search for the vehicle, when parked in an underground garage, for instance

- ▷ To open the luggage compartment lid, refer to page 30.

The luggage compartment lid will open slightly, regardless of whether it was previously locked or unlocked.

Whenever you unlock (lock) the vehicle, you simultaneously deactivate (activate) the anti-theft system, disarm (arm) the alarm system and switch the interior lamps on (off).



You can have a signal set to confirm that the vehicle's locks have engaged securely. ◀



Since children might be able to lock the doors from the inside, always take the vehicle keys with you so that the vehicle can be opened again from the outside at any time. ◀



If it is no longer possible to lock the vehicle via the remote control, the battery is discharged. Use this key while driving for an extended period in order to recharge the battery.

To prevent unauthorized use of the remote control, surrender only the door and ignition key or the spare key, for example when leaving the vehicle for valet parking, refer to page 28.

In the event of a system malfunction, please contact your BMW center. You can also obtain replacement keys there. ◀



- 1 Unlock and convenience opening
- 2 Lock and secure, interior lamp activation, disarming tilt alarm sensor and interior monitor sensor
- 3 Open the luggage compartment lid

To unlock



Press the button once to unlock the driver's door.

Press the button a second time to disengage all vehicle locks.

30 Opening and closing – via the remote control

Convenience opening mode




Press and hold button to open the electric power windows and sliding/tilt sunroof.

To lock and secure



Press button.

 Do not lock the vehicle if anyone will be remaining inside, as it would then be impossible for the occupant(s) to disengage the locks from the inside. ◀

To switch on the interior lamps



After locking the vehicle, press button again.

To switch off the tilt alarm sensor* and the interior motion sensor*



Press button a second time immediately after locking.
For additional information, refer to page 37.

To open the luggage compartment lid



Press button.

The luggage compartment lid will open slightly, regardless of whether the lid was previously locked or unlocked.



Before and after a trip, be sure that the luggage compartment lid has not been opened unintentionally. ◀

Panic mode (trigger alarm)



Provided that the alarm system is armed, you can respond to imminent danger by holding down the button for between two and five seconds.
Press the button to cancel the alarm.

External systems

The remote control system's operation may be affected by other units or equipment operating in the immediate vicinity of your vehicle.

If this should occur, you can still open and close the vehicle using the master key in either the door or luggage compartment lid locks.

For US owners only

The transmitter and receiver units comply with part 15 of the FCC (Federal Communication Commission) regulations. Operation is governed by the following:

FCC ID: LX8EWS
LX8FZVS
LX8FZVE

Compliance statement:

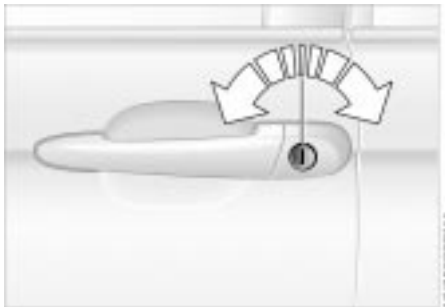
This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- ▷ This device may not cause harmful interference, and
- ▷ this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.



Any unauthorized modifications to these devices could void the user's authority to operate the equipment. ◀

Opening and closing – via the door lock



One turn of the key in the driver's door lock unlocks the driver's door only. Turning the key a second time unlocks all of the remaining doors, the luggage compartment lid and the fuel filler door.



Do not lock the vehicle if anyone will be remaining inside, as it would then be impossible for the occupant(s) to disengage the locks from the inside. ◀



You can have a signal set to confirm that the vehicle's locks have engaged securely. ◀

Convenience operation

You can also operate the power windows and the sliding/tilt sunroof via the door lock.

- ▷ To open: with the door closed, hold the key in the "Unlock" position
- ▷ To close: with the door closed, turn the key to the "Lock" position and hold it.



Whenever closing the windows or sliding/tilt sunroof you should always monitor their path and progress to ensure that no injuries occur. Release the key to stop the windows (sliding/tilt sunroof). ◀

Manual operation

(in the event of electrical malfunction)

Turn the key to the extreme left or right to unlock/lock the driver's door.


32 Opening and closing – from the inside




To unlock and open the doors

- ▷ Either unlock the doors together with the button for the central locking system and then pull each of the release handles above the armrests or
- ▷ pull the release handle for each door twice: the first pull unlocks the door, and the second one opens it.

You can use this button to control the central locking system whenever the doors are closed. The doors and luggage compartment lid are unlocked or locked only. The anti-theft system is not activated.

 If only the driver's door was unlocked from the outside and you press the button, then, with the driver's door still open, the passenger-side door, the luggage compartment lid and the fuel filler door will unlock, too. If the driver's door is closed, it will be locked. ◀

 If you desire, the central locking system can be locked automatically as soon as you begin to drive. This can be adjusted to be key-specific. ◀

To lock the doors

- ▷ Either use the central locking button to lock all doors at once or
- ▷ press down the individual door lock buttons. The fuel filler door remains unlocked. To prevent the driver from being inadvertently locked out of the vehicle, the driver's door lock button will not engage as long as the door is open.



Since children might be able to lock the doors from the inside, always take the vehicle's keys with you so that you can open the vehicle again from the outside at any time. ◀



The lock

Only the master keys fit in the lock of the luggage compartment lid, refer to page 28.

To secure separately

Turn the master key to the right past the resistance point and then pull it out in the horizontal position.

This locks the luggage compartment lid and disconnects it from the central locking system. This feature can be used to prevent unauthorized access to the luggage compartment, when you hand over the door and ignition key for valet parking, for instance, refer to page 28.

To open from the outside

Press the button in the handle recess (arrow): the luggage compartment lid opens slightly.

The luggage compartment is lit when the luggage compartment lid is opened.

Manual operation

(in the event of electrical malfunction)

Turn the master key all the way to the left – the luggage compartment lid will open slightly.

The luggage compartment lid is locked again as soon as you close the lid.

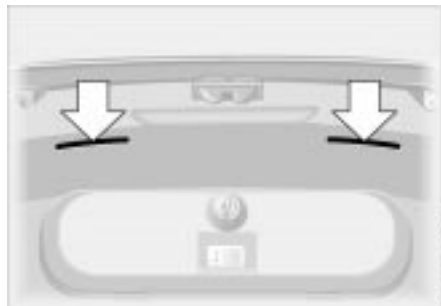
Opening from the inside, refer to page 34.

34 Luggage compartment lid




Opening from the inside*


If the luggage compartment lid has not been locked separately, you can open it with this button in the footwell on the driver's side when the vehicle is stationary.



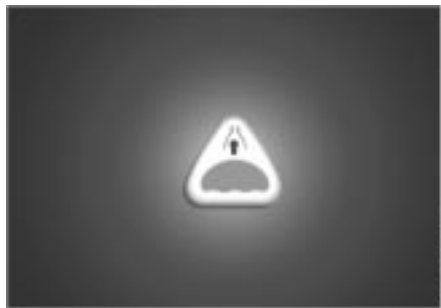
To close

The handle recesses in the interior trim panel of the luggage compartment lid (arrows) make it easier to pull the lid down.

 To avoid injuries, be sure that the travel path of the luggage compartment lid is clear when it is closed, following the same precautions as with all closing procedures. ◀

 Operate the vehicle only when the luggage compartment lid is closed. Otherwise, exhaust fumes could penetrate the interior of the vehicle. Should it be absolutely necessary to operate the vehicle with the luggage compartment lid open:

- ▷ Close all windows. Shut the sliding/tilt sunroof
- ▷ Sharply increase the air supply for the air conditioning or automatic climate control. Refer to page [85](#) or [88](#). ◀



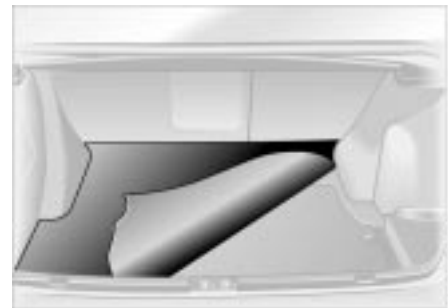
Emergency release

This lever releases the luggage compartment lid from the luggage compartment's interior.



Floor panel

Lift the floor panel with the ring, then use the tab to suspend it from the weatherstripping on the drip rail (arrow).



Floor mat

You can use the floor mat to transport soiled objects, etc. The rubber-coated side is suitable for washing and is also designed to inhibit sliding.

The fittings at the corners of the luggage compartment provide you with a convenient means of attaching luggage nets* and flexible straps for securing luggage.

Refer also to cargo loading on page [99](#).

The concept

The vehicle alarm system responds:

- ▷ When a door, the hood or the luggage compartment lid is opened
- ▷ To movement inside the vehicle (interior motion sensor)
- ▷ To variations in the vehicle's tilt angle such as those occurring during attempts to steal the wheels or tow the vehicle
- ▷ To interruption of battery voltage.

The system responds to unauthorized vehicle entry and attempted theft by simultaneously activating the following:

- ▷ The acoustic alarm sounds for 30 seconds
- ▷ The hazard warning flashers are activated for approx. five minutes
- ▷ The high beams flash on and off in rhythm with the hazard warning flashers.

To arm and disarm the alarm system

When the vehicle is locked or unlocked via the driver's door lock or with the remote control, the alarm system is also simultaneously armed or disarmed.



You can have different acknowledgment signals set to confirm arming and disarming. ◀



You can open the luggage compartment lid even when the system is armed by pressing the button on the remote control, refer to page 30. When it is closed, the lid is once again secured.



Indicator lamp displays

- ▷ The indicator lamp below the interior rearview mirror flashes continuously: the system is armed
- ▷ The indicator lamp flashes during arming: the door(s), the hood or luggage compartment lid are not completely closed. Even if you do not close the alerted area(s), the remaining areas are secured, and the indicator lamp will flash continuously after 10 seconds. However, the interior motion sensor is not activated

- ▷ If the indicator lamp goes out when the system is disarmed: no manipulation or attempted intrusions have been detected in the period since the system was armed
- ▷ If the indicator lamp flashes for 10 seconds when the system is disarmed: an attempted entry has been detected in the period since the system was armed.

Following triggering of an alarm, the indicator lamp will flash continuously.

Avoiding unintentional alarms

The tilt alarm sensor and interior motion sensor may be switched off at the same time. You can do this to prevent a false alarm from being triggered in garages with elevator ramps, for instance, or when the vehicle is transported by trailer or train:



Lock the vehicle twice (= arm the system). Press button on the remote control twice in succession or lock the vehicle twice with the key.

The indicator lamp lights up briefly and then flashes continuously. The tilt alarm sensor and interior motion sensor are deactivated for as long as the system remains armed.

Interior motion sensor

In order for the interior motion sensor to function properly, the windows and the sliding/tilt sunroof must be completely closed.

Nevertheless, you should deactivate the interior motion sensor (refer to previous column) if

- ▷ children or animals are left in the vehicle
- ▷ the windows or the sliding/tilt sunroof are being left open.



To open and close windows

With ignition key in position 1 or 2.


- ▷ Press the switch up to the resistance point: the window retracts; it remains in motion for as long as you maintain pressure on the switch
- ▷ Press the switch briefly past the pressure point: the window moves automatically. Pressing the switch again stops the opening cycle.

You can close the windows in the same manner by pulling the switch.

Separate switches are located under the windows in the rear passenger area.

38 Electric power windows


After the ignition has been switched off: You can still use the electric power windows for up to 15 minutes, as long as no one opens any of the front doors.

 When leaving the vehicle, always remove the ignition key from the lock and remember to close the doors to prevent children from operating the power windows and injuring themselves, etc. ◀

For the convenience mode via the remote control or the door lock, refer to pages 30 or 31.

Safety feature

A contact strip is located on the inside upper frame of each of the front windows. If pressure is exerted against this contact strip while a window is being raised, the system will respond by stopping the window and then retracting it a small distance.


 Despite this safety feature, be extremely careful to ensure that the closing path of the window is not obstructed. Some types of objects might fail to trigger the contact strip in some situations (very thin objects, for instance).


You can override this safety feature by pressing the switch beyond the resistance point and holding it. ◀



Safety switch*

With the safety switch, you can prevent the rear windows from being opened or closed via the switch in the rear passenger area (by children, for example).

 Press the safety switch whenever children are riding in the rear of the vehicle. Careless use of the power windows can lead to injury. ◀

 To prevent injuries, exercise care when closing the sliding/tilt sunroof and keep it in your field of vision until it is shut. When leaving the vehicle, always extract the ignition key from the lock and remember to close the doors to prevent children from operating the sliding/tilt sunroof and injuring themselves, etc. ◀



Raising – opening – closing


With ignition key in position 1 or 2.

After the ignition has been switched off, you can still operate the sliding/tilt sunroof for up to 15 minutes as long as neither of the front doors has been opened.

Raising/opening/closing: press the switch or slide it in the desired direction until you feel resistance.

If you briefly press the switch in the "raise" direction while the sunroof is open, the sunroof will rise to its uppermost position.

The headliner insert slides back somewhat when you raise the sunroof. When the sunroof is opened, the headliner retracts with it.

 Do not use force to close the headliner insert with the sunroof in its raised position, as damage to the mechanism could result. ◀

To use the convenience mode via the remote control or the door lock, refer to pages [30](#) or [31](#).

Automatic opening and closing

Press the switch past the resistance point briefly: the sunroof travels to either the fully-closed or fully-open position.

Pressing the switch again stops the motion immediately.

Safety feature

If the sliding/tilt sunroof encounters resistance

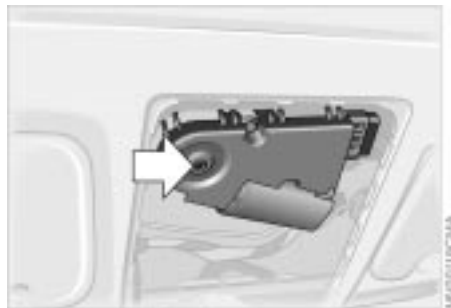
- ▷ when it is closing from the raised position
- ▷ when it is closing from a point roughly past the middle of its travel

the closing cycle is interrupted and the sliding/tilt sunroof will open again slightly.



Despite this safety feature, be extremely careful that the travel path of the sunroof is not obstructed whenever it is closed. Remember that the safety mechanism may not be able to detect obstructions under all circumstances (with very thin objects, for instance).

You can disable this safety feature by pressing the switch beyond the pressure point and holding it. ◀



Manual operation

In the event of an electrical malfunction, you can also operate the sliding/tilt sunroof manually:


1. Remove the interior lamp, then reach into the exposed opening and press out the cover
2. Use the Allen key from the onboard tool kit (refer to page [124](#)) to turn the sliding/tilt sunroof in the desired direction.

Correct sitting posture

For relaxed and fatigue-free driving you should select a sitting position that reflects your personal requirements. Correct posture combines with safety belts and airbags to enhance occupant safety in the event of an accident. To ensure that the vehicle's safety systems provide you with optimal protection, we request that you direct your careful attention to the following section.


For supplementary information on transporting children, refer to page [52](#).

Sitting correctly with airbags

 Always maintain an adequate distance between yourself and the airbags. Always hold the steering wheel by the rim to keep any chance of injury to hands or arms to an absolute minimum should the airbag be deployed. Never allow any objects, individuals or animals to obstruct the areas between passengers and airbags. Never use the front airbag's cover as a storage tray or support for objects of any kind. Never allow front passengers to rest their feet or legs on the airbag cover. ◀

For airbag locations and additional information on airbags refer to page [49](#).


Safe with safety belts

 Never allow more than one person to wear a single safety belt. Never allow infants or small children to ride in a passenger's lap. Avoid twisting the belt while routing it firmly across the hips and shoulder, wear it as snugly against your body as possible. Do not allow the belt to rest against hard or fragile objects. Do not route the belt across your neck, or run it across sharp edges. Be sure that the belt does not become caught or jammed. Avoid wearing bulky clothing and pull on the lap belt periodically to retension it over your shoulders. In the event of a frontal impact, a loose lap belt could slide over your hips, leading to abdominal injury. In addition, the safety belt's restraint effectiveness is reduced if it is worn loosely. Expectant mothers should always wear their safety belts, taking care to position the lap belt against the lower hips, where it will not exert pressure against the abdominal area. ◀

For information on using the safety belts refer to page [45](#).

Seats

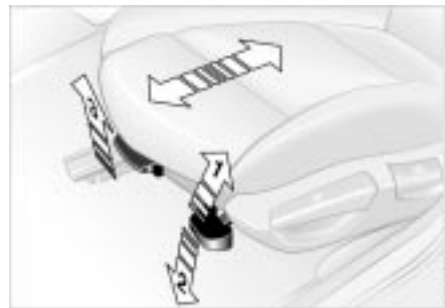
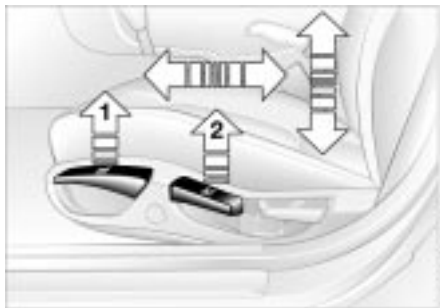
When adjusting your seat, always observe the following precautions

 Never try to adjust your seat while operating the vehicle. The seat could respond with unexpected movement, and the ensuing loss of vehicle control could lead to an accident. Never ride with the backrest reclined to an extreme horizontal angle (important for front passengers to remember). Keep the backrest relatively upright to minimize the risk of sliding under the safety belt and sustaining injury in an accident. ◀

Seat adjustment

- ▷ Manual seat adjustment, refer to page [42](#)
- ▷ Power seat adjustment, refer to page [43](#)
- ▷ Head restraint, refer to page [44](#)

42 Manual seat adjustment



Seat adjustment

- 1 Backward/Forward adjustment
Pull the lever and slide the seat to the desired position.
After you release the lever, move the seat forward or backward slightly so that it engages fully
- 2 Cushion height
Pull the lever and apply weight to or remove weight from the seat as required

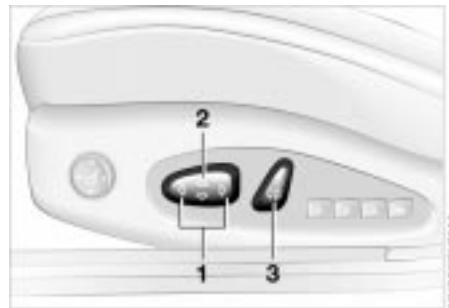
3 Backrest angle

Pull the lever and apply weight to or remove weight from the backrest as required.

BMW sports seat* adjustment

You can also adjust the tilt angle and the thigh support:

- 1 To tilt up:
Pull the lever up repeatedly, continuing until the seat reaches the desired tilt angle
- 2 To tilt down:
Push the lever down repeatedly, continuing until the seat reaches the desired tilt angle
- 3 Thigh support:
Pull the lever and adjust the position of the thigh support for your personal comfort.



Seat adjustment

- 1 Backward/Forward adjustment
- 2 Cushion height
- 3 Backrest angle

Adjust the head restraint manually, refer to page 44.



