



Haynes
shows you how

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

3 Fuel tank - removal and installation

Warning:

Refer to the **Warning** in Section 1 before proceeding.

M52TU and M54 engines

Removal

1 Relieve the fuel system pressure (see [Section 8](#)), then disconnect the cable from the negative battery terminal (see [Chapter 5, Section 1](#)).

2 Before removing the fuel tank, it is best that the level of fuel be near empty. There is no drain plug for the gas tank. If necessary, siphon the fuel into an approved fuel container. **Warning:** *Do not start the siphoning action by mouth. Use a siphoning kit (available at most auto parts stores)* .

3 Raise the rear of the vehicle and support it securely on jackstands.

4 Detach the parking brake cables from the parking brake lever as described in [Chapter 9](#) .

5 Remove the driveshaft as described in [Chapter 8](#) .

6 Working under the vehicle, pry up the center pins and remove the plastic expansion rivets, then remove the trim panel from under the left-hand side of the tank, and the sill trim (**see illustrations**) . Repeat this procedure on the right-hand side of the tank.

3.6a Pry up the center pins, pull out the rivets . . .



3.6b . . . and remove the trim panels from either side of the fuel tank



7 Pull the parking brake cables from the guide tubes (see illustration) .

3.7 Pull the parking brake cables from the guide tubes



8 Mark the fuel supply and return hoses to aid reinstallation, then loosen the clamps and disconnect them (see illustration) . Be prepared for fuel spillage, and clamp or plug the open ends of the hoses and lines to prevent dirt entry and further fuel spillage.

3.8 Disconnect the fuel supply and return hoses



9 Loosen the hose clamp, then disconnect the fuel filler hose from the tank neck (see illustration) .

3.9 Loosen the clamp and disconnect the fuel filler hose



10 Support the fuel tank using a jack and a block of wood.

11 Remove the retaining bolt in the center-rear of the tank, and the bolts securing the tank retaining straps (see illustration) .

3.11 Remove the fuel tank center bolt



12 Lower the tank slightly and disconnect the wiring connector(s) after noting their installed positions.

13 Release the clamp and disconnect the breather hose from the tank (see illustration) . Lower the tank, and maneuver it from under the vehicle.

3.13 Cut the clamp and disconnect the tank breather pipe (replace the clamp with a screw-type clamp upon installation)



Installation

14 Installation is a reversal of removal. Note that once the tank is installed, at least 1-1/3 gallons of fuel must be added to allow the fuel system to function correctly.

M56 engines

Removal

15 Proceed as described in Steps 1 to 3.

16 Remove the bottom portion of the rear seat (see [Chapter 11](#)).

17 Move the floor trim and insulation away from the seal cover and fasteners.

18 Remove the seal cover fasteners and cover.

19 Disconnect the electrical connector from the fuel tank by turning it counterclockwise.

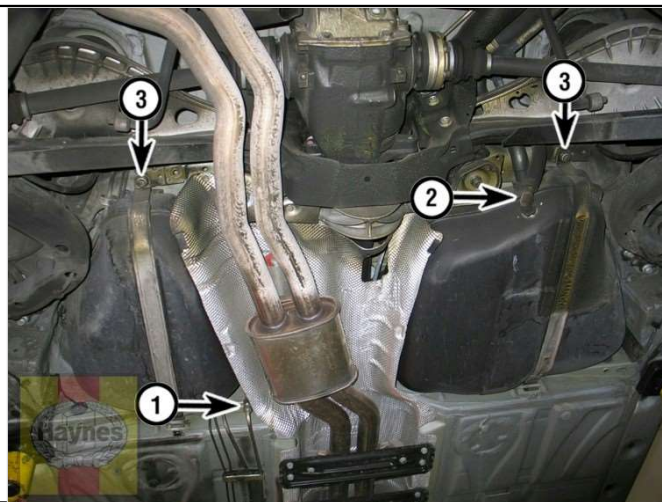
20 Remove the rear differential (see [Chapter 8](#)).

21 Remove the wheel well cover from the right-rear wheel.

22 Detach the feed line using a flare nut wrench on the line fitting (see illustration) .

3.22 Fuel tank details for M56 engine models:

- 1) Fuel feed line fitting
- 2) Fuel tank vent line
- 3) Fuel tank retaining strap bolts



23 Detach the vent line from the fuel tank (see illustration 3.22) .

24 Detach the fuel filler pipe and the fueling vent line.

25 Support the fuel tank using a jack and a block of wood.

26 Remove the bolts securing the tank retaining straps (see illustration 3.22) and carefully lower the tank.

Installation

27 Installation is a reversal of removal. Note that once the tank is installed, at least 1-1/3 gallons of fuel must be added to allow the fuel system to function correctly.

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