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

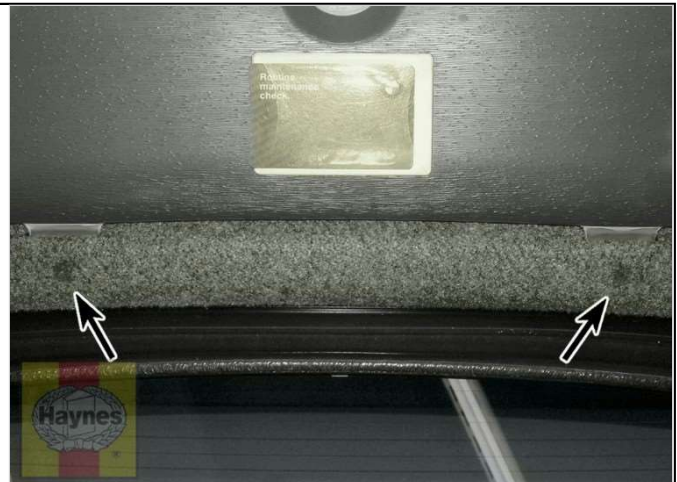
## 16 Trunk lid/tailgate and support struts - removal and installation

### Removal

#### Trunk lid

1 Open the trunk, remove the toolbox lid retaining screw and the toolbox hinge screws (see illustration) . Remove the toolbox from the trunk trim panel.

##### 16.1 Remove the toolbox hinge screws



2 Pry up the center pins and remove the plastic expanding rivets, then remove the trim panel from the trunk lid.

3 Support the trunk lid in the open position and unclip the support struts (refer to Step 8).

4 Disconnect the wiring connectors from the number plate lights, luggage compartment light switch and central locking servo (as applicable) and tie a piece of string to the end of the wiring. Noting the correct routing of the wiring harness, release the harness rubber grommets from the trunk lid and withdraw the wiring. When the end of the wiring appears, untie the string and leave it in position in the trunk lid; it can then be used on installation to draw the wiring into position.

5 Draw around the outline of each hinge with a suitable marker pen then loosen and remove the hinge retaining bolts and remove the trunk lid from the vehicle (see illustration) .

### 16.5 Make alignment marks around the hinges



6 Inspect the hinges for