Please refer to the adjustment instructions on page 41 to reduce the risk of personal injury. ◀



BMW sports seat* adjustment

- 1 Tilt angle
- 2 Backward/Forward adjustment
- 3 Cushion height
- 4 Backrest angle

The thigh support and head restraint are adjusted manually, refer to pages 42, 44.



Please refer to the adjustment instructions on page 41 to reduce the risk of personal injury. ◀



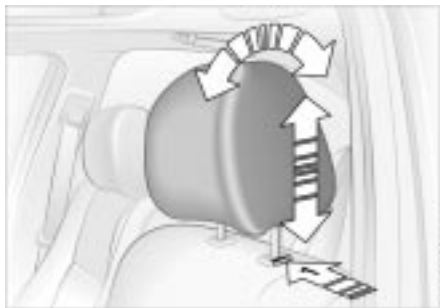
Adjustment

You can adjust the backrest's contour for additional support in the curvature of your spine's lumbar region.

The upper hips and spinal column receive supplementary support to help you maintain a relaxed, upright posture.

- ▷ Press the front/rear of the switch:
Increase/decrease curvature
- ▷ Press the upper/lower end of the switch:
Increase the upper/lower curvature.

44 Head restraints



Removal – front

1. Pull up the head restraint, continuing until it is at maximum extension
2. Press button (arrow 1) and remove the head restraint.

Installation – front

Slide the head restraint into the sockets.

Adjustment

Height: pull the head restraint up or push it down.



Press button (arrow 1) to retract to the lowest position. ◀

Adjust the angle of the front head restraints by tilting them manually.



You can reduce the risk of spinal injury and whiplash by adjusting the head restraint to a height at which it is centered roughly at ear level. ◀

Safety belts



If the safety belt system has been subjected to the stresses involved in an accident or otherwise damaged: have the entire safety belt mechanism replaced by your BMW center, including the safety belt tensioner. In addition, have your BMW center inspect the safety belt anchors. If a child-restraint system was in the vehicle during an accident, consult the manufacturer's instructions regarding replacement. ◀

Always wear your safety belt

Always fasten your safety belt before starting off. As supplemental restraint devices, the airbags are designed to enhance the effectiveness of the safety belts, and not to replace them.

To close

Make sure you hear the catch engage in the belt buckle.

To open

1. Press red button in the belt buckle
2. Hold end of the belt
3. Guide belt back into the inertia reel.



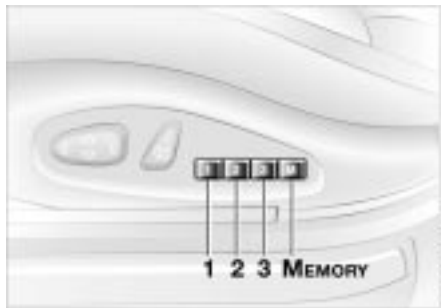
The rear belt buckle with the word **CENTER** is intended exclusively for the passenger sitting in the middle. ◀

Adjusting safety belt height


Use the height adjustment mechanism to adapt the shoulder strap to the ideal level for your own body:

- ▷ Slide the button up or down.

Please refer to the seat adjustment instructions on page [41](#).




You can store and recall three different driver's seat and exterior mirror positions.

 Memory will not retain the adjustment made to the lumbar support. ◀

To store

1. Ignition key position 1 or 2
2. Adjust your seat and exterior mirrors to the desired position
3. Press the **MEMORY** button: the indicator lamp in the button lights up
4. Press memory button 1, 2 or 3, as desired: indicator lamp goes out.

To select a stored setting

 Do not select a memory position while the vehicle is moving. If you do so, there is a risk of accident from unexpected seat movement. ◀


Ignition key position 1:


- ▷ Briefly press memory button 1, 2 or 3, as desired.


Movement stops immediately when one of the seat-adjustment or memory buttons is activated during the adjustment process.

With the driver's door closed and the ignition key either removed or in position 0 or 2:

- ▷ Maintain pressure on the desired memory button (1, 2 or 3) until the adjustment process is completed.

 If you press the **MEMORY** button accidentally: press the button again; the indicator lamp goes out. ◀

 You can have this feature programmed so that when you use the remote control from your personalized key to unlock your door, your seat and exterior mirrors will all move into your own preferred positions. ◀

 Before activating the programmed adjustment feature ensure that the footwell behind the driver's seat is empty and unobstructed. If you fail to do so, persons or objects could be injured or damaged if the seat should move backward. ◀



Passenger-side exterior mirror tilt function

(automatic curb monitor*)

1. Move the mirror selector switch 1 to the "driver's mirror" position
2. When the selector lever is placed in "Reverse," the passenger-side mirror tilts downward to help the driver monitor the area directly adjacent to the vehicle during parking (curbs, etc.).

You can deactivate this automatic feature by setting the mirror selector switch to the "passenger-side" position.

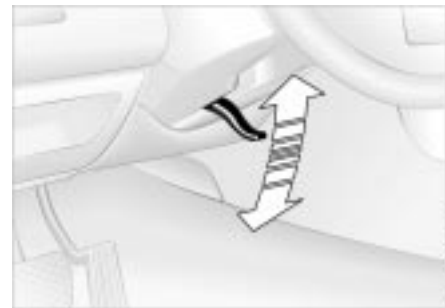


The seat cushion and backrest can be heated with the ignition key in position 2.

You can select different heating modes by repeatedly pressing the buttons.


You can also switch the higher heating modes off directly:

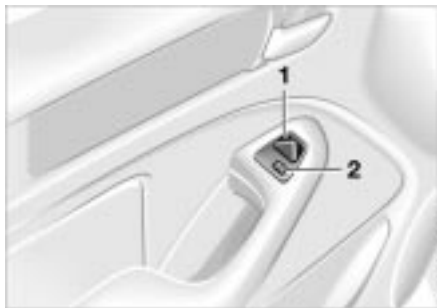
Press the button and hold it slightly longer.



Adjustments

1. Push the locking lever downward
2. Adjust the steering column's rake and reach to suit your seat position
3. Pull the lever back in to clamp the steering wheel in the new position.

 Do not adjust the steering wheel while the vehicle is moving, otherwise you run the risk of an accident due to unexpected movement. ◀



To adjust exterior mirrors

- 1 Mirror switch for 4-way adjustment
- 2 Selection switch for changing between mirrors

To adjust manually

The mirrors can also be adjusted manually:

Press the edge of the lens.

Storing mirror settings, refer to Seat and mirror memory on page 46.



The mirror on the passenger's side features a lens with a more convex surface than the mirror installed on the driver's side. When estimating the distance between yourself and other traffic, bear in mind that the objects reflected in the mirror are closer than they appear. This means that estimates of the distance to following traffic should not be regarded as precise. This precaution also applies to the non-spherical outer section of the lens. ◀

Electric defrosting*

Both mirrors are automatically heated when you turn the ignition key to position 2.



Interior rearview mirror

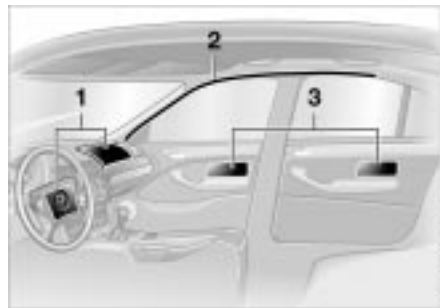
To reduce glare from vehicles behind you when you are driving at night, tilt the lens by turning the button. Vehicles without alarm system: Tilt the small lever forward.



Interior rearview mirror with automatic dimming feature*

This mirror automatically dims through an infinitely-variable range. It returns to its clear, undimmed mode whenever you engage reverse.

To ensure that the mirror continues to operate efficiently, ensure that the photocells remain clear and unobstructed. One photocell is integrated in the mirror's lens (arrow), while the other is located at an offset position on the rear of the mirror. Refrain from attaching stickers to the windshield in the area immediately in front of the mirror.



- 1 Front airbags on the driver and passenger sides
- 2 Side Impact Head Protection System on the driver and passenger sides (front)
- 3 Side airbags on the driver and passenger sides (front and rear*)

Protective effect

The front airbags supplement the three-point safety belts by providing additional protection, in the event of a severe frontal collision in which the protection afforded by the belts alone may no longer be sufficient. The Head Protection System and side airbags help provide protection in the event of a collision from the side. Each of the side airbags is designed to help support the seat occupant's upper body.

For information on the correct sitting posture, refer to page 41.

Indicator lamp



The indicator lamp indicates the operational status of the airbag system from ignition key position 1.

System operational:

- ▷ The indicator lamp comes on briefly when you turn the ignition key to position 1 or 2.

System malfunction:

- ▷ The indicator lamp fails to go out after the engine has been started, or comes on again during normal driving.

Please respond to any malfunctions in the system by immediately having it inspected at your BMW center; otherwise the airbag could fail to respond to an accident in which both the angle and the severity of the impact would normally trigger airbag deployment.



The side airbags in the rear passenger area* of your vehicle may already have been deactivated, either at the time of manufacture or by a BMW center. You may have them activated if you desire to do so. Please contact your BMW center for additional information. ◀



The airbags do not deploy in response to minor collisions, rear impacts and certain kinds of vehicle rollover. ▶



For your safety, comply with the following instructions for the airbags. If you do not, the airbags may not be able to provide their maximum protection. All passengers in the vehicle should be aware of and comply with these directions:

The airbags are supplemental restraint devices designed to provide extra protection; they are not a substitute for safety belts. Wear your safety belt at all times. The airbags will not be triggered in the event of a minor accident, a vehicle roll-over, or collisions from the rear. In these instances, the safety belt provides optimal protection.

Airbags are located under cover panels in the steering wheel, in the dashboard,

in the side trim panels in the front and rear*, in the roof panels, and in the sides of the inside roof lining.

Adjust your seat to a position that provides maximum distance between you and the steering wheel, the instrument panel and the door while still allowing comfortable and safe access to all vehicle controls.

To avoid sustaining hand and arm injuries, always grasp the steering wheel on the rim with the hands at the 9 and 3 o'clock positions. Do not place your hands on the center pad.

Never allow any objects to obstruct the area between the airbag and an occupant.

Do not use the cover panel above the passenger-side airbag as a storage area.

Do not apply adhesive materials to the cover panels of the airbags, cover them or modify them in any other way.

Do not install a rear-facing child-restraint system in the front passenger seat of this vehicle.

Children under 13 years of age and less than 5 ft (150 cm) tall should ride only in the rear seat.

Infants or small children should never be held on the lap of a passenger. If your vehicle is equipped with side

airbags in the rear passenger area*, be sure that child restraints are mounted correctly with the greatest-possible distance between them and the airbags in the side trim panels. Do not allow children to lean out of the child's seat in the direction of the side trim panels. If they do so, serious injuries can occur if the airbag is triggered. ▶



At all times, occupants should sit upright and be properly restrained (infants and small children in appropriate child-restraint systems; larger children and adults using the safety belts). Never let an occupant's head rest near or on a side airbag because the inflating airbag could cause a serious or fatal injury. Please note that the word Airbag imprinted on the door trim panel indicates the airbag's location.

Accident research shows that the safest place for children in an automobile is in the rear seat. However, a child sitting in the rear seat and not properly restrained may place his or her head on or near the airbag, if so equipped. For example, a child – even though belted – may fall asleep with his or her head against the side airbag. It may be difficult for a driver to ensure

Airbags

that children in the rear seat will remain properly positioned at all times and not place their heads on or near the side airbag.

Therefore, we recommend that the rear-seat side airbags, if installed in the vehicle, be deactivated if children will travel in the rear seat.

The rear-seat side airbags may already have been deactivated, either at the time of manufacture or by a BMW center. Labels in the door opening should indicate the status of your rear-seat side airbags. If you are uncertain of their status, or wish to have the airbags activated or deactivated, please contact your BMW center. ◀

Even when all these guidelines are followed, there is still a small residual risk of injuries to the face, hands and arms occurring from airbag deployment in isolated instances. The ignition and inflation noise may provoke a mild temporary hearing loss in extremely sensitive individuals.



This is the right way for a child to sit in a child restraint when rear side airbags (arrow) are provided.



This is the right way for a larger child to sit wearing the seat belt when rear side airbags (arrow) are provided.

52 Transporting children safely



LATCH child-restraint mounting system*

Remove the cover from the outside mount by pulling forward. When re-installing ensure that the recess is on the top.

With through-loading system:

Tilt the backrest halfway forward to make the cover easier to remove (refer to page 96).

The illustration is an example showing the mounts for a LATCH child-restraint system at the right rear seat.



Child-safety locks

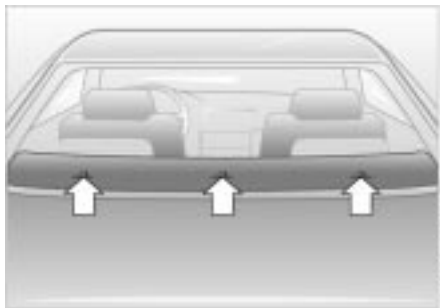
Slide down the lever located in the rear door:

The door can now be opened from the outside only.



Always follow all manufacturer's instructions and observe all safety precautions when installing the LATCH child-restraint system. ◀

Transporting children safely



Commercially available child seats complying with the legal standard are designed to be secured with a seat belt or with the seat belt portion of a combination lap/shoulder belt. Improperly or inadequately installed restraint systems can increase the risk of injury to children. Always read and follow the instructions that come with the system.

If you use a child-restraint system with a tether strap, three additional tether anchorage points (refer to the arrows in the illustration) have been provided. Depending on the location selected for seating in the rear passenger area, attach the tether strap to the corresponding anchorage point to secure the child-restraint system. Remove the center cover first.

If the selected seating position is fitted with a headrest lift the headrest and pass the tether strap between the headrest and the backrest.

Adjust the tether strap according to the child-restraint manufacturer's instructions.



Before installing any child-restraint device or child seat, please read the following: Never install a rear-facing child-restraint system in the front passenger seat of this vehicle.

Your vehicle is equipped with an airbag supplemental restraint system for the front passenger. Because the backrest on any rear-facing child-restraint system (of the kind designed for infants under 1 year and 20 lbs/9 kg) would be within the airbag's deployment range, you should never mount such a device in the front passenger seat, as the impact of the airbag against the child restraint's backrest could lead to serious or fatal injuries.

If it is necessary for a child (not an infant) to ride in the front seat, certain precautions should be taken. First, move the passenger seat as far away from the dashboard as possible. This important precaution is intended to

maximize the distance between the airbag and the child. Older children should be tightly secured with the safety belt. Younger children should be secured in an appropriate forward-facing child-restraint system that has first been properly installed with a safety belt. Never install a rear-facing child-restraint system in the front passenger seat.

We strongly urge you to carefully read and observe the instructions for installation and use provided by the child restraint's manufacturer whenever you use such a device.

Always ensure that all occupants (of all ages) remain properly and securely restrained at all times. ◀

All rear seating positions in your vehicle meet the recommendations of SAE J1819, an industry recommended standard for securing child-restraint systems in motor vehicles.

54 Transporting children safely



To lock the safety belt

Extract the entire length of the belt from the inertia reel mechanism. Allow the reel to retract the belt somewhat and engage the buckle, then tighten the belt against the child-restraint system. The retraction mechanism is now locked. The belt cannot be extracted further. Always observe the installation instructions provided by the manufacturer of the child-restraint system.

To release the safety belt

To release the safety belt, remove the child's seat and retract the safety belt to its end position on the belt retractor.

Securing child-restraint system

All of the rear belt retractors and the front passenger's safety belt can be locked for mounting and securing child-restraint systems.

A label with the appropriate instructions for this is located in the immediate vicinity of the buckle latch of each safety belt.

Vehicle Memory, Key Memory



How the system functions

No doubt you have reflected at one time or another on how great it would be if you could permanently configure your vehicle's various features and adjustments to mirror your own individual preferences. In engineering your vehicle, BMW has incorporated a number of options for personal adjustment that can be programmed into your vehicle at your BMW center.

The available configuration data fall into two categories, according to whether their primary orientation is the vehicle (Vehicle Memory) or the individual (Key Memory). Provided that each person has a separate remote-control key, you can have your BMW center enter adjustment data for as many as four different individuals into the system.

The system then relies on a bilateral data exchange to identify the individual user and dial in the selected settings whenever the remote control unit is used to disengage the door locks.

Color-coded decals have been provided to help you distinguish individual keys with different settings.

What the system can do

Your BMW center can provide you with details on the capabilities of the Vehicle Memory and Key Memory systems. A few examples follow below:

Examples for Vehicle Memory:

- ▷ Various signals as acknowledgment when locking or unlocking your vehicle, refer to pages [29](#), [31](#)
- ▷ Activates/deactivates the "Follow me home" function, refer to page [82](#)
- ▷ Activates/deactivates daytime driving lamps, refer to page [82](#).

Examples for Key Memory:

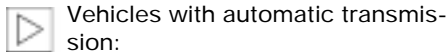
- ▷ Locks the vehicle when you start off, refer to page [32](#)
- ▷ Automatically adjusts the power seat to your personal programmed settings when you unlock the vehicle, refer to page [46](#)
- ▷ Unlocks driver's door first, then proceeds to disengage the vehicle's remaining locks, refer to page [29](#).



You will see this symbol throughout the Owner's Manual. It is to remind you at appropriate places of the settings that are available to you. ◀



- 0 Steering locked
- 1 Steering unlocked
- 2 Ignition switched on
- 3 Starting engine



Vehicles with automatic transmission:
Do not move the selector lever from position "P" until the engine is running (ignition key position 2). Your vehicle is equipped with an interlock. Therefore, the ignition key cannot be turned to position 0 and removed until the selector lever is in position "P." ◀



Vehicles with manual transmission:

Step on the clutch when starting the vehicle. A lockout prevents the engine from starting if the clutch is not depressed. ◀

Steering locked

The key can only be inserted and removed in this position.

After removing the key, turn the steering wheel slightly to the left or right until you hear the lock engage.

The sound system remains operational for approx. 20 minutes after you switch off the ignition (ignition key in position 0 or key extracted). Simply switch it back on.

Steering unlocked

You will find that it is often easier to turn the ignition key from position 0 to position 1 when you move the steering wheel slightly to help disengage the lock.

Individual electrical accessories are ready for operation.

Starting the engine

Before starting

- ▷ Engage the parking brake
- ▷ Ensure that the shift lever is in neutral, or, with an automatic transmission, that the selector lever is in position "P"
- ▷ Depress the clutch pedal.



Do not allow the engine to run in enclosed spaces. The exhaust gases contain carbon monoxide, an odorless and colorless, but highly toxic gas.

Breathing the exhaust gases poses an extreme health risk, and can lead to unconsciousness and death.

Do not leave the vehicle unattended with the engine running. An unattended vehicle with a running engine represents a potential safety hazard. ◀



When driving, standing at idle, and parking the vehicle, take care to avoid contact between the exhaust system and flammable materials (grass, hay, leaves, etc.). Such contact could lead to a fire, resulting in serious personal injury and property damage. ◀

- ▷ Start the engine. Do not press the accelerator pedal.

Starting the engine



Do not actuate the starter for too short a time, but do not actuate it for more than approx. 20 seconds. Release the ignition key immediately when the engine starts. Do not allow the engine to warm up by leaving it running while the vehicle remains stationary. Instead, drive off immediately at a moderate engine speed. ◀

If the engine does not start on the first attempt (if it is very hot or cold, for instance):

- ▷ Press the accelerator pedal halfway down while engaging the starter.

