

**Haynes**
shows you how

BMW 3-Series and Z4 (99-05) Includes 2006 325ci/330ci Coupe and Convertible models Haynes Online Manual.

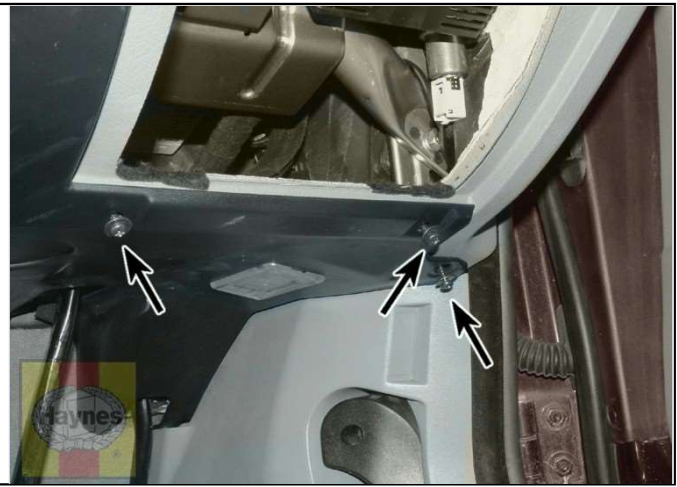
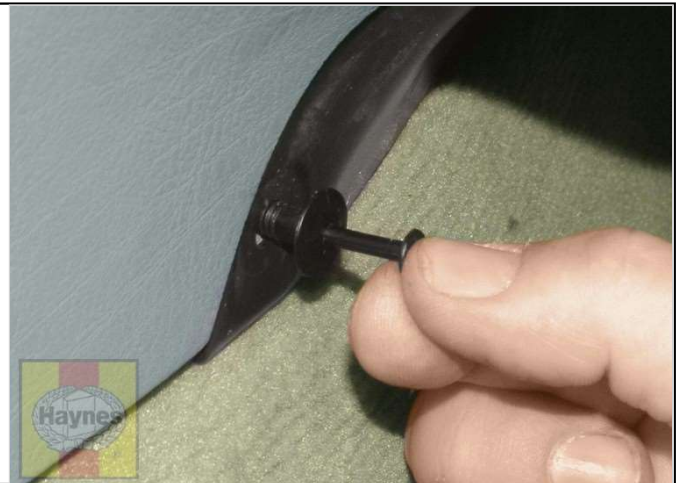
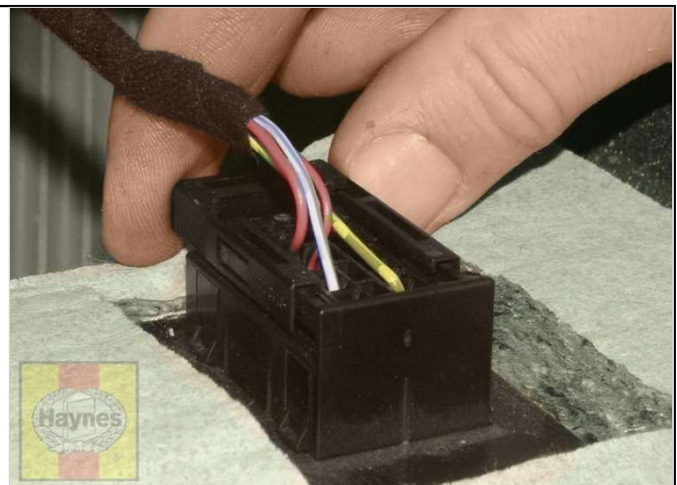
29 Instrument panel assembly - removal and installation

Warning:

The models covered by this manual are equipped with Supplemental Restraint systems (SRS), more commonly known as airbags. Always disarm the airbag system before working in the vicinity of any airbag system component to avoid the possibility of accidental deployment of the airbag, which could cause personal injury (see Chapter 12) . Do not use a memory saving device to preserve the ECM's memory when working on or near airbag system components.

Removal

- 1 Remove the center console (see [Section 28](#)).
- 2 Remove the gear shift knob from the lever by pulling straight up, grasping the shift knob firmly.
- 3 Remove the gear lever surround trim. Note their installed locations, and disconnect any wiring connectors as the trim is removed.
- 4 Remove the steering column combination switch (see [Chapter 12, Section 4](#)).
- 5 Remove both gloveboxes (see [Section 27](#)).
- 6 Remove the three screws, one expanding plastic rivet, and one plastic nut, then remove the panel from above the pedals. As the panel is removed, slide back the locking element and remove the OBD socket from the panel. Disconnect the light wiring connector at the same time (see [illustrations](#)) .

29.6a Remove the three screws . . .**29.6b . . . and the plastic expansion rivet****29.6c Slide back the locking element and remove the OBD socket from the panel**

7 Using a wooden or plastic spatula, starting from the outside edges, carefully pry the decorative trim strips from the passenger's and driver's side of the instrument panel, and remove the strip from the center of the instrument panel (see illustrations) .

29.7a Use a piece of cardboard to protect the instrument panel when prying up the end of the decorative strip



29.7b The decorative strips are retained by 'push-in' clips



29.7c Remove the strip from the center of the instrument panel



8 Remove the instrument cluster assembly (see [Chapter 12](#)).

9 Open the storage compartment lid below the heater controls. Carefully pry out the lower edge of the compartment, starting at the corner, and withdraw it from the instrument panel (see illustration) . If you are removing the glasses storage compartment, press the roof of the compartment up slightly, pull it approximately 2 mm to the rear, then press the left and right-hand side of the lid downwards slightly, and pull it from the instrument panel.

