

BMW 3-Series (92-98) & Z3 (96-98) Haynes Online Manual

About this website

Its purpose

The purpose of this website is to help you get the best value from your vehicle. It can do so in several ways. It can help you decide what work must be done, even if you choose to have it done by a dealer service department or a repair shop; it provides information and procedures for routine maintenance and servicing; and it offers diagnostic and repair procedures to follow when trouble occurs.

We hope you use the website to do the work yourself. For many simpler jobs, doing it yourself may be quicker than arranging an appointment to get the vehicle into a shop and making the trips to leave it and pick it up. More importantly, a lot of money can be saved by avoiding the expense the shop must pass on to you to cover its labor and overhead costs. An added benefit is the sense of satisfaction and accomplishment that you feel after doing the job yourself.

Using the website

The website is divided into Chapters, visible at the left side of the screen. Clicking on a Chapter will reveal a list of Sections within that Chapter. Clicking again on the Chapter will 'retract' the Section list for that Chapter. Clicking on a Section from the Table of Contents will take you to that Section, where the information is divided into consecutively numbered paragraphs, or Steps. This Chapter-Section-Step organization matches the printed Haynes manual exactly.

Illustrations

Illustrations are provided to assist in carrying out the procedure described. Illustrations can be enlarged by clicking on them. To return to normal display, simply click the "X" in the upper right corner of the illustration, or click anywhere outside the illustration box. It is also possible to advance through enlarged versions of illustrations in a particular procedure by enlarging the first illustration, then pressing the forward arrow key on your keyboard, which will display the next photo in the sequence, and so on.

Illustration reference

The reference numbers used in illustration captions pinpoint the pertinent Section and the Step within that Section. That is, illustration 3.2 means the illustration refers to Section 3 and Step (or paragraph) 2 within that Section.

Reference links

Procedures, once described in the text, are not normally repeated. Links to other Chapters or Sections are provided in the text to direct you to the related Chapters and Sections. For example: see Chapter 1, Section 4. To return to the previous Section, click the "back" arrow on your browser.

Keyword search

You can enter keywords in the search box at the upper left of the screen, which will find all occurrences of the entered words anywhere on the site. The results of the search will display to the right, listed under each Section they occur in (shown as a red link). Clicking the Section links will bring you to the Sections where the keywords are found. The keywords will be highlighted in yellow. Note that the order in which the Sections display in the search results is determined by the number of instances of the keyword appearing in that Section. So the Section that has the most instances for a particular keyword will appear at the top of the search results.

Glossary

Many terms that may be unfamiliar to the novice are underlined in italic blue type, such as: <u>balljoints</u>. Clicking on any of these terms will display a brief description of that term.

Videos

Videos are provided with certain common procedures to familiarize the do-it-yourselfer with the general nature of the task at hand. Video viewing areas appear as black boxes with right-facing white arrows in the center. To play a video, simply click anywhere in the box. Hovering your cursor over the video box will display a task bar that will allow you to pause, enlarge and adjust the volume of the video.

Warning:

Videos are provided for familiarization purposes only and are not intended to be used as instructions for carrying out a job. Be sure to read all instructions thoroughly. Where there are differences between the written instructions and the video, always assume the written instructions are correct.

Printing

You can print individual Sections from the site. To print a Section, click on the small printer icon at the upper left, just below the site header. This is the only way to print from the site – printing through your browser is not possible.

Reference to the side of the vehicle

References to the left or right side of the vehicle assume you are sitting in the driver's seat, facing forward.

Disclaimer

Even though we have prepared this website with extreme care, neither the publisher nor the author can accept responsibility for any errors in, or omissions from, the information given.

Note:

A Note provides information necessary to properly complete a procedure or information which will make the procedure easier to understand.

Caution:

A Caution provides a special procedure or special steps which must be taken while completing the procedure where the Caution is found. Not heeding a Caution can result in damage to the assembly being worked on.

Warning:

A Warning provides a special procedure or special steps which must be taken while completing the procedure where the Warning is found. Not heeding a Warning can result in personal injury.

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