Cold starts at extremely low temperatures of roughly +5 °F (-15 °C) or below and at altitudes of over 3,300 ft (1,000 m):

- ▷ On the first start attempt, engage the starter for a longer period (approx. 10 seconds)
- ▷ Press the accelerator pedal halfway down while engaging the starter.

Engine idle speed is controlled by the engine computer system. Increased speeds at startup are normal and should decrease as the engine warms up. If engine speed does not decrease, service is required.

To prevent the battery from discharging, always deactivate electrical devices that are not in use. Switch the ignition off when the vehicle is not being driven.



Extended starting attempts, characterized by excessively frequent or long periods with the starter engaged, can lead to catalyst damage. ◀

Switching off the engine 57

Turn the ignition key to position 1 or 0.



You should never remove the ignition key when the vehicle is in motion, as the steering lock could engage.

When you leave the vehicle, always remove the ignition key and engage the steering lock.

Vehicles with manual transmission: Always engage the parking brake when parking on hills and slopes, as first gear or reverse may not provide adequate resistance to rolling.

Vehicles with automatic transmission: Place the selector lever in "Park." ◀




The parking brake is primarily designed to prevent the vehicle from rolling while parked. It operates on the rear wheels.

To engage

The detent engages automatically, the indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on when the ignition key is in position 2, refer to page 18.

To release

Pull up slightly on the lever, press the button (arrow) and lower the lever.

 If exceptional circumstances make it necessary to engage the parking brake while the vehicle is in motion, do not pull it with excessive pressure. Keep your thumb pressed against the release button while carefully pulling the lever up to apply moderate pressure. Excessive pressure can lead to over-braking and loss of traction (fishtailing) at the rear axle.

The brake lamps do not come on when the parking brake is engaged.

Vehicles with manual transmission:

Always engage the parking brake when parking on hills and slopes, as first gear or reverse may not provide adequate resistance to rolling.

Vehicles with automatic transmission: Place the selector lever in "Park." ◀

To avoid corrosion and one-sided braking, apply the parking brake lightly from time to time when coasting to a standstill (at a traffic signal, for example), provided that it is safe to do so.


Manual transmission



Reverse

Select only when the vehicle is completely stopped. Press the shift lever to the left to overcome the slight resistance.

As you do this, the backup lamps will turn on automatically when the ignition key is in position 2.

 Do not hold the vehicle in place on slopes by slipping or "riding" the clutch. Use the parking brake instead. Riding the clutch leads to severe and premature clutch wear. ◀

You can drive as with a normal automatic transmission. In addition, you can also shift manually.

When you move the selector lever from the "D" position to the left into the M/S range, the performance-oriented shift programs of the automatic transmission are engaged. Steptronic enters the manual selection mode and executes the desired shift whenever you tap the selector lever in the direction indicated by "+" or "-." Whenever you want to use the automatic transmission mode again, move the selector lever to the right into the "D" position.



Range selection


P R N D M/S + -


Starting the engine

The engine can only be started in selector lever positions P ("Park") or N ("Neutral").

Range selection

A detent prevents inadvertent shifts to the "Reverse" or "Park" selector lever positions. To disengage the detent, press the button on the front side of the shift knob (arrow).

 While the vehicle is stationary and before shifting out of "Park" or "Neutral," depress the footbrake in order to disengage the selector lever's lock mechanism (Shiftlock). Hold the footbrake down until starting off. The vehicle will otherwise "creep" when a drive position is engaged. ◀

 To prevent the vehicle from starting off on its own, always move the selector lever to position P or N and engage the parking brake before leaving your vehicle with the engine running. Do not leave the vehicle unattended with the engine running. An unattended vehicle with a running engine represents a potential safety hazard. ◀

P Park

Select only when the vehicle is stationary. Transmission locks to prevent rear wheels from turning.

R Reverse

Select only when the vehicle is stationary.

N Neutral

Select only when stopping for an extended period.

D Drive (automatic shift program)

This position is designed for driving under all normal operating conditions. All forward gears are available.

Kickdown

In the kickdown mode, you achieve maximum acceleration and in position D top speed. Depress the accelerator pedal past the increased resistance point at the full-throttle position.



M/S Manual mode and Sport Program

Move the selector lever from D to M/S to activate the Sport Program; SD appears in the display panel. The M/S mode is recommended for performance-oriented driving.

Once in the M/S mode you can tap the selector lever to switch the automatic transmission from the Sport Program to its manual selection mode.

This mode allows you to execute upshifts manually by tapping the lever toward "+," while downshifts are selected by tapping in the "-" direction. The displays M1 through M5 appear in the display panel to indicate your current gear selection.

The Adaptive Transmission Control (ATC) executes upshifts and downshifts only when the new gear will provide a suitable combination of engine and road speed, for example ATC will not execute downshifts if the engine speed is too high. The desired, then the actual gear, briefly appear in the instrument cluster.



To accelerate quickly in the manual mode (to pass another vehicle), shift down manually or employ the kickdown mode. ◀

Shifting from M/S to the selector lever positions P, R and N is possible only by going through D.



Available displays

P R N D SD M1 M2 M3 M4 M5

Electronic transmission control module



If the indicator lamp comes on, there is a malfunction in the transmission system.

Bring the vehicle to a stop. Move the transmission selector lever to "P." Engage the parking brake and turn the engine off (ignition key to position 0). Wait a few seconds, then start the engine.

If the indicator lamp goes out after a few seconds, normal transmission performance has been restored. You may continue to drive as usual. If the indicator lamp does not go out, you can place the selector lever in all positions. However, the vehicle will now only operate in 3rd and 4th gear.

If this happens, avoid extreme engine loads and consult the nearest BMW center.



Never work in the engine compartment when a drive gear (forward or reverse) is engaged. If you do this, the vehicle could move. ◀

For towing or jump-starting, refer to the information beginning on page 134.



- 1 High beams (blue indicator lamp)
- 2 Headlamp flasher (blue indicator lamp)
- 3 Turn signal indicator (green indicator accompanied by periodic clicking sound from the relay)

To signal briefly

Press the lever up to but not beyond the detent. It then returns to the center position when released.



If the flashing of the turn indicators and the clicking from the relay are both faster than normal, one of the turn signal indicators has failed. ◀



- 0 Wipers retracted
- 1 Intermittent mode or rain sensor
- 2 Normal wipe
- 3 Fast wipe
- 4 Brief wipe
- 5 Rotary dial for control of the wipe interval or the sensitivity of the rain sensor

Intermittent mode

(not on vehicles with rain sensor)

You can select any of four sweep intervals with rotary dial 5.

In addition, the wipe interval varies automatically depending on road speed.

Rain sensor*

The rain sensor is positioned on the windshield, directly ahead of the interior rearview mirror.

To activate the rain sensor:

- ▷ With the ignition key in position 1 or 2, move the lever to position 1. The wipers will make at least one sweep across the windshield.

You can leave the lever in position 1 at all times. With the ignition key in position 1 or 2, all you then need to do to activate the rain sensor is

- ▷ briefly turn the rotary dial 5, or
- ▷ clean the windshield 1, refer to page 63.

To adjust the sensitivity of the rain sensor:

Turn rotary dial 5.

To switch off the rain sensor:

Return lever to position 0.



Turn the rain sensor off in automatic car washes. Failure to do so could result in damage caused by undesired wiper activation. ◀

Normal wiper speed

When the vehicle is stationary, the wipers switch automatically to intermittent wipe (not on vehicles with rain sensor).

Fast wiper speed

When the vehicle is stationary, the wipers revert to operate at normal speed (not on vehicles with rain sensor).

Washer/Wiper system



0 Wipers retracted

1 Clean the windshield

Cleaning windshield



Do not use the washers if there is any danger that the fluid will freeze on the windshield, as your vision could be obscured. Always use a windshield washer antifreeze in cold weather. Refer to page 114.

Do not use the washers when the reservoir is empty as this could cause damage to the washer pump. ◀

The system sprays washer fluid against the windshield and activates the wipers for a brief period.

Cleaning headlamps*

When the vehicle's lighting system is switched on, the headlamps will also be cleaned every fifth time the automatic windshield washer is activated.

Windshield washer nozzles

The windshield washer nozzles are heated automatically* when the ignition key is in position 2.

You can store and automatically maintain any desired vehicle speed above approx. 20 mph (30 km/h).

The cruise control is available whenever the engine is running and the system has been activated.

To activate the system



In ignition key position 2: Press the button and the indicator lamp on the instrument cluster will come on, refer to page 20. You can now use the cruise control.



Do not use cruise control on twisting roads, when high traffic density prevents driving at a constant speed, or when the road surface is slick (snow, rain, ice) or loose (rocks or gravel, sand). ◀

To deactivate the system



Press button as often as needed until the indicator lamp in the instrument cluster goes out.

Cruise control is also deactivated when the ignition key is in position 0.

The speed stored in memory is deleted.

To store and maintain speed or to accelerate



Press button (+) briefly: The system registers and maintains the current vehicle speed. Every time you tap the button, the speed increases by approx. 0.6 mph (1 km/h).

Press and hold button (+): The vehicle accelerates without pressure on the accelerator pedal. When you release the button, the system registers and maintains the current speed.



If, on a downhill gradient, the engine braking effect is not sufficient, the preset speed can be exceeded. Speed can drop on uphill grades if the engine output is insufficient. ◀

To decelerate



Press button (-) briefly:

If you are already driving with active cruise control, the speed is decreased by approx. 0.6 mph (1 km/h) every time you tap the button.

Press and hold button (-):

With the cruise control active, the system automatically reduces the throttle opening to slow the vehicle. When you release the button, the system registers and maintains the current speed.

To cancel the cruise control



When the system is activated, press the button. The indicator lamp stays on. You can use the cruise control again whenever you want by calling up the speed that was stored last.

In addition, cruise control is canceled automatically:

- ▷ When the brakes are applied
- ▷ When you apply pressure to the clutch pedal, or when you move the automatic transmission selector lever from D to N
- ▷ If you exceed or fall below the programmed speed for an extended period (by depressing the accelerator, for example).

Recall the stored speed



Press button:

The vehicle accelerates to and maintains the last speed stored.



- 1 Odometer
- 2 Trip odometer

Odometer

You can activate the displays shown in the illustration with the ignition key in position 0 by pressing the button in the instrument cluster.

Trip odometer

To reset the trip odometer to zero, press the button with the ignition key in position 1 or 2.



Do not operate the engine with the needle in the red overspeed zone of the gauge.

To protect the engine, the fuel supply is interrupted when you approach this sector.



Indicates the current fuel consumption in mpg (in liters/100 km on Canadian models). This allows you to see whether your current driving style is conducive to fuel economy with minimum exhaust emissions.

When the vehicle is stationary, the display goes to "Maximum" (zero on Canadian models).


Fuel gauge



Once the indicator lamp stays on continuously, there are still approx. 2 gallons (8 liters) of fuel in the fuel tank.

For information on the fuel tank capacity, refer to page [143](#).

Certain operating conditions (such as those encountered in mountainous areas) may cause the needle to fluctuate slightly.

 Please refuel early, since driving to the last drop of fuel can result in damage to the engine and/or catalytic converter. ◀

When you switch on the ignition, the indicator lamp lights up briefly as an operation check.

Temperature gauge



Blue

The engine is still cold. Drive at moderate engine and vehicle speeds.

Red

When you switch on the ignition, the warning lamp comes on briefly to confirm that the system is operational. If the lamp comes on during normal vehicle operation: the engine has overheated. Shut off the engine immediately and allow it to cool down.

For instructions on checking the coolant level, refer to page [117](#).

Between the blue and red zones

Normal operating range. The needle may rise as far as the edge of the red sector in normal operation.

Service Interval Display

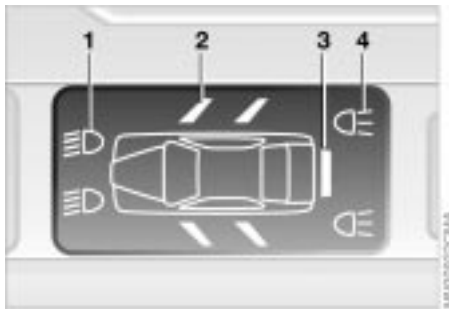


Remaining distance to service

The displays shown in the illustration appear for a few seconds when the ignition key is in position 1 or after the engine is started.

The next service due appears with the message OIL SERVICE or INSPECTION, together with the distance remaining in miles (kilometers) before the next scheduled service. The computer bases its calculations of the remaining distance on the preceding driving style.

A flashing message and a "-" in front of the number mean that the service interval has already been exceeded by the distance shown on the display. Please contact your BMW center for an appointment.



When you turn the ignition key to position 2, any of the following symbols may appear to call your attention to problem areas; the symbols remain in the display panel until the problem is corrected:

- 1 Check the low beam and high beam headlamps, as well as the parking lamps
- 2 Door open
- 3 Luggage compartment lid open
- 4 Check brake and tail lamps

When you open the driver's door after completing a journey, an acoustic warning signal will sound if you have forgotten to turn off the headlamps.

Clock

If you wish to have a permanent time display, you can make this adjustment in the radio display (refer to the Radio Owner's Manual).

You can adjust the clock and the time display in the car radio as follows.



Adjustments

With ignition key in position 1 or 2 and time displayed in the instrument cluster.

To set ahead: turn the button to the right.

To set back: turn the button to the left.

The adjustment speed will increase the longer you continue to hold the button.

To change the display mode: press the button briefly.

Every time you press the button, the clock display alternates between the 12-hour or 24-hour mode.

In ignition key position 0: the time is displayed for a few seconds after you press the left button, refer to Odometer on page [66](#).



Mode selection

In ignition key positions 1 and 2, you can request information from the computer using the button in the turn signal lever. By pressing the button briefly toward the steering column, you can call up a new function for display.

The displays appear in the following order:

Time of day, outside temperature, average fuel consumption, cruising range, average vehicle speed.

Starting with ignition key position 1, the last active setting is displayed.



Outside temperature

You can change the units of measure (°C/°F) for the outside temperature display by pressing the right-hand reset button in the instrument cluster while the temperature display is active.

Ice warning

If the outside temperature drops to about 37.5 °F (+3 °C), then the computer will automatically switch to a display of the outside temperature. In addition, a signal sounds as a warning and the display flashes for a brief period.



The ice warning does not alter the fact that surface ice can form at temperatures above 37.5 °F (+3 °C), on bridges or shaded road surfaces, for instance. ◀



Range

The computer bases its calculations for the cruising range on the operating conditions in the preceding period and on the remaining fuel in the tank.

Average speed

If you continue to hold the button, the average speed last displayed is recalculated from that point in time.

Any time spent when the vehicle is stationary and the engine is shut off is ignored for the calculation.

Average fuel consumption

If you continue to hold the button on the turn signal lever, the average fuel consumption last displayed is recalculated from that point in time.

The concept

PDC provides extra safety and convenience during parking maneuvers by providing an acoustic signal to indicate the distance between your front and rear bumpers and the nearest object. The monitoring range for the front and two rear sensors extends outward roughly 2 ft (60 cm), while the rear bumper's two centrally located sensors detect objects at distances of up to approx. 4.9 ft (1.50 m).

The system starts to operate automatically approx. one second after you select reverse or move the selector lever into the "R" position with the ignition key in position 2. PDC is deactivated when you shift back out of reverse.

Acoustic signals

The distance to the nearest object is indicated by a tone sounding at various intervals. As the distance between vehicle and object decreases, the intervals between the tones become shorter. A continuous tone indicates the presence of an object less than 1 ft (30 cm) away.

The warning signal is canceled after approx. three seconds if the distance to the obstacle remains constant during this time (if you are moving parallel to a wall, for instance).

System malfunctions will be indicated by a continuous high-pitched tone when the system is activated the first time. Please refer the problem to your BMW center.



The PDC does not remove the driver's personal responsibility for evaluating the distance between the vehicle and any obstacles. Even when sensors are involved, there is a blind spot in which objects cannot be detected. This applies especially in those cases where the system approaches the physical limits of ultrasonic measurement, as occurs with tow bars and trailer couplings, and in the vicinity of thin or wedge-shaped objects. Certain sources of sound, such as a loud radio, could drown the PDC signal tone. ◀



Keep the sensors clean and free of ice or snow in order to ensure that they will continue to operate effectively.

Do not apply high pressure spray to the sensors for a prolonged period of time. Always maintain a distance of more than 4 in (10 cm). ◀

72 Automatic Stability Control plus Traction (ASC+T)

The concept

This system optimizes vehicle stability and traction, especially when just starting off, when accelerating or when going through curves.

ASC+T recognizes the danger present in traction loss and will increase driving stability and traction by reducing the engine's output, and if necessary, by applying the brakes to the rear wheels.

ASC+T is ready each time you start the engine.

Indicator lamp



The indicator lamp in the instrument cluster goes out shortly after you switch on the ignition, refer to pages 18, 19.

If the indicator lamp flashes: ASC+T is actively controlling drive torque and braking intervention.



If the indicator lamp fails to go out after the engine is started, or if it comes on during normal driving:

There is a system malfunction or the system was deactivated with the button. Consequently, interventions to increase driving stability (as described in the preceding column) are no longer available. You can still drive the vehicle perfectly well without ASC+T.

In the event of a fault, please consult your BMW center, refer to pages 18, 19. ◀



To switch off ASC+T

Press the button; the indicator lamp comes on and stays on.

The illustration depicts the arrangement of the buttons if the vehicle is fully equipped. This may vary, depending on the equipment actually installed.

In the following rare situations, it may prove useful to deactivate the ASC+T for a brief period:

- ▷ When rocking the vehicle or starting off in deep snow or on loose surfaces
- ▷ When driving with snow chains.



To maintain vehicle stability, always drive with the ASC+T activated whenever possible. ◀

To switch ASC+T back on

Press the button again; the indicator lamp goes out.



The laws of physics cannot be repealed, even with ASC+T. An appropriate driving style always remains the responsibility of the driver. We therefore urge you to avoid using the additional safety margin of the system as an excuse for taking risks. ◀

The concept

The Dynamic Stability Control (DSC) maintains vehicle stability, even in critical driving situations.

The system optimizes vehicle stability during acceleration and when starting from a full stop, as well as optimizing traction. In addition, it recognizes unstable vehicle conditions, such as under- or oversteering, and, as far as is possible within the laws of physics, helps keeping the vehicle on a steady course by reducing the rpms and brake applications to the individual wheels.

DSC is operational every time you start the engine. DSC incorporates the functionality of the Automatic Differential Brake (ADB) and the Cornering Brake Control (CBC).

ADB relies on selective braking applications at the drive wheels to furnish the functionality of a conventional limited-slip differential for enhanced traction in critical driving conditions such as those encountered on snow-covered road surfaces, etc.

The ADB is operational when DSC is switched off.

Indicator lamp



The indicator lamp on the instrument cluster will go out shortly after the ignition has been switched on, refer to pages 18, 19.

The indicator lamp flashes: DSC is actively controlling drive torque and braking intervention.