29.9 Pry out the lower edge and pull the storage compartment from the instrument panel



10 Remove the four screws and remove the storage compartment carrier from the instrument panel (see illustration) . Note their installed positions, and disconnect the wiring connectors as the unit is withdrawn.

29.10 Remove the four screws and withdraw the storage compartment carrier



11 Remove both A-pillar trims (see [Section 27](#)).

12 Remove the light switch from the instrument panel (see [Chapter 12, Section 4](#)).

13 Remove the heater control panel (see [Chapter 3](#)).

14 Remove the audio unit from the instrument panel (see [Chapter 12](#)).

15 Remove the passenger airbag unit (see [Chapter 12](#)).

16 On the passenger's side, remove the screw in the decorative trim recess (see illustration) .

29.16 Remove the screw in the decorative trim recess



17 Remove the retaining screw(s) and pull the driver's side air vent from the instrument panel (see illustration) .

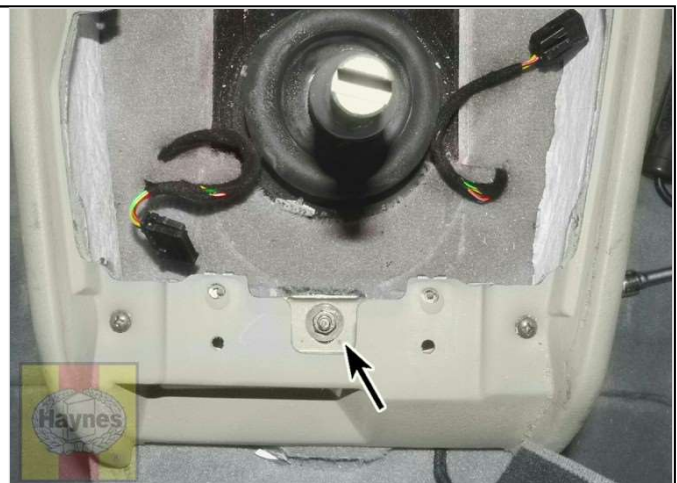
29.17 Driver's side air vent screw



18 The passenger side end of the instrument panel may be secured by a screw or an expanding plastic rivet. Remove the screw or lever out the rivet.

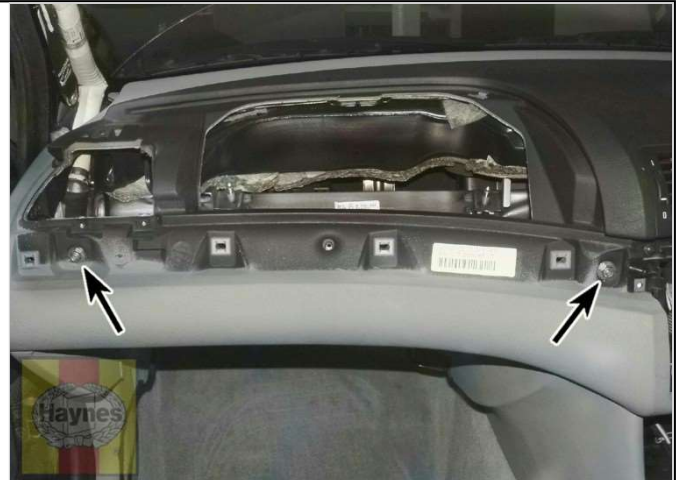
19 Remove the nut securing the instrument panel to the rear of the gear lever (see illustration) .

29.19 Remove the nut at the rear of the gear lever

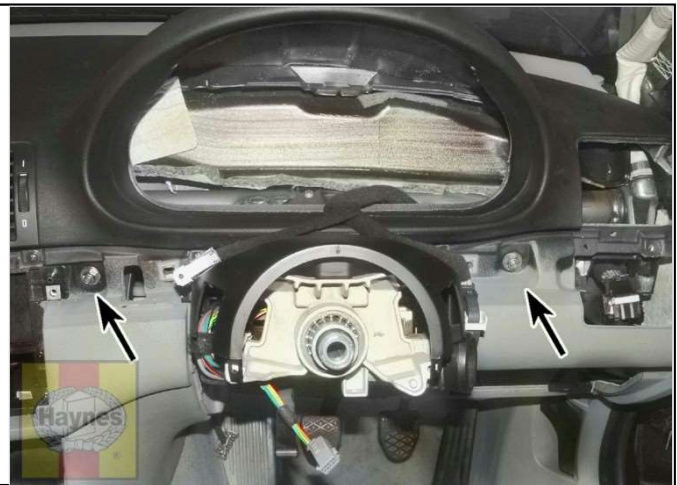


20 Move the front seats as far back as possible, remove the instrument panel mounting nuts, and with the help of an assistant, pull the instrument panel from the **firewall** (see illustrations) . Disconnect the center air vent cable from the side of the heater box where applicable. Note their fitted locations, and disconnect any wiring connectors as the instrument panel is withdrawn.

29.20a Remove the two nuts on the passenger side . . .



29.20b . . . and the two nuts on the driver's side



Installation

21 Installation is the reverse of the removal procedure, noting the following points:

- A. Maneuver the instrument panel into position and, using the labels stuck on during removal, ensure that the wiring is correctly routed and securely retained by its instrument panel clips.
- B. Clip the instrument panel back into position, ensure the center locating lug at the front edge of the instrument panel engages correctly, making sure all the wiring connectors are fed through their respective apertures, then install all the instrument panel fasteners, and tighten them securely.
- C. On completion, reconnect the battery and check that all the electrical components and switches function correctly.