The indicator lamp stays lit: DSC has been switched off manually; ADB is operational. ADB control intervention is not indicated.



The indicator and the brake warning lamps remain on continuously: The DSC, ADB and Dynamic Brake Control (DBC) have been switched off with the button or are defective.

The vehicle will remain completely operational, however, without DSC. In the event of a fault, please consult your BMW center, refer to pages 18, 19.



Indicator and warning lamps for Canadian models.



Switch DSC off/activate ADB

Press the DSC button briefly; the indicator lamp comes on and stays on.

DSC is deactivated; ADB is operational. In the following rare situations, it may prove useful to deactivate the ADB for a brief period:

- ▷ When rocking the vehicle or starting off in deep snow or on loose surfaces
- ▷ When driving on snow-covered grades, in deep snow, or on a snow-covered surface that has been packed down from being driven on
- ▷ When driving with snow chains.

Under these special circumstances traction is increased by deactivating the control systems that enhance traction under normal conditions.

Switch the DSC and ADB off

Hold the DSC button down for at least 3 seconds. The indicator and the yellow brake warning lamps will remain on continuously.

The systems for enhancing stability and traction are deactivated, and there is no active braking intervention or torque control.



To maintain vehicle stability, always drive with the DSC switched on whenever possible. ◀

To switch DSC and ADB back on

Press the button again; the indicator lamp or the indicator lamps will go out.



The laws of physics cannot be repealed, even with DSC. An appropriate driving style always remains the responsibility of the driver. We therefore urge you to avoid using the additional safety margin of the system as an excuse for taking risks. When ADB is in its standby mode, DSC is deactivated; DSC does not intervene to enhance vehicle stability under these conditions.

Do not make any modifications to the DSC system. Allow only authorized technicians to perform service procedures on the DSC. ◀

Dynamic Brake Control (DBC)

DBC is an integral component of the DSC system.

The system responds to sudden, high-intensity applications of force to the brake pedal by automatically braking the vehicle with maximum boost to achieve the shortest-possible braking distances during "panic stops." This system exploits all the benefits of ABS.

Do not reduce the pressure exerted against the brake pedal until the braking maneuver has been completed. DBC is deactivated when you release the brake pedal.

The concept

The Dynamic Stability Control (DSC) maintains vehicle stability, even in critical driving situations.

The system optimizes vehicle stability during acceleration and when starting from a full stop, as well as optimizing traction. In addition, it recognizes unstable vehicle conditions, such as under- or oversteering, and, as far as is possible within the laws of physics, helps keeping the vehicle on a steady course by reducing the rpms and brake applications to the individual wheels.

The DSC is operational every time you start the engine. DSC includes the functions of ADB-X and CBC.

The Automatic Differential Brake (ADB-X) enhances traction in critical situations (such as those encountered on snow-covered roads) by using selective braking intervention to replace the limited-slip functions executed by the differential and transfer case in conventional drivetrains.

Indicator lamp



The indicator lamp on the instrument cluster will go out shortly after the ignition has been switched on, refer to pages [18](#), [19](#).

The indicator lamp flashes: DSC is actively controlling drive torque and braking intervention.

The indicator lamp stays lit: DSC has been switched off manually; ADB-X is operational. ADB-X control intervention is not indicated.



If the indicator lamp fails to go out when you press the DSC button, this indicates a malfunction in the DSC and ADB-X systems; the system is deactivated, and the stability enhancement functions described on the left are no longer available. ◀

The vehicle will remain completely operational, however, without DSC. In the event of a fault, please consult your BMW center, refer to pages [18](#), [19](#).



To deactivate DSC

Press the DSC button briefly, the indicator lamp comes on and remains lit.

DSC is now off, and ADB-X reverts to its maximum torque-transfer mode.

Under the following special circumstances you may find it useful to deactivate DSC manually for a brief period:

- ▷ When rocking the vehicle or starting off in deep snow or on loose surfaces
- ▷ When driving with snow chains.



To maintain vehicle stability, always drive with the DSC activated whenever possible. ◀

To reactivate DSC

Press the button again; the indicator lamp goes out.



The laws of physics cannot be repealed, even with DSC. An appropriate driving style always remains the responsibility of the driver. We therefore urge you to avoid using the additional safety margin of the system as an excuse for taking risks. DSC does not intervene to enhance vehicle stability when it is switched off. Do not make any modifications to the DSC system. Allow only authorized technicians to perform service procedures on the DSC. ◀

Hill Descent Control (HDC)* - BMW 325xi, 330xi

The concept

By reducing the vehicle's speed on steep downhill stretches, HDC maintains predictable vehicle handling response to provide you with even greater control of your BMW during extreme descents.

The vehicle slows to a pace just slightly faster than walking speed.

HDC is available for activation at vehicle speeds below approx. 22 mph (35 km/h). When driving down steep hills, the vehicle reduces speed automatically down to slightly more than double walking speed (approx. 8 mph/ 12 km/h) and then maintains this speed at a constant.

You can use the accelerator or brakes to vary this automatically controlled speed within a range extending from approx. 3 mph (5 km/h) to 15 mph (25 km/h).

In conjunction with the multifunction steering wheel, you can use the +/- button to set the cruise control to a target speed in the range from approx. 3 mph (5 km/h) to 15 mph (25 km/h).

HDC is automatically deactivated once vehicle speed again exceeds approx. 35 mph (60 km/h).



To activate the system

Press the HDC button; the green indicator lamp integrated within the button comes on.

The indicator lamp flashes whenever the system is actively intervening to control your speed with automatic brake applications.

To deactivate the system

Press the button again, the indicator lamp goes out.

HDC is automatically deactivated once the vehicle accelerates to more than 35 mph (60 km/h) as well as whenever you switch off the ignition.

Using HDC

Vehicles with manual transmission: You should always ensure that either reverse or first gear is engaged before using HDC, as the engine's braking effect is most pronounced in these gears, and only reduced engine braking is available in higher gears.

Vehicles with automatic transmission: HDC is available for use in all ranges.

System malfunction

is signalled by the indicator lamp, which responds to problems by going out while HDC is in operation or by failing to come on when you activate the system:

HDC has been temporarily deactivated as a result of high brake temperatures.



If the DSC indicator lamp comes on at the same time:

Malfunction in HDC and DSC system. Refer the problem to your BMW center.

The concept

RDC monitors the tire pressures at all four wheels while the vehicle is moving. The system provides an alert whenever the inflation pressure drops significantly below the specified pressure in one or more tires.

In order for the system to "learn" the correct tire inflation pressure, check the inflation pressure in all tires according to the inflation pressures table on page 25 and make corrections as necessary. Then activate the system.



This indicator lamp in the instrument cluster will inform you if the tire pressure is not correct.

**To activate the system**

- 1 Turn ignition key to position 2 (do not start the engine)
- 2 Press the button long enough for the yellow indicator lamp in the instrument cluster to light up for a few seconds
- 3 After a few minutes driving time, RDC sets the current inflation pressures in the tires as the target values to be monitored.

You will only have to repeat this procedure following a correction of the tire inflation pressure. Otherwise, RDC functions automatically when the ignition key is in position 2, and thus operates whenever the vehicle is driven.

In the event of loss in inflation pressure

If the inflation pressure has dropped significantly over a long period of time (which is normal for any tire), the yellow indicator lamp will come on.

This alerts you to have the tires inflated to the specified pressures as soon as possible.



If you are prompted to check the tire pressure shortly after a correction has been made, this indicates that the corrected values were not accurate. Please check the inflation pressure again and make corrections according to the inflation pressure table. Then activate the system once again. ◀

Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC)*

In the event of a flat tire

If there is a tire failure with loss of pressure, a red light will appear in the indicator lamp. In addition, an acoustic signal is sounded.

If this occurs, reduce vehicle speed immediately and stop the vehicle in a safe location. Avoid hard brake applications. Do not oversteer. Replace the wheel and flat tire.



The space-saver spare tire is provided for temporary use only in the case of a tire failure. It does not have RDC electronics and is not monitored. The spare tire that has the same dimensions as the tires already mounted on the vehicle is equipped with the necessary RDC electronics and will be also monitored once the tires have been mounted and the system activated. ◀



RDC cannot alert you to severe and sudden tire damage caused by external factors. ◀



Have the tires changed by your BMW center.

Your BMW center has the information needed for working with RDC and is equipped with the necessary special tools. ◀

System interference

Local devices using the same radio frequency can interfere with RDC.

The yellow indicator lamp will come on during the malfunction.

The indicator lamp also comes on

- ▷ in the event of a system fault
- ▷ if a wheel is mounted without the appropriate electronics
- ▷ if, in addition to the spare tire, additional wheels with RDC electronics are on board.

Please contact your BMW center for additional information.

The concept

As you drive, the Flat Tire Monitor keeps track of pressure levels in all four tires in order to detect and warn of any substantial pressure loss.

The system actually detects pressure loss by monitoring differences in the relative speeds of the four wheels. It interprets variations outside specified limits as severe pressure loss, and then responds by generating a warning.



- 3 Press button as long as you need to until the yellow indicator lamp on the instrument cluster lights up. After a little while, the indicator lamp will go out by itself
- 4 After a few minutes driving time, the Flat Tire Monitor adopts the current pressure levels as the reference, and from that point on, can detect and report a flat tire.

Initializing the system

Initializing is necessary to familiarize the system with the correct inflation pressure.

Repeat this process after any changes in tire inflation pressure, tire rotation or replacement. Do not carry out further system initialization after adjusting the inflation pressure and letting the system "learn" the correct pressures.

- 1 Check the tire inflation pressure in all the tires, comparing them with the inflation pressure table on page 25 and adjust their pressure if necessary
- 2 Turn the ignition key to position 2



Flat tire warning



The red warning lamp in the instrument cluster lights up to warn of pressure loss and tire failure. This visual alert is accompanied by an acoustic warning signal. Reduce your speed immediately, and steer and brake gently as you bring the vehicle to a stop.

To reset the warning lamp: after replacing the damaged tire you will need to reset the red warning lamp manually: maintain pressure on the Flat Tire Monitor button until the warning lamp goes out. Then reinitialize the system.



The Flat Tire Monitor cannot provide you with advance warning of sudden and severe tire damage caused by external factors. The system also does not detect the gradual and minor loss of pressure that all tires display over extended periods of time. ◀



Check tire inflation pressures on a regular basis, correcting them as necessary, refer to page 24.

The system may respond to operation on slippery or snow-covered road surfaces with false warnings or delays in detecting actual pressure loss. Performance-oriented driving (slip at the drive wheels, high rates of lateral acceleration) can also increase the time that the Flat Tire Monitor requires to detect a flat. ◀

System malfunctions

The yellow indicator lamp in the instrument cluster lights up and remains on until the problem is corrected.

Please refer the problem to your BMW center.

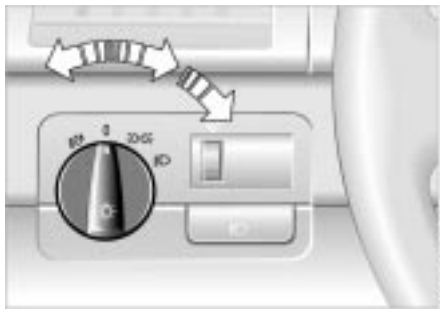
To activate/deactivate the system

The Flat Tire Monitor automatically assumes operation whenever you turn the ignition key to position 2. Unless manually deactivated, it is always on during normal vehicle operation.

To deactivate the system: press the button, the yellow indicator lamp comes on.

To activate the system: press the button again, the indicator lamp goes out.

You should deactivate the system before driving with snow chains, as the chains can generate spurious warnings and/or prevent the system from detecting actual pressure loss.



Parking lamps



The front, rear and side vehicle lighting is switched on. You can use the parking lamps for parking. For lighting on one side for parking as an additional feature, refer to page 83.

Low beams



When the ignition is switched off while the low beams are on, the headlamps go out and only the parking lamps remain on.



FOLLOW ME HOME lamps

When you activate the headlamp flasher after parking the vehicle with the lights turned off, the low-beam headlamps will come on for a short time. You can also have this function deactivated. ◀

LIGHTS ON warning

Whenever you open the driver's door after having turned the ignition key to position 0, you will hear a buzzing sound for a few seconds to remind you if the lamps have not been switched off.

Daytime driving lamps*

If you desire, the light switch can be left in the second position: When the ignition is switched off, the external lighting is also switched off.



You can have the activation settings for the daytime driving lamps programmed on your vehicle. ◀

Automatic headlight control*



When the switch is set to this position the system automatically activates and cancels the low beams in response to changes in ambient light (in tunnels, at dusk, etc.) as well as rain and snow.



The vehicle's external lights remain on constantly when you switch on the front fog lamps after the headlights have come on automatically. ◀



Automatic headlight control cannot serve as a substitute for the driver's judgement in determining when the vehicle lights should be switched on. For example, the sensors are not able to detect fog. To avoid safety risks, you should respond to these kinds of low-visibility situations by switching the headlights on manually. ◀



You can have the sensitivity of your vehicle's automatic headlight control adjusted. ◀



Turn the rotary dial to adjust the illumination intensity.



- 1 High beams (blue indicator lamp)
- 2 Headlamp flasher (blue indicator lamp)
- 3 Parking lamps

Standing lamps, left or right

As an additional feature, you can illuminate your vehicle on either side for parking:

With the ignition key in position 0, engage the lever in the appropriate turn-signal position.



Fog lamps



The green indicator lamp in the instrument cluster lights up to indicate that the front fog lamps are on.



If the automatic headlight control is on, the low beams will come on automatically whenever you activate the front fog lamps. ◀



The interior lamps operate automatically.

Switching the interior lamps on and off manually

Press button 1 briefly.

If you want the interior lamps to remain off all the times, press and hold the button for approx. 3 seconds.

Press the button briefly to revert to normal operation.

Front reading lamps*

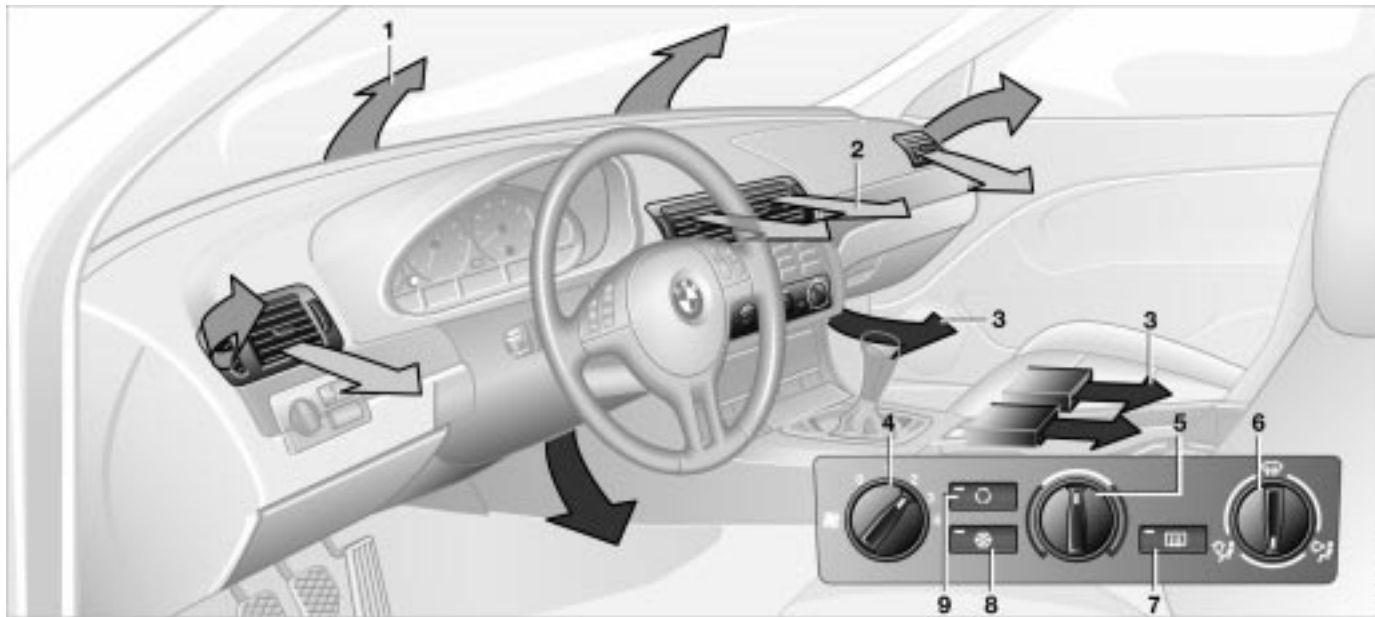
Switch on and off with the button 2 adjacent to each lamp.

Rear reading lamps

Switch on and off with the button adjacent to each lamp.



To avoid subjecting the battery to excessive loads, all of the lamps within the vehicle are automatically switched off approx. 15 minutes after you turn the ignition key to position 0. ◀



- 1 Air onto the windshield and onto the side windows
- 2 Air for the upper body area [87](#)
- 3 Air for the footwell

- 4 Air supply [86](#)
- 5 Temperature [86](#)
- 6 Air distribution [86](#)

- 7 Rear window defroster [86](#)
- 8 Air conditioning [86](#)
- 9 Recirculated-air mode [86](#)





Air supply

You can select blower speeds from 1 to 4. The heating and ventilation become more and more effective as the air supply settings are increased. In position 0, the blower and the heater are switched off. The outside air supply is blocked in position 0.

Temperature

In order to increase the temperature of the passenger compartment, turn to the right (red). The temperature of the incoming air is kept constant.

Air distribution

You can direct the emerging air toward the windows , toward your upper body  or into the footwell . All intermediate settings are possible. In the  setting, there is a low flow of air onto the windows to keep them free of condensation.

Rear window defroster

When the rear window defroster is activated, the indicator lamp comes on. The rear window defroster switches off automatically.



The rear window defroster automatically assumes operation within 5 minutes after the engine is started at outside temperatures below approx. 39 °F (+4 °C). ◀

Air conditioning

The air is cooled and dehumidified and – depending on the temperature setting – rewarmed. Depending on the weather, the windshield may fog over briefly when the engine is started. Switching on the air conditioning will reduce condensation forming on the windows.



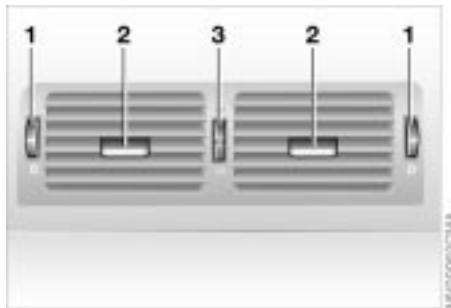
Condensation forms during operation of the air conditioning system, which then exits under the vehicle. Traces of condensed water of this kind are thus normal. ◀

Recirculated-air mode

You can respond to unpleasant external odors by temporarily suspending the supply of outside air. The system then recirculates the air currently within the vehicle.



If the windows should fog over in the recirculated-air mode, switch it off and increase the air supply as required. ◀



Microfilter

The built-in microfilter removes dust and pollen from the incoming air. Your BMW center will replace it during routine maintenance. A substantial reduction in airflow indicates that the filter needs to be replaced before scheduled maintenance.


Draft-free ventilation

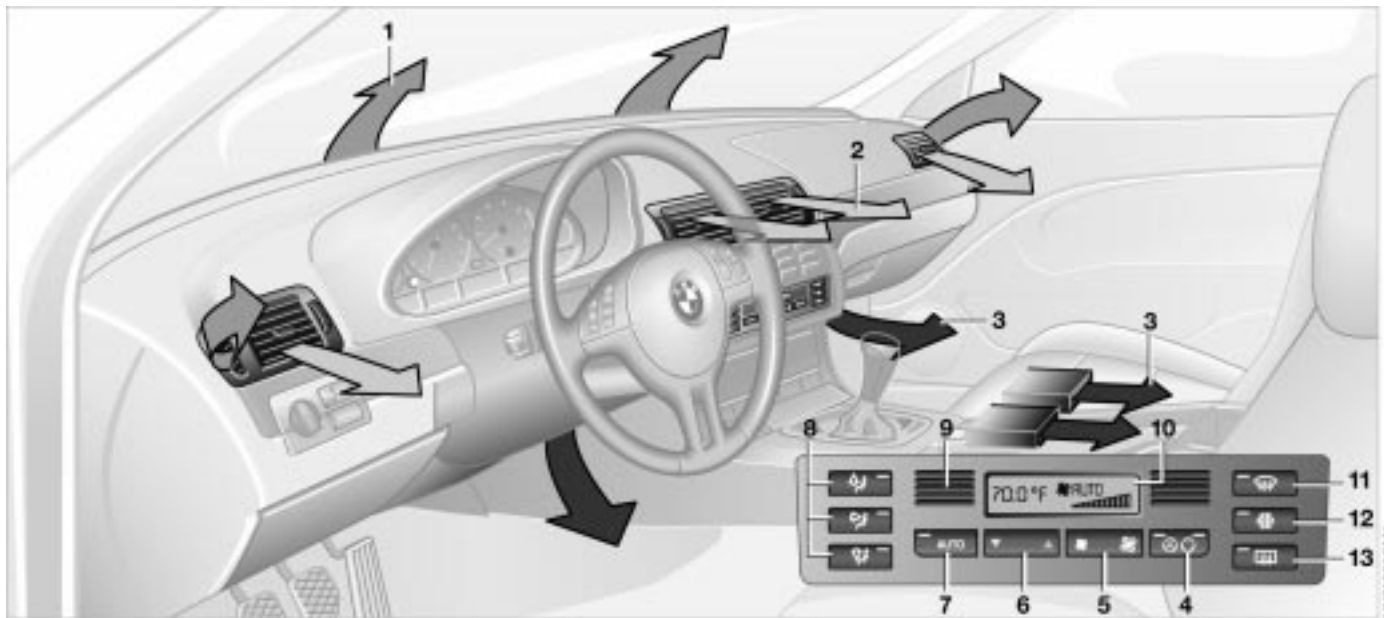
You can adjust the blower controls for the upper body area to obtain the optimum airflow rates and directions for your personal requirements:

- 1 Rotary dials for infinitely-variable opening and closing of the vent outlets
- 2 Selector levers for airflow direction
- 3 Rotary dial 3 allows you to control the temperature of the airflow from these outlets as desired.



To defrost windows and remove condensation

- 1 Set the blower speed control for the airflow rate to position 4
- 2 Turn the rotary temperature control completely to the right (red)
- 3 Rotary control for air distribution to position 
- 4 Switch on the rear window defroster to defrost the rear window.



- 1 Air onto the windshield and onto the side windows
- 2 Air for the upper body area 90
- 3 Air for the footwell
- 4 Recirculated-air mode/Automatic recirculated-air control (AUC) 90

- 5 Air supply 89
- 6 Temperature 89
- 7 Automatic air distribution 89
- 8 Individual air distribution 89
- 9 Interior temperature sensor – please keep clear and unobstructed


- 10 Display for temperature and air supply 89
- 11 To defrost windows and remove condensation 89
- 12 Air conditioning 89
- 13 Rear window defroster 90

Tips for pleasant driving


Use the automatic system – switch on with AUTO button 7. Select the desired interior temperature.





Detailed setting options are described for you in the following section.

Automatic air distribution


 The AUTO program adjusts the air distribution and the air supply for you and – in addition to that – adapts the temperature to external influences (summer, winter) to meet preferences you can specify.

Individual air distribution


 You can cancel the AUTO program by selecting specific distribution patterns to suit your own individual requirements.

 While the AUTO program is then deactivated, the automatic airflow control remains in operation. The system directs air to the windows , the upper body  and into the footwells . You can reactivate the automatic air distribution mode by selecting the AUTO button.

Temperature


 The interior temperature that appears in the display panel is a general figure intended for reference purposes. We recommend 72 °F (+22 °C) as a comfortable setting, even if the air conditioning is on. When you start the vehicle, the system ensures that the selected temperature is achieved as quickly as possible. It then maintains this temperature, regardless of the season.

Air supply


 By pressing the left or right half of the button, you can vary the air supply. This deactivates the automatic control of the air supply, AUTO disappears from the display panel. Nevertheless, the automatic air distribution remains unchanged. You can reactivate the automatic air distribution mode by selecting the AUTO button.


When the lowest blower speed is set and you press the left half of the button, all of the displays are canceled: the blower, heating and air conditioning are switched off. The outside air supply is blocked. You can reactivate the system by pressing any button for the automatic climate control.

To defrost windows and remove condensation

 This program quickly removes ice and condensation from the windshield and the side windows.

Air conditioning

 The air is cooled and dehumidified and – depending on the temperature setting – rewarmed. Depending on the weather, the windshield may fog over briefly when the engine is started. Switching on the air conditioning will reduce condensation forming on the windows.

 Condensation forms during operation of the air conditioning system, which then exits under the vehicle. Traces of condensed water of this kind are thus normal. ◀

Automatic recirculated-air control (AUC)

You can respond to unpleasant external odors by temporarily stopping the flow of outside air. The system then recirculates the air currently within the vehicle.

Press the button repeatedly to select one of three different operating modes.

- ▷ Indicator lamps off: outside airflow is on
- ▷ Left indicator lamp on – AUC mode: the system recognizes pollutants in the outside air and blocks the flow of air when necessary. The system then recirculates the air currently within the vehicle. Depending on the air quality, the automatic system then switches back and forth between outside air supply and recirculation of the air within the vehicle
- ▷ Right indicator lamp on: the flow of external air into the vehicle is permanently blocked. The system then recirculates the air currently within the vehicle.



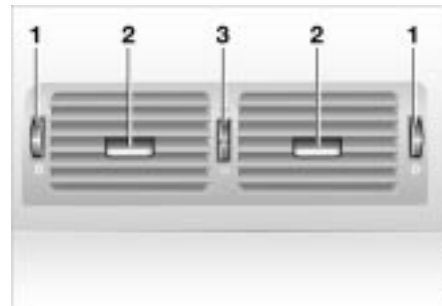
If the windows fog over in the recirculated-air mode, switch it off and increase the air supply as required. ◀

Rear window defroster

When the rear window defroster is activated, the indicator lamp comes on. The rear window defroster switches off automatically.



The rear window defroster automatically assumes operation within 5 minutes after the engine is started at outside temperatures below approx. 39 °F (+4 °C). ◀

**Draft-free ventilation**

You can adjust the blower controls for the upper body area to select the optimum airflow rates and directions for your personal requirements:

- 1 Rotary dials for infinitely-variable opening and closing of the vent outlets
- 2 Selectors levers for airflow direction
- 3 Rotary dial 3 allows you to control the temperature of the airflow from these outlets as desired.

Automatic climate control* Roller sun blind*

Microfilter/activated-charcoal filter

The built-in microfilter removes dust and pollen from the incoming air. The activated-charcoal filter provides additional protection by filtering gaseous pollutants from the outside air. Your BMW center replaces this combined filter as a standard part of your scheduled maintenance. A substantial reduction in airflow indicates that the filter needs to be replaced before scheduled maintenance.



To activate, press the button briefly with ignition key in position 1 or 2.

The illustration depicts the arrangement of the buttons if the vehicle is fully equipped. The arrangement may vary, depending on the equipment actually installed.

Premium sound system* 91



Harman Kardon premium sound system

Press the button to activate and deactivate the acoustic enhancement.

The system creates the acoustic impression of a much larger passenger compartment accompanied by improved stereophonic sound at all seating positions.

The system responds to poor reception conditions by repeatedly alternating between the stereo and monophonic modes. You should then switch the system off.



To open

Pull the handle. The lamp in the glove compartment comes on.

To close

Fold the cover up.



To prevent injury in the event of an accident, close the glove compartment immediately after use. ◀

To lock

Lock with one of the master keys. A master key will also be required to unlock the glove compartment.



If you turn over only your door and ignition key for valet parking, refer to page 28, access to the glove compartment is not possible. ◀

Rechargeable flashlight*

The flashlight is located on the left side of the glove compartment.

It features integral overload-protection, so it can be left in its holder continuously.



To avoid completely discharging and possibly damaging the lamp, always ensure that it is switched off before inserting it in the socket. ◀



Front center armrest

To release: press the button (arrow) and lift upward.

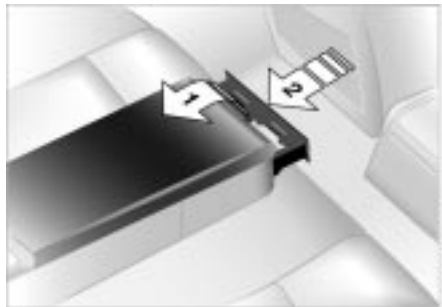
Additional compartments and nets*

You will find additional storage compartments in the front doors and in the center console. Storage nets are on the front seat backrests.



Beverage holder, coin box

A coin box and two beverage holders are provided in the center console.

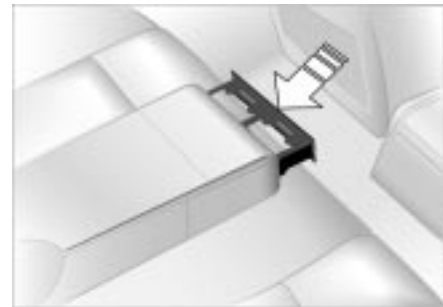


Center armrest, rear*

Without through-loading system:

The rear center armrest includes a storage compartment, a beverage holder (for two beverage containers) and a litter bag holder.

- 1 Storage compartment: pull up
- 2 Beverage holder: press.



Center armrest, rear*

With through-loading system:

The rear center armrest includes a beverage holder (suitable for holding two beverage cans) and a litter bag holder.

- ▷ Beverage holder: press.



Storage package*

For your convenience, there are:

- ▷ Two flip-out sockets on the rear center console
- ▷ A glasses tray* (not shown) in the front center console.



Hands-free system

On vehicles with telephone preparation* or communication packet* the trim piece for the hands-free microphone is located in the headliner near the interior lamp.

For further information on using your cellular phone, refer to the separate "Telephone Owner's Manual."



To empty

Press on the edge of the open cover (arrow): the ashtray moves up and can be removed.

Cigarette lighter

Press the lighter 1 in. You can remove the lighter from its socket for use as soon as it springs back out.



Hold or touch the hot cigarette lighter by the knob only. Holding or touching it in other areas could result in burns.

The cigarette lighter remains operational when the ignition key has been removed. For this reason, children should never be left in the vehicle unattended. ◀

Cigarette lighter socket

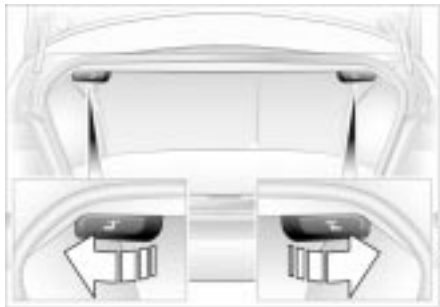
Suitable for attaching power supplies for flashlights, car vacuum cleaners, etc., up to a rating of approx. 200 watts at 12 volts. Avoid damage to the socket caused by inserting plugs of different shapes or sizes.



To empty

Press on the edge of the raised cover to open (arrow): the ashtray moves up and can be removed.

96 Through-loading system*



Pull the corresponding lever to release (arrow).



The backrest moves forward slightly when released. Reach into the gap and fold it down.



When folding the backrest back into its original position always ensure that the detent engages securely. A loose backrest might fail to prevent cargo from entering the passenger compartment during sudden braking or evasive maneuvers, posing a potential hazard to occupants. ◀

To secure your luggage, use the luggage nets* or flexible straps that you can attach to the fittings at the inner corners of the luggage compartment. Refer also to Cargo loading on page 99.



Rear center 3-point belt*

You can roll up the rear 3-point belt before folding back the through-loading system:

- ▷ Release the belt and insert its latch in the recess provided for this purpose in the rear tray (arrow).



Always use the outer safety belts to install child-restraint systems.

The center seat belt should only be used when it is necessary to secure three child-restraint systems. Do not attempt to modify child-restraint systems. If you do this, the protection provided by these systems could be impaired. ◀

Ski bag*

The ski bag allows the safe and clean transport of up to 4 pairs of standard skis or up to two snowboards.

The length of the ski bag and the additional space provided in the luggage compartment make it possible to carry skis up to 6.8 ft (2.10 m) long. Because of the tapered shape of the bag, the ski bag can only accommodate two pairs of skis up to 6.8 ft (2.10 m) long.



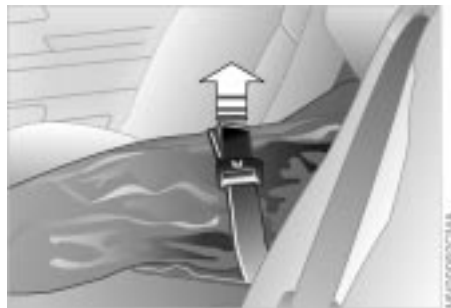
Loading

Vehicles without through-loading system:

1. Fold the center armrest outward. Loosen the trim from the upper Velcro® fastener and place it on the armrest
2. Press the button (arrow 1, access from the passenger compartment): this releases the cover panel in the luggage compartment
3. Press the detent levers (arrows 2) inward and fold the cover to the front
4. Extend the ski bag between the front seats. The zipper provides convenient access to the inside of the bag, and can also be left open to promote drying

5. Use the magnetic retainers to attach the cover panel to the upper surface (metal surface below rear tray) of the luggage compartment.

To store the ski bag, perform the above steps in reverse sequence.



Loading

Vehicles with through-loading system:

1. Fold the center armrest outward. Loosen the trim from the upper Velcro® fastener and place it on the armrest
2. Press button 1 downward and swing the cover forward
3. Extend the ski bag between the front seats. The zipper provides convenient access to stored items. It may be opened to allow the ski bag to dry
4. Press knob 2: the cover in the luggage compartment is unlocked.

To store the ski bag, perform the above steps in reverse sequence.

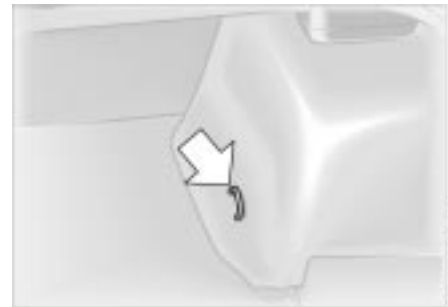
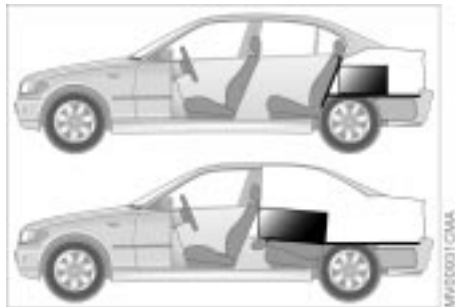
Securing cargo



Secure skis and any other objects stored in the bag by tightening the retaining strap at the buckle. ◀



Make sure that your skis are clean before loading them into the bag. Avoid damage from sharp edges during loading. ◀



Stowing cargo

If you are transporting a load in your BMW:

- ▷ Load heavy cargo as far forward as possible – directly behind the backrests or the luggage compartment partition – and as low as possible
- ▷ Cover sharp edges and corners
- ▷ Do not pile objects higher than the top edge of the backrest

- ▷ For transporting very heavy loads when the rear seat is not occupied, secure the outer safety belts in the opposite buckles (refer to the illustration).

Securing cargo

- ▷ For small, light items, use the rubber-lined, non-skid side of the floor mat or secure using the luggage compartment net* or elastic straps, refer to page 35
- ▷ For large, heavy pieces, see your BMW center for load-securing devices*. Anchorages (arrow) are provided at the inner corners of the luggage compartment for attaching these load-securing devices.

Read and comply with the instructions enclosed with the load-securing devices.



Always position and secure the load correctly. If you do not, it can endanger the passengers during braking or evasive maneuvers.

Do not exceed the approved gross weight or the approved maximum axle loads, refer to page 142, otherwise the vehicle's operating safety is no longer assured and you are in violation of the law.

Do not stow heavy or hard objects in the passenger compartment without securing them. Otherwise they would be thrown around during braking and evasive maneuvers and endanger the passengers. ◀

Roof-mounted luggage rack*



A special roof-rack system is available as an optional extra for your BMW. Please observe the precautions included with the installation instructions.

Anchorage

Access to the anchorages:

To fold up the cover (arrow), please use the tool provided with the roof-rack system.

Loading and driving notes

Roof-mounted luggage racks raise the center of gravity of the vehicle when they are loaded. For this reason, they have a major effect on the vehicle's handling and steering response.

You should therefore always remember not to exceed the approved roof load capacity, the approved gross vehicle weight or the axle loads when loading the rack. These weights are listed under Technical Data on page 142.

Make sure that the load is not too heavy, and attempt to distribute it evenly. Always load the heaviest pieces first (on the bottom). Be sure that adequate clearance is maintained for raising the sliding/tilt sunroof, and that objects do not project into the opening path of the luggage compartment lid.

Secure the roof luggage correctly and securely to prevent it from shifting or being lost during driving (danger to following traffic).

Drive smoothly and avoid sudden acceleration and braking. Do not corner at high speeds.

The roof-mounted luggage rack and the roof load increase the aerodynamic resistance: increased fuel consumption and additional stress on the vehicle's body are the result.



Overview

Controls and features

Operation, maintenance

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Technical data

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To ensure that your vehicle continues to provide maximum economy throughout an extended service life, we request that you devote careful attention to the following instructions.

Engine and differential

The first 1,200 miles (2,000 km): Attempt to constantly vary both vehicle and engine speed during these initial miles while remembering to avoid engine speeds in excess of 4,500 rpm and/or vehicle speeds of over 100 mph (160 km/h):

Always obey all official speed limits.

Refrain from using full throttle and avoid pressing the accelerator beyond the kickdown point.

After the initial 1,200 miles (2,000 km) you can gradually increase both engine and vehicle speeds.

Please remember to observe these same break-in procedures if either the engine or the differential is replaced later in the course of the vehicle's service life.

Tires

Owing to technical factors associated with their manufacture, tires do not achieve their full traction potential until an initial break-in period has elapsed. We thus ask you to drive with extra care during the first 200 miles (300 km).

Always obey all official speed limits.



When the vehicle is operated on wet or slushy roads, a wedge of water may form between the tire and the road surface. This phenomenon is referred to as aquaplaning, or hydroplaning, and can lead to partial or complete loss of traction, vehicle control and braking effectiveness. Reduce your speed on wet roads. ◀

Brake system

Approx. 300 miles (500 km) must elapse before the brake pads and rotors achieve the optimal pad-surface and wear patterns required for trouble-free operation and an extended service life later on.

To break in the separate parking brake drums, apply the parking brake lightly when coasting to a standstill (at a traffic signal, for instance); use caution to avoid posing a danger to other road

users. You can prevent corrosion in the drums by periodically repeating this procedure.



The rear brake lamps do not come on when you apply the parking brake.

Vacuum for the brake system servo unit on your BMW is available only when the engine is running. When you move the vehicle with the engine off – when towing, for example – substantially higher levels of pedal force will be required to brake the vehicle. ◀

Clutch

Approx. 300 miles (500 km) must elapse before the clutch starts to operate at optimum efficiency. Remember to engage the clutch carefully during this initial period.



Brakes: do not drive with your foot resting on the brake pedal. Even light but consistent pedal pressure can lead to high temperatures, brake wear and possibly even brake failure.

Aquaplaning: when driving on wet or slushy roads, reduce vehicle speed. If you do not, a wedge of water may form between the tires and the road surface. This phenomenon can lead to partial or complete loss of contact between the tires and road surface, vehicle control and braking ability.

Driving through water: do not drive through water on the road if it is deeper than 1 ft (30 cm), and then only at walking speed. Otherwise, the vehicle's engine, the electrical systems and the transmission may be damaged.

Rear tray: never use it to store heavy or hard objects, as otherwise occupants could be injured during braking maneuvers.

Clothes hooks: when hanging clothing from the hooks, be sure that they will not obstruct the driver's vision. Do not hang heavy objects on the hooks. If you do so, they could cause personal injury during braking or evasive maneuvers. ◀

The concept

The Antilock Brake System (ABS) keeps the wheels from locking during braking, thereby enhancing active driving safety.

Braking with ABS

If you are in a situation that requires full braking, you will exploit the full benefits of the ABS system if you apply maximum pedal pressure ("panic stop"). Since the vehicle maintains steering responsiveness, you can avoid possible obstacles with a minimum of steering effort, despite the full brake application.

Pulsation at the brake pedal combined with sounds from the hydraulic circuits indicates to the driver that ABS is in its active mode.

Brake fluid level

If the brake fluid level is too low and brake pedal travel has become longer, there may be a defect in one of the brake system's hydraulic circuits.



Proceed to the nearest BMW center. It may be necessary to apply higher levels of pressure to the pedal when stopping and braking distances may also be longer. Please remember to adapt your driving style accordingly. ◀

Disc brakes

Limited vehicle use, extended periods with the vehicle parked or in storage, and operating conditions in which braking is restricted to gentle, low-pressure applications will all increase the tendency for corrosion to form on the rotors; this is often accompanied by a simultaneous accumulation of contamination on the brake pads. The pads must exert a certain minimal level of pressure against the rotors for the disc brakes' inherent self-cleaning effect to remain effective; the pressure available under the above conditions may not provide adequate cleansing.

If the brake rotors are corroded, they will tend to respond to braking with a pulsating effect that even extended brake applications will fail to cure.

When driving in heavy rain and on wet roads it is a good idea to apply light pressure to the brake pedal every few miles. Monitor traffic conditions to ensure that this maneuver does not pose a hazard to you or to other road users. The heat generated in this process helps dry the pads and rotors to ensure that your brake system will respond with undiminished efficiency when you need it.

When descending steep hills and extended grades, downshift to a gear that will allow you to continue safely with only a minimal amount of braking. By minimizing the loads placed on the brake system, this strategy helps ensure that optimal brake system response will remain available at all times. Use care to avoid exceeding the approved engine-speed range, refer to page [66](#).



Do not coast with the clutch depressed or with the transmission in neutral. Do not coast with the engine shut off. The engine provides no braking effect when the clutch is depressed and there is no power-assist for braking or steering when the engine is not running.

BMW 325xi, 330xi: always refer all brake inspection and service work to your BMW center, as failure to observe the special procedures could result in damage to brake system components. Never allow floor mats, carpets or any other objects to protrude into the area around the accelerator, clutch and brake pedals and obstruct their movement. ◀

Brake pads


For your own safety: use only brake pads that the manufacturer has released for your particular vehicle model. The manufacturer cannot evaluate non-approved brake pads to determine if they are suited for use, and therefore cannot ensure the operating safety of the vehicle if they are installed. ◀

Tire inflation pressures

Information for your safety

The factory-approved radial tires are matched to the vehicle and have been selected to provide optimum safety and driving comfort.

It is not merely the tire's service life, but also driving comfort and – above all else – driving safety that depend on the condition of the tires and the maintenance of the specified tire pressure.

 Incorrect tire inflation pressure is a frequent cause of tire damage. Tire pressure also has a major effect on your BMW's handling response. Be sure to check the tire inflation pressure, including the space-saver spare tire or the spare tire, on a regular basis, at least twice a month and before every extended journey, refer to page 24. Otherwise, incorrect tire pressure can lead to poor handling, to tire damage and accidents. ◀

Tire condition




Tire tread – tire damage

Inspect your tires frequently for tread wear, signs of damage and for foreign objects lodged in the tread. Check the tread depth.

Tread depth should not be allowed to go below 0.12 in (3 mm), even though the legally specified minimum tread depth is 0.063 in (1.6 mm). Tread wear indicators (arrow) are embedded in the base of the tire's tread. Their locations are indicated by the legend TWI – Tread Wear Indicator – at various points on the tire's shoulder. When the tread reaches a depth of 0.063 in (1.6 mm), these indicators appear to signal that the tires have worn to the minimum legal level. Below 0.12 in (3 mm) tread depth, there is an increased risk of aquaplaning, even at relatively

moderate speeds and with only small amounts of water on the road.

 Do not drive on a deflated (flat) tire. A flat tire greatly impairs steering and braking response, and can lead to complete loss of control over the vehicle.

Avoid overloading the vehicle so that the permitted load on the tires is not exceeded. Overloading leads to overheating and causes damage inside the tires. The ultimate result can assume the form of a sudden air loss.

Unusual vibrations encountered during normal vehicle operation can indicate a flat tire or some other vehicle malfunction. The type of problem can be caused by contact with curbs, etc. This is also true for irregularities in the vehicle's handling characteristics, such as a pronounced tendency to pull to the left or right. Should this occur, respond by immediately reducing your speed. Proceed carefully to the nearest BMW center or professional tire center, or have the vehicle towed in to have it, its wheels and tires inspected.

Tire damage (up to and including sudden and complete air loss) can endanger the lives of both the vehicle occupants and other road users. ◀

Tire replacement

To maintain good handling and vehicle response, use only tires of a single tread configuration from a single manufacturer.

DOT Quality Grades

Tread wear

Traction AA A B C

Temperature A B C



All passenger vehicle tires must conform to Federal Safety Requirements in addition to these grades. ◀

Tread wear

The tread wear grade is a comparative rating based on the wear rate of the tire when tested under controlled conditions on a specified government test course.

For example, a tire graded 150 would wear one and one-half (1 ½) times as well on the government course as a tire graded 100. The relative performance of tires depends upon the actual conditions of their use, however, and may depart significantly from the norm due to variations in driving habits, service practices and differences in road characteristics and climate.

Traction

The traction grades, from highest to lowest, are AA, A, B, and C.

Those grades represent the tire's ability to stop on wet pavement as measured under controlled conditions on specified government test surfaces of asphalt and concrete. A tire marked C may have poor traction.



The traction grade assigned to this tire is based on straight-ahead braking traction tests, and does not include acceleration, cornering, hydroplaning, or peak traction characteristics. ◀

Temperature

The temperature grades are A (the highest), B, and C, representing the tire's resistance to the generation of heat and its ability to dissipate heat when tested under controlled conditions on a specified indoor laboratory test wheel.

Sustained high temperature can cause the material of the tire to degenerate and reduce tire life, and excessive temperature can lead to sudden tire failure. The grade C corresponds to a level of performance which all passenger vehicle tires must meet

Tire replacement

under the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 109. Grades B and A represent higher levels of performance on the laboratory test wheel than the minimum required by law.



The temperature grade for this tire is established for a tire that is properly inflated and not overloaded. Excessive speed, underinflation, or excessive loading, either separately or in combination, can cause heat buildup and possible tire failure. ◀

Uniform Tire Quality Grading

Quality grades can be found where applicable on the tire sidewall between tread shoulder and maximum section width. For example:

Tread wear 200

Traction AA

Temperature A



Do not use retreaded tires, since driving safety may be impaired. This is due to the possible variations in casing structures and, in some cases, to their extreme age, which can lead to a decrease in their durability. ◀

Tire age

The date on which the tire was manufactured is indicated by the code on the sidewall:

DOT ... 4101 indicates that the tire was manufactured in week 41 of the year 2001.

Although tires may have a theoretical service life of up to 10 years, BMW strongly recommends that you replace all tires after an absolute maximum of 6 years.

Safety tires*

Safety tires consists of self-contained tires and special rims. The tire reinforcement ensures that the tire retains some residual safety in the event of pressure drop and driving remains possible to a restricted degree. The vehicle is equipped with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor, which indicate a flat tire. For additional information on Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor refer to pages 78 or 80.



Safety tires are only possible in conjunction with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor. ◀

The right choice

Never mount wheels and tires that have not been specifically approved by BMW for use on your particular model. Although other wheels and tires may theoretically have the same dimensions, variations in factors such as manufacturing tolerances can result in contact between tire and bodywork, ultimately leading to serious accidents. BMW can not evaluate all tires and wheels on the market, and is thus unable to guarantee that the vehicle will continue to perform safely if unapproved tires and/or wheels are mounted. ◀



The correct wheel and tire combination affects various systems that would otherwise be impaired, for example ABS, ATC, ASC+T/DSC and ADB/ADB-X/DBC.

For this reason, use only tires of the same manufacture and tread configuration. In the event of a flat tire, for example, remount the approved wheel and tire combination as soon as possible. ◀

Winter tires

Choosing the right tire

BMW recommends winter tires (M+S radial tires) for operation under inclement winter driving conditions. While all-season tires (M+S designation) provide better winter traction than summer tires with the load ratings H, V, W, Y and ZR, they generally do not achieve the performance of winter tires. In the interest of safe tracking and steering response, install winter tires made by the same manufacturer having the same tread configuration on all four wheels.



Never exceed the maximum speed for which the winter tires are rated.

Unprofessional attempts by laymen to service tires can lead to damage and accidents.

Have this work performed by trained professionals only. Any BMW center has the required technical knowledge and the proper equipment and will be happy to assist you. ◀

Tire condition, tire pressure

Once the tire wears to below 0.16 in (4 mm), winter tires display a perceptible decrease in their ability to cope with winter driving conditions, and should be replaced in the interest of safety.

Comply with the specified tire inflation pressures – and be sure to have the wheel and tire assemblies balanced every time you change the tires.

Storage

Store tires in a cool, dry place, protecting them against light whenever possible. Protect the tires against contact with oil, grease and fuel.

Snow chains*

BMW narrow-link snow chains are intended for mounting on summer or winter tires in pairs at the rear wheels only.


BMW 325xi, 330xi: in an extreme emergency – for instance, with the vehicle stuck on one side, or when obstructions make it impossible to reach one tire – a chain may also be mounted on just one tire for the limited period needed to resolve the problem.

Comply with all manufacturer's safety precautions when mounting the chains. You cannot mount snow chains on the following tires:

225/50 R 16 92
225/45 R 17 91
245/40 ZR 17

**To release**

Pull the lever located under the left-hand side of the instrument panel.


 Do not attempt to service your vehicle if you do not have the required technical background. Failure to work in an informed, professional manner when servicing components and materials constitutes a safety hazard for vehicle occupants and other road users. If you are not familiar with the guidelines, please have the operations performed by your BMW center. ◀

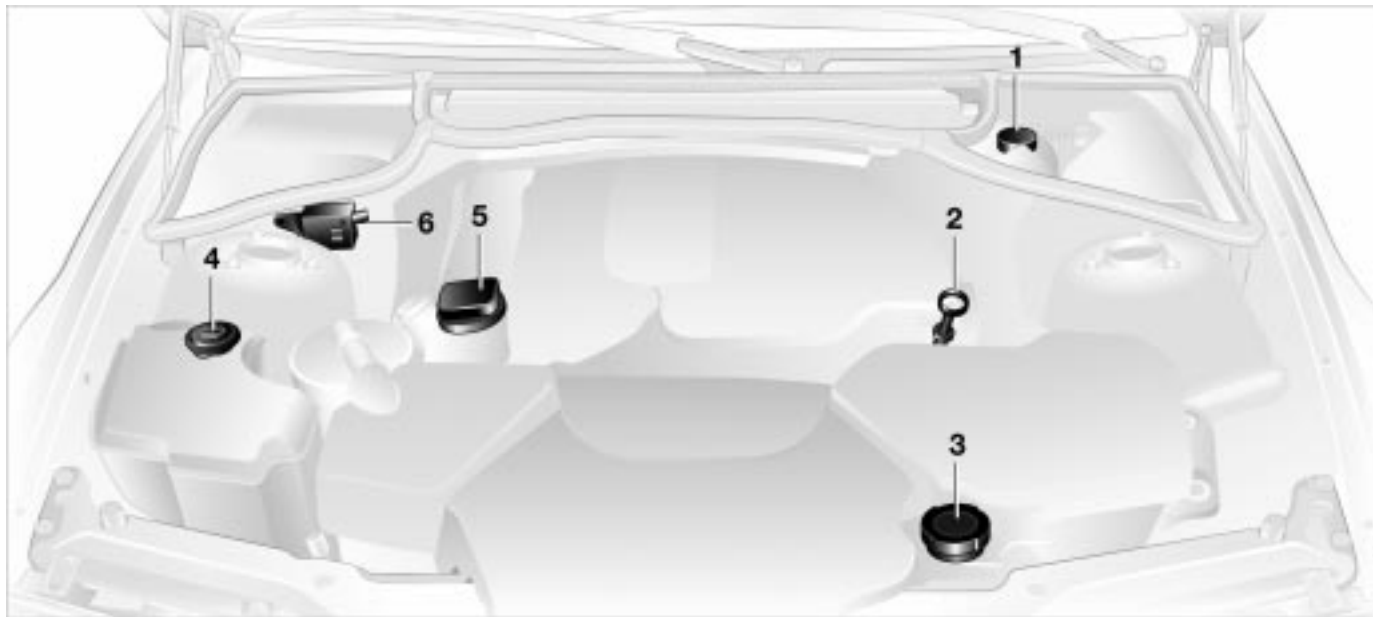
**To open**

Pull the release handle and open the hood.

**To close**

Allow the hood to fall from a height of about 12 in (30 cm) so that it audibly engages.

 To avoid injuries, be sure that the travel path of the hood is clear when it is closed, following the same safety precautions used in all closing procedures.
If you notice that the hood is not completely closed while driving, stop immediately and close it securely. ◀



1 Brake fluid reservoir [118](#)

2 Engine oil dipstick [115](#)

3 Coolant expansion tank [117](#)

4 Reservoir for the headlamp and
windshield washer system [114](#)

5 Engine oil filler neck [115](#)

6 Auxiliary terminal for
jump- starting [134](#)



Antifreeze agents or intensive-cleaning washer fluids for the washer systems are highly flammable. For this reason, keep them away from sources of flame and store only in original containers. Store them inaccessible to children. Comply with the instructions on the containers. ◀

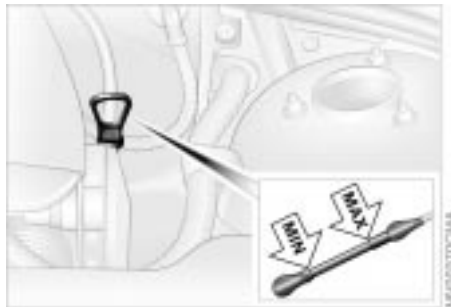
Headlamp* and windshield washer system

Approximate capacity is 5.6 US quarts (5.3 liters).

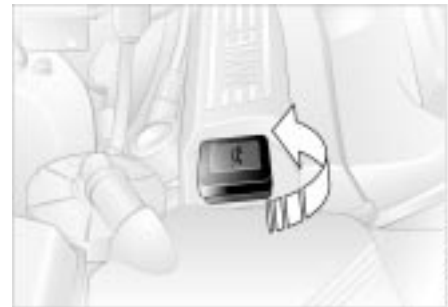
Fill with water and – if required – with a washer antifreeze (according to manufacturer's recommendations).



We recommend that you mix the washer fluid before adding it to the reservoir. ◀



The oil volume between the two marks on the dipstick corresponds to approx. 1.1 US quarts (1 liter). Do not fill beyond the upper mark on the dipstick. Excess oil will damage the engine.




Checking oil level

1. Park the vehicle on a level surface
2. Switch the engine off after it has reached normal operating temperature
3. After approx. 5 minutes, pull the dipstick out and wipe it off with a clean lint-free cloth, paper towel, or similar material
4. Carefully push the dipstick all the way into the guide tube and pull it out again
5. The oil level should be between the two marks on the dipstick.

As with fuel economy, oil consumption is directly influenced by your driving style and vehicle operating conditions.

Adding engine oil

While you should wait until the level has dropped to just above the lower mark before adding oil, you should never allow the oil level to fall below this mark.

 BMW engines are designed to operate without oil additives; the use of additives could lead to damage in some cases. This is also true for the manual transmission, the automatic transmission, the differential, and the power steering system. ◀

Recommendation: have the oil changed at your BMW center.



Continuous exposure to used oil has caused cancer in laboratory testing. For this reason, any skin areas that come into contact with oil should be thoroughly washed with soap and water.

Always store oil, grease, etc., out of reach of children. Comply with all warning labels and information on lubricant containers. ◀



Comply with the applicable environmental laws regulating the disposal of used oil. ◀

Specified engine oils

The quality of the engine oil is extremely important for the operation and service life of an engine. Based on extensive testing, BMW has approved only certain grades of engine oil.

Use only approved "BMW High Performance Synthetic Oil."

If you are unable to obtain an approved "BMW High Performance Synthetic Oil," you may use small volumes of other approved synthetic oils for topping up between oil changes. Use only oils with the specification API SH or higher.



Ask your BMW center for details concerning the specific "BMW High Performance Synthetic Oil" or synthetic oils that have been approved. ◀

You can also call BMW of North America at 1-800-831-1117 or visit this website: www.bmwusa.com to obtain this information.

Viscosity ratings

Viscosity is the oilflow rating as established in SAE classes.

The selection of the correct SAE class depends on the climatic conditions in the area where you drive your BMW.



Approved oils are in SAE classes 5W-40 and 5W-30. ◀

These kinds of oil may be used for driving in all ambient temperatures.

Coolant



Do not add coolant to the cooling system when the engine is hot. If you attempt to do so, escaping coolant can cause burns.

To avoid the possibility of damage later on, never use anything other than factory-approved, nitrite and amino-free extended-duty antifreeze with corrosion inhibitor. Your BMW center is familiar with the official specifications. Antifreeze and anti-corrosion agents are hazardous to health. You should always store them in their original container and in a location which is out of reach of children.

Extended-duty antifreeze with corrosion inhibitor contains the flammable substance ethylene glycol. For this reason, do not spill extended-duty antifreeze with corrosion inhibitor on hot engine parts. It could ignite and cause serious burns. ◀



Checking coolant level

Correct coolant level for cold engine (approx. 68 °F or +20 °C):

1. Open the cap for the expansion tank by turning it slightly counterclockwise to allow accumulated pressure to escape. Then open
2. The coolant level is correct when the upper end of the red float is at least even with the upper edge of the filler neck, but no more than 0.8 in (2 cm) above it – that is, up to the second mark on the float (refer also to the schematic diagram next to the filler neck)
3. If necessary, add coolant. If the coolant is low, slowly add coolant until the correct level is reached – do not overfill.



Comply with the applicable environmental laws regulating the disposal of extended-duty antifreeze with corrosion inhibitor. ◀



Brake fluid loss results in extended pedal travel. Refer to the information on page [106](#).



Brake fluid is hygroscopic, that is, it absorbs moisture from the air over time.

In order to ensure the brake system's safety and reliability, have the brake fluid changed every two years at a BMW center, refer to page [67](#) and to the Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models) or the Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models).

Brake fluid is toxic and damages the vehicle's paint. You should always store it in original container and in a location which is out of reach of children.

Do not spill the fluid and do not fill the brake fluid reservoir beyond the MAX mark. The brake fluid could ignite upon contact with hot engine parts and cause serious burns. ◀



Comply with the applicable environmental laws regulating the disposal of brake fluid. ◀

Warning lamp



The brake warning lamp comes on when the parking brake is not engaged: the brake fluid level is too low, refer to page [17](#).



Brake warning lamp for Canadian models.

Adding brake fluid

For adding brake fluid or for determining and correcting the cause of brake fluid loss, consult your BMW center. Your BMW center is familiar with the specifications for factory-approved brake fluids (DOT 4).



The BMW Maintenance System has been designed as a reliable means of providing maximum driving and operating safety – and as cost-effectively as possible for you.

Please keep in mind that regular maintenance is not only necessary for the safety of your vehicle, but also plays a significant role in maintaining the resale value of the vehicle.

Service Interval Display

While conventional systems rely on mileage alone to determine when service is due, the BMW Maintenance System reflects the actual conditions under which the vehicle is operated: some miles are more strenuous than others. From a maintenance point of view, 62,000 miles (100,000 km) accumulated in short-distance urban driving are not the equivalent of the same distance covered at moderate cruising speeds in long-distance highway travel.

The BMW Maintenance System monitors actual operating conditions as the basis for defining when the Engine Oil Service and Inspections I and II are due.

This service strategy accurately reflects your own vehicle's specific needs by defining maintenance intervals according individual operating conditions. However, drivers who cover only extremely short distances – substantially less than 6,200 miles (10,000 km) annually – should still have the engine oil changed at least every 2 years, as it continues to age regardless of whether the vehicle is used on a regular basis.

Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models)/Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models)

For additional information on specified maintenance intervals and procedures, please refer to the Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models), or the Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models).

As a precaution against corrosion, if your vehicle is exposed to potential damage from unimproved road surfaces we suggest that you have the body checked for damage from stone chips and gravel at the same time.



We recommend that you refer all maintenance and repair operations to your BMW center.

Be sure that all maintenance work is confirmed in the Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models), or in the Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models). These entries confirm that your vehicle has benefitted from regular maintenance, and are also required for warranty claims. ◀

Light-emitting diodes (LEDs)

Light-emitting diodes installed behind translucent lenses serve as the light source for many of the controls and displays in your vehicle. These LEDs operate using a concept related to that of conventional lasers.



Do not remove the protective lens and avoid staring directly at the unfiltered beam for extended periods (several hours), as inflammation of the iris could result. ◀

California Proposition 65 Warning

California laws require us to state the following warning:



Engine exhaust, some of its constituents, and certain vehicle components contain or emit chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. ◀

OBD interface socket



The interface socket for onboard diagnostics is located on the left-hand side of the driver's side, behind a specially marked cover located beneath the instrument panel. The cover has the letters OBD on it.

This interface makes it possible to access data on emissions-related components using special equipment.



An illuminated indicator informs you of the need for service, not that you need to stop the vehicle. However, the systems should be checked by your BMW center at the earliest possible opportunity.

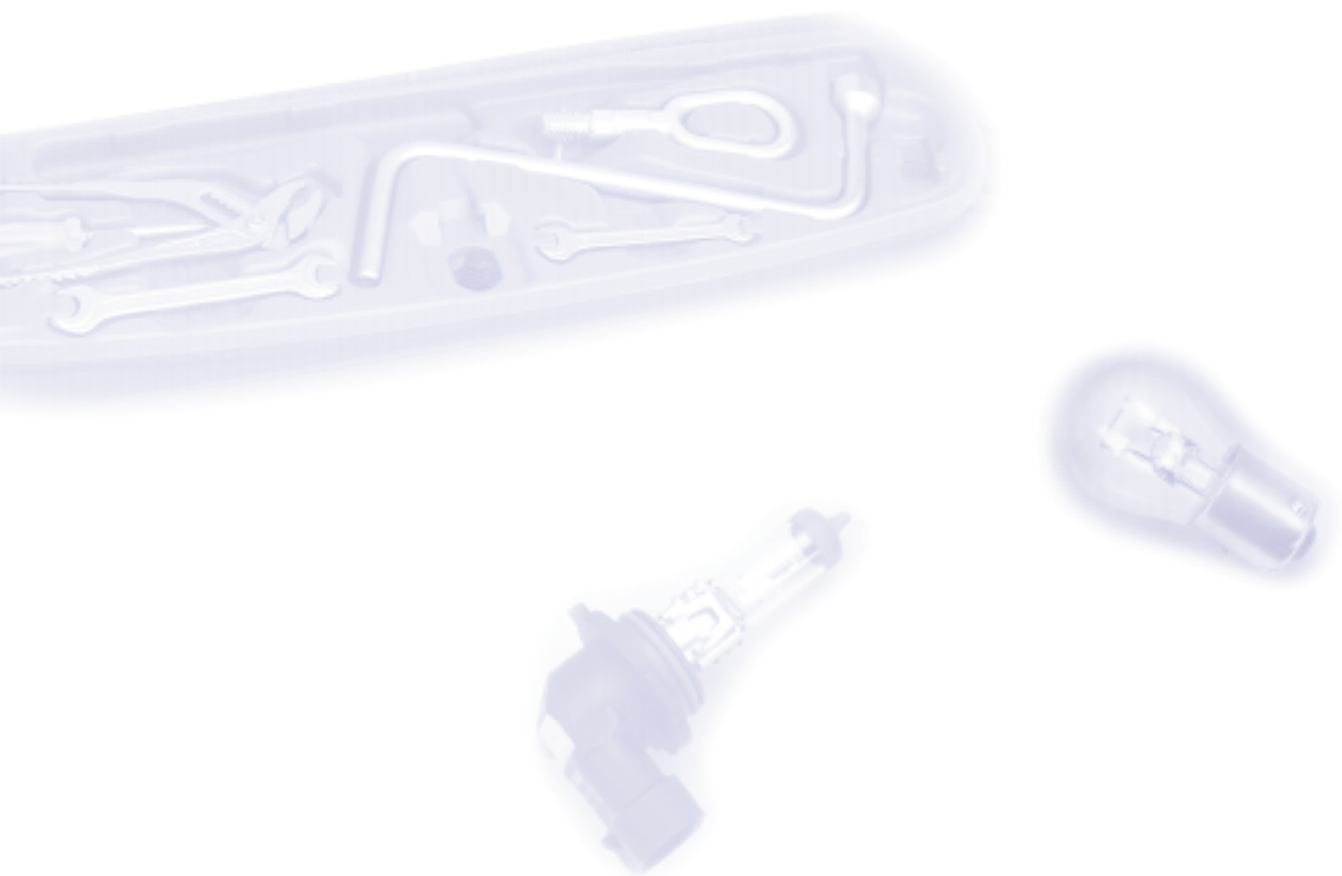
If the indicator blinks or flashes, this indicates a high level of engine misfire. Reduce speed and contact the nearest BMW center immediately. Severe engine misfiring over even a short period of time can seriously damage emission control system components, especially the catalytic converter.



SERVICE ENGINE SOON
warning lamp for Canadian models.



If the fuel filler cap is not on tight enough, the OBD system can detect leaking vapor and the indicator will light up. If the fuel filler cap is then tightened, the indicator will usually go out after a short period of time. ◀



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Overview

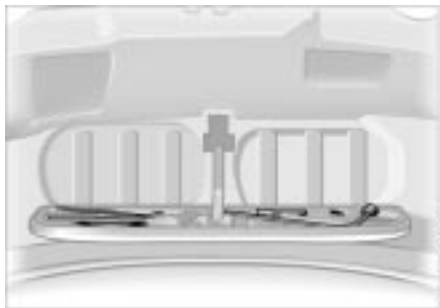
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The onboard tool kit is located in the luggage compartment lid.

Loosen the wingnut to open.

Windshield wiper blades



1. Fold the wiper arm completely out from the windshield
2. Position the wiper blade at an angle and pull the release spring (arrow)
3. Fold the wiper blade down and unhook it toward the windshield
4. Pull the wiper blade past the wiper arm toward the top
5. Insert a new wiper blade and apply pressure until you hear it engage.



Use only wiper blades which have been approved by BMW. ◀

Lamps and bulbs

The lamps and bulbs make essential contributions to the safety of your vehicle. Therefore, comply fully with the following instructions during bulb replacement. If you are not familiar with any of the procedures, consult your BMW center.



Do not touch the glass portion of a new bulb with your bare hands since even small amounts of impurities burn in to the surface and reduce the service life of the bulb. Use a clean cloth, paper napkin, or a similar material, or hold the bulb by its metallic base. ◀

A replacement bulb set is available from your BMW center.



Before working on the electrical system, switch off the electrical accessory you are working on or disconnect the cable from the negative terminal of the battery. Failure to observe this precaution could result in short circuits.


To prevent injuries and damage, comply with any instructions provided by the bulb manufacturer. ◀



Low and high beams

Engine compartment, left side:

- 1 Low beam
 - 2 High beam
- H7 bulb, 55 watt

 The H7 bulb is pressurized. Therefore, wear safety glasses and protective gloves. Failure to comply with these precautions could result in physical injury if the bulb breaks. ◀

1. Press the two release catches at the front while simultaneously turning them to the left to remove the bulb holder
2. Remove and replace the bulb.



When cleaning the headlamps, please observe the following:

- ▷ Do not clean by wiping with a dry cloth (scratches). Never use abrasives or strong solvents to clean the covers
- ▷ Remove dirt and contamination (such as insects) by soaking with BMW Car Shampoo and then rinsing with plenty of water
- ▷ Always use a deicer spray to remove accumulated ice and snow – never use a scraper. ◀

Xenon lamps

The service life of these bulbs is very long and the probability of a failure is very low, provided that they are not switched on and off an unusual number of times. If one of these bulbs should nevertheless fail, it is possible to continue driving with great caution using the fog lamps, provided local traffic laws do not prohibit this.



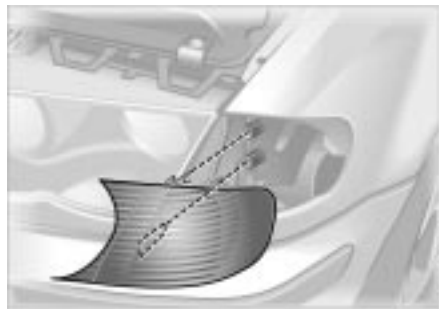
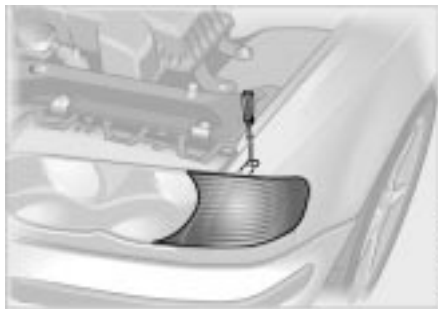
Because of the extremely high voltages involved, any work on the lighting system should be carried out by technically-qualified personnel only. Otherwise, there is a risk of fatal injury. ◀



Parking lamps

Engine compartment, left side:

1. Turn the bulb holder to the left (arrow) to remove
 2. Remove and replace the bulb.
- 5 watt bulb



Turn signal, front

21 watt bulb

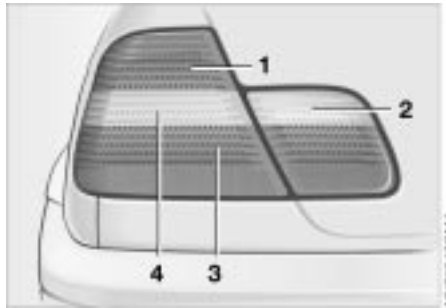
1. Extend a screwdriver through the upper opening and loosen the screw, continuing until you can extract the bulb by removing it from the front.
2. Disconnect the plug
3. Apply gentle pressure and turn the bulb toward the word "AUF" (refer to the marking on the housing), then remove it for replacement
4. Connect the plug

5. Align the lamp assembly's two ridges and the centering pin with the guides on the vehicle when installing
6. Slide in the lamp, applying gentle pressure to seat it firmly
7. Tighten the screw.

Side turn signals

5 watt bulb

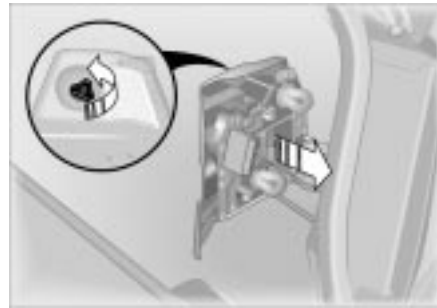
1. Use finger pressure against the rear end of the lens (arrow) to press it forward for removal
2. Apply gentle pressure to the bulb while turning it to the left to remove.



Tail lamps

Bulbs: 21 watt

- | | |
|----------------|--------|
| 1 Brake lamps | red |
| 2 Backup lamps | white |
| 3 Tail lamp | red |
| 4 Turn signal | yellow |



Right luggage compartment opening:

Bulbs in the fender:

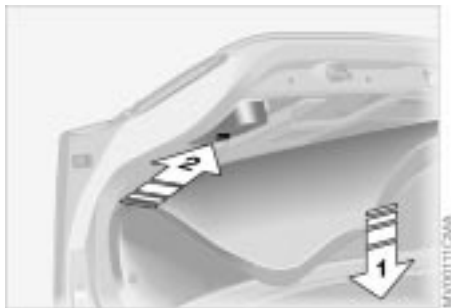
All of the bulbs are integrated in a central bulb holder.

1. Unscrew the bulb holder (arrow in close-up view) to remove
2. Unplug the power supply plug. Set the bulb holder aside (on the luggage compartment floor, for example)
3. Applying light pressure, turn the bulb to the left. Remove and replace the bulb
4. Plug in the power supply fitting
5. Screw the bulb holder back on (arrow in close-up view).



Bulbs in the luggage compartment lid:

1. Use a screwdriver to release the two clips



2. Fold the trim panel down (1). Disengage the bulb holder (2) and remove it
3. Applying light pressure, turn the bulb to the left. Remove and replace the bulb
4. Press the bulb holder into place, continuing until you hear it engage
5. Reinstall the trim panel with the clips.



Center (high-mount) brake lamp

LED strip on the rear window.

Please contact your BMW center in case of malfunction.



License plate lamps

5 watt bulb

1. Place a screwdriver in the slot and press toward the left (arrow) to release the lens
2. Replace the bulb.

Changing a wheel



Safety precautions in the event of a flat tire or wheel change:

Stop the vehicle as far as possible from passing traffic. Park on a firm, flat, surface. Switch on the hazard warning flashers. Turn the steering wheel to the straight-ahead position and engage the steering lock. Shift into 1st or reverse (selector lever in Park with automatic transmission) and engage the parking brake.

All passengers should be outside the vehicle and well away from your immediate working area (behind a guardrail, for example).

If a warning triangle or portable hazard warning lamp is available, set it up on the roadside at an appropriate distance from the rear of the vehicle. Comply with all safety guidelines and regulations.

Change the wheel only on a level, firm surface which is not slippery. Avoid jacking the vehicle on a soft or slippery support surface (snow, ice, loose gravel, etc.), as either the vehicle or the jack could slip sideways.

Position the jack on a firm support surface.

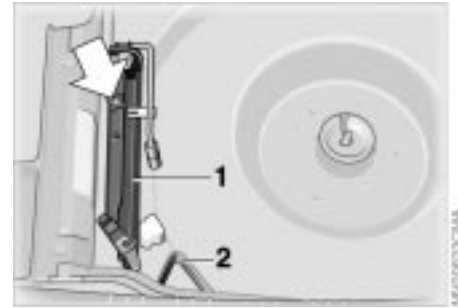
Do not place wooden blocks or similar objects under the jack. They could prevent the jack from extending to its full height and reduce its support capacity.

Do not lie under the vehicle or start the engine when the vehicle is supported by the jack – risk of fatal injury. ◀

Your BMW is equipped with a spare tire or a space-saver spare tire designed for temporary use in maintaining the vehicle's mobility in an emergency.



To remove the spare tire, lift the floor panel in the luggage compartment completely out, refer to page 35. ◀



What you will need

In order to avoid rattling noises later, note the position of the tools when you remove them and return them to their original position when you are done using them.

▷ Jack 1

Lift the floor panel within the luggage compartment, refer to page 35 and undo the red wingnut (arrow). When you have completed work, screw the jack all the way back down. Fold the handle back and insert it in its holder

▷ Chock 2

Located behind the jack on the wall in the luggage compartment. Loosen the wing nut to remove it

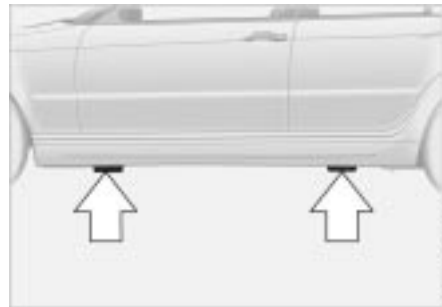
130 Changing a wheel



- ▷ Spare tire or space-saver spare tire
Located next to the jack.
Loosen the wing nut (arrow) by hand, remove the storage shelf and take the wheel out
- ▷ Lug wrench – in the onboard tool kit on the underside of the luggage compartment lid, refer to page [124](#).

Procedure

1. Read and comply with the safety precautions provided on the previous page
2. Secure the vehicle to prevent it from rolling:
Place the wedge against the rear surface of the front tire on the side opposite the side being raised. If the vehicle is parked on a downward slope, place the wedge securely in front of the tire. If the wheel must be changed on a surface with a more severe slope, take additional precautions to secure the vehicle from rolling
3. Wheels with full wheel covers*:
Reach into the ventilation openings and pull the cover off




4. Loosen the lug bolts by rotating half a turn
5. Position the jack at the jacking point closest to the flat tire (arrows) with the jack base vertically below the jacking point and the entire surface of the head of the jack will move into the righthand corner of the square recess of the jacking point (refer to the detail in the next illustration) when the jack is cranked
6. Jack the vehicle up until the wheel you are changing is raised from the ground
7. Unscrew the lug bolts and remove the wheel




8. Remove accumulations of mud or dirt from the mounting surfaces of the wheel and hub. Clean the lug bolts
9. Position the new wheel or the space saver spare tire on the hub and screw at least two lug bolts finger-tight into opposite bolt holes
10. Screw in the remaining lug bolts and screw in all the bolts in a diagonal pattern
11. Lower the jack and remove it from beneath the vehicle
12. Tighten the lug bolts securely in a diagonal pattern

13. Wheels with full wheel covers*: Place the wheel cover with the valve opening (arrow) over the valve. Use both hands to press the cover securely onto the rim
14. Check and correct the tire inflation pressure at the earliest opportunity. Vehicles with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC)/Flat Tire Monitor: After mounting the spare tire or correcting the tire inflation pressure, reactivate the system, refer to pages 78, 81.

Protect valve stems and valves from dirt using screw-on valve stem caps. Dirty valve stems frequently lead to slow pressure loss.

 Only use original BMW full wheel covers, otherwise, the trim piece may not fit securely. The full wheel cover may not be installed on the space-saver spare tire, since this could damage the cover. ◀

 The vehicle jack is designed for changing wheels only. Do not attempt to raise another vehicle model with it or to raise any load of any kind. To do so could cause accidents and personal injury. To ensure continued safety, have the tightness of the torque bolts checked with a calibrated lug wrench [torque specification: 72 lb ft (100 Nm)] at the earliest opportunity. ◀

When storing a wheel in the spare tire recess take care to avoid bending the threaded rod.

If light-alloy wheels other than original BMW light-alloy wheels have been mounted, it may be necessary to use different lug bolts for those wheels.

Replace the defective tire as soon as possible and have the new wheel/tire balanced.

Driving with the space-saver spare tire

Drive cautiously. Do not exceed a speed of 50 mph (80 km/h).

You can anticipate changes in vehicle handling such as delayed braking response, longer braking distances and sacrifices in roadholding.

The changes in handling characteristics will be even more pronounced if winter tires are mounted.



Only one space-saver spare tire may be mounted at one time. Reinstall wheels and tires of the same size and specification as soon as possible. Maintain correct tire pressures, refer to page [25](#). ◀

Safety tires*

Safety tires consist of self-supporting tires and special rims. The tire reinforcement ensures that the tire retains some residual safety in the event of pressure drop and driving remains possible to a restricted degree. The vehicle is equipped with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor, which indicate a flat tire.

Flat tire

If there is a tire failure, the red warning lamp symbol lights up. A supplementary gong is also heard. For additional information on Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor refer to pages [78](#) or [80](#).

Reduce vehicle speed carefully to under 50 mph (80 km/h), avoiding hard brake applications and steering maneuvers.

With the safety tires, you can drive another approx. 155 miles (250 km) to reach a safe parking location, a service station or the nearest BMW center. With a low vehicle load, this can also be considerably more than 155 miles (250 km).



Safety tires are only possible in conjunction with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor. ◀

If the defective wheel can not be seen as such immediately from the outside, check the tire inflation pressure at all four wheels.



Have the tires changed by your BMW center. For safety reasons, do not have a safety tire repaired. Your BMW center has the information needed for working with safety tires and is equipped with the necessary special tools. ◀





If appropriate, please consult your BMW center to reequip your vehicle from summer to winter tires – or vice versa. ◀

Battery

Battery care

The battery is maintenance-free, that is, the original electrolyte will normally last for the service life of the battery under moderate climatic conditions.

 Please consult your BMW center whenever you have any questions concerning the battery. The battery is completely maintenance-free; the following section is provided for your information only. ◀

 Never disconnect the battery when the engine is running; the ensuing voltage surge would seriously damage the vehicle's onboard electronic systems. ◀

Charging the battery

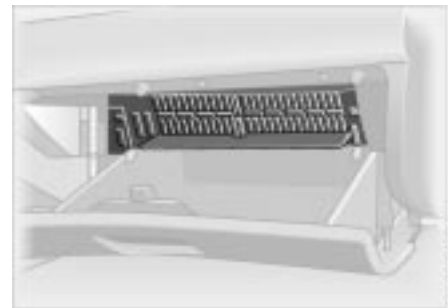
When charging the battery in the vehicle, leave the engine off at all times. Connect the charge cables to the terminals in the engine compartment, for information on terminal locations, refer to Jump-starting on page 134.




Return used batteries to a recycling point or your BMW center. Maintain the battery in an upright position for transport and storage. Secure the battery against tilting during transport. ◀

Fuses

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The fuses are located in the glove compartment behind a cover secured by two snap clips.

 Do not attempt to repair a blown fuse or replace it with a fuse having a different color or amperage rating. To do this could cause a fire in the vehicle resulting from a circuit overload. ◀

Do not use spray starter fluids to start the engine.


When your battery is discharged you can use two jumper cables to start your vehicle with power from the battery in a second vehicle. You can also use the same method to help start another vehicle. Always use jumper cables with fully insulated handles on the terminal clamps.

 Do not touch high-voltage wiring and cables on a running engine. Contact with components carrying high voltage can be harmful or fatal. Carefully observe the following instructions to avoid personal injury and/or damage to one or both vehicles. ◀

1. Ensure that the battery in the support vehicle is also rated at 12 volts. This information is provided on the top of the battery casing
2. Do not disconnect your battery from your vehicle's electrical system. Switch off all electrical accessories in both vehicles
3. Make absolutely certain that there is no contact between the bodywork of the two vehicles – short circuit hazard

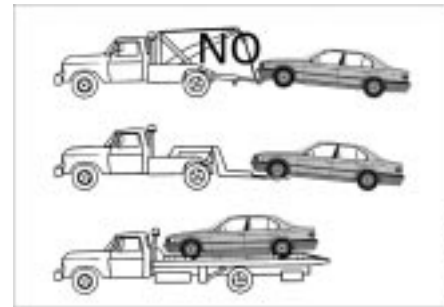


4. Start the engine on the support vehicle and allow it to run
5. Use one jumper cable (+) to connect the positive terminal of the battery in the support vehicle with the auxiliary positive terminal provided in the engine compartment of your BMW (arrow 1). The cover on this auxiliary terminal is identified by a "+" symbol. Remove by pulling the tab
6. Next, connect one end of the other jumper cable (-) to either the support vehicle's negative battery terminal or a suitable ground on its engine or bodywork. Connect the other end to the negative battery terminal or a suitable ground on the vehicle being started. There is a special nut on your BMW (2)

 Always adhere to this sequence when connecting jumper cables; failure to observe this procedure can lead to sparks at the battery terminals and pose an injury hazard. ◀

7. Start the support vehicle's engine and let it run at an increased idling speed for a few minutes. Start the engine on the vehicle needing the jump-start, and allow it to run as usual. If the first start attempt is not successful, wait a few minutes before another attempt in order to allow the discharged battery to recharge
8. Before disconnecting the jumper cables let the engines run for a few minutes
9. Then disconnect the jumper cables in reverse sequence.

Depending on the cause of the fault, have the battery recharged by your BMW center.



Tow fitting

The screw-in tow fitting is stored in the onboard tool kit; be sure that it remains in the vehicle at all times. This fitting is designed for installation in the tow sockets located at the front and rear of the vehicle, and is intended for towing on paved road surfaces only. This fitting should not be used to pull a vehicle out of deep snow, mud, sand, etc. Always comply with all applicable towing laws and regulations.

Access to tow sockets

Front:

Press out the cover panel with a screw-driver inserted in the recess at the top.

Rear:

Press out the cover panel with a screw-driver inserted in the recess at the top.



Screw the tow fitting in until it is all the way in. Failure to screw the fitting all the way in can cause thread damage.

Never attach tie-down hooks, chains, straps, or tow hooks to tie rods, control arms, or any other part of the vehicle suspension, as severe damage to these components will occur, leading to possible accidents. ◀

Towing with a commercial tow truck

- ▷ Do not tow with sling-type equipment
- ▷ Use wheel-lift or flatbed equipment
- ▷ Please comply with applicable state towing laws.



Never allow passengers to ride in a towed vehicle for any reason. Never attach tie-down hooks, chains, straps, or tow hooks to tie rods, control arms, or any other part of the vehicle suspension, as severe damage to these components will occur, leading to possible accidents. ◀

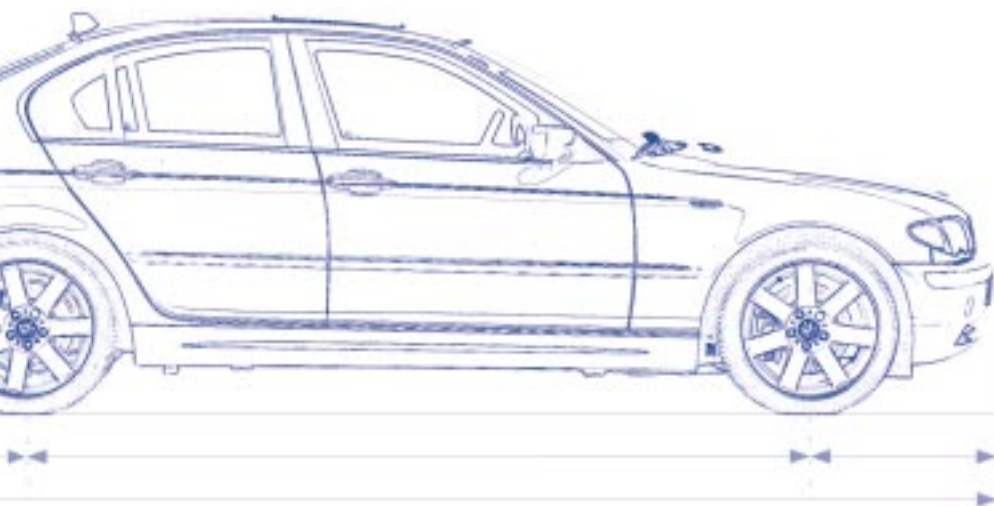
136 Towing the vehicle

BMW 325xi, 330xi: raise one of the axles for towing

1. Place the transmission in neutral
2. Switch off the engine
3. Maximum towing speed:
30 mph (50 km/h)
4. Maximum towing distance:
Max. 95 miles (150 km).



Before towing over a greater distance: if towing with the front axle raised, disconnect the rear drive shaft; if towing with the rear of the vehicle raised, disconnect the front driveshaft. Failure to observe this precaution will result in damage to the transfer case. ◀



Overview

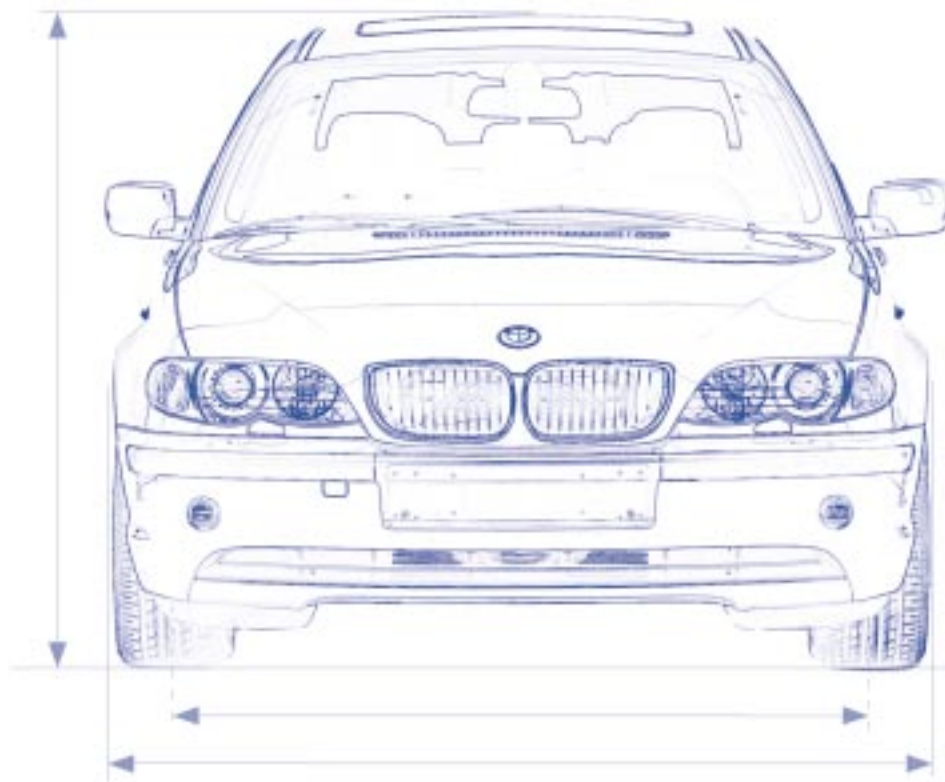
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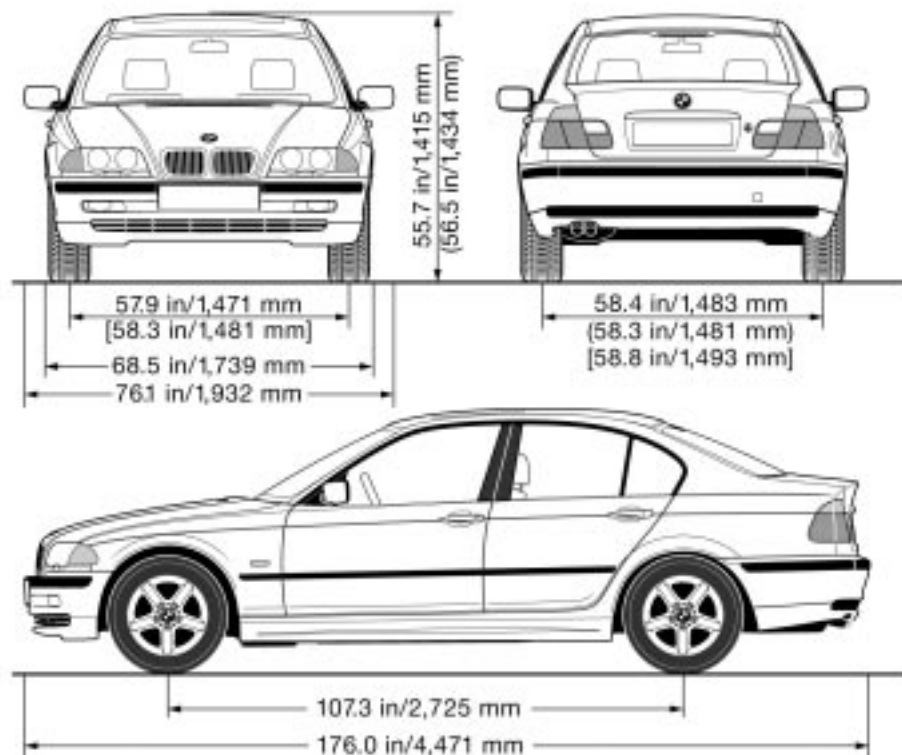
Technical data

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		BMW 320i	BMW 325i/325xi	BMW 330i/330xi
Displacement	cu in (cm ³)	132.5 (2,171)	152.2 (2,494)	181.8 (2,979)
Number of cylinders		6	6	6
Maximum power at engine speed	hp (kW) rpm	168 (124) 6,100	184 (135) 6,000	225 (165) 5,900
Max. torque at engine speed	lb-ft (Nm) rpm	155 (210) 3,500	175 (237) 3,500	214 (290) 3,500
Compression ratio	ε	10.8	10.5	10.2
Stroke	in (mm)	2.83 (72)	2.95 (75)	3.53 (89.6)
Bore	in (mm)	3.15 (80)	3.31 (84)	3.31 (84)
Fuel-injection system	Digital electronic engine-management system (DME)			

BMW 325xi, 330xi: a specially-equipped chassis dynamometer is required for stationary performance testing; never attempt to measure output at the wheels on a conventional dynamometer.



Dimensions in () apply to 325xi/330xi.

Dimensions in [] apply to 320i.

Minimum turning circle dia.: 34.4 feet/10.5 m (35.8 feet/10.9 m).

		BMW 320i	BMW 325i	BMW 325xi	BMW 330i	BMW 330xi
Curb weight (with one person, ready for operation, full tank of fuel, options not included)						
with manual transmission	lbs. (kg)	3,142 (1,425)	3,219 (1,460)	3,461 (1,570)	3,285 (1,490)	3,483 (1,580)
with automatic transmission	lbs. (kg)	3,219 (1,460)	3,307 (1,500)	3,527 (1,600)	3,362 (1,525)	3,538 (1,605)
Approved gross vehicle weight						
with manual transmission	lbs. (kg)	4,200 (1,905)	4,277 (1,940)	4,520 (2,050)	4,343 (1,970)	4,541 (2,060)
with automatic transmission	lbs. (kg)	4,277 (1,940)	4,365 (1,980)	4,586 (2,080)	4,420 (2,005)	4,597 (2,085)
Approved front axle weight	lbs. (kg)	1,973 (895)	1,984 (900)	2,183 (990)	2,006 (910)	2,161 (980)
Approved rear axle weight	lbs. (kg)	2,359 (1,070)	2,425 (1,100)	2,469 (1,120)	2,469 (1,120)	2,491 (1,130)
Approved roof load capacity	lbs. (kg)	165 (75)	165 (75)	165 (75)	165 (75)	165 (75)
Luggage compartment capacity	cu ft (l)	15.5 (440)	15.5 (440)	15.5 (440)	15.5 (440)	15.5 (440)

Never exceed either the approved axle weights or the approved gross vehicle weight.

			Notes
Fuel tank	gal. (liters)	approx. 16.6 (approx. 63)	Fuel specification, refer to
Reserve	gal. (liters)	approx. 2.1 (approx. 8)	page 23
Windshield/ Headlamp washer reservoir	quarts (liters)	approx. 5.6 (approx. 5.3)	Specifications, refer to page 114
Cooling system including heater circuit	quarts (liters)	approx. 8.9 (approx. 8.4)	Specifications, refer to page 117
Engine oil and filter change	quarts (liters)	320i, 325i, 330i: approx. 6.9 (approx. 6.5) 325xi, 330xi: approx. 7.9 (approx. 7.5)	BMW High Performance Synthetic Oil Specifications, refer to page 115
Manual and automatic transmission, transfer box and differential.		–	Lifetime lubricant, no oil change required

A B C

P Q R

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Refueling

BMW recommends 

To ensure that you always have convenient access to all essential information when you stop for fuel, we recommend that you take the time to fill out the adjoining chart by entering the data that apply to your vehicle.
Consult the index for individual specifications.

Fuel

Designation	
-------------	--

Please enter your preferred fuel here.

Engine oil

Quality	
---------	--

The oil volume between the two marks on the dipstick corresponds to 1.1 US quarts (1 liter).

Tire inflation pressures	Summer tires		Winter tires	
	Front	Rear	Front	Rear
Up to 4 persons				
5 persons or 4 plus luggage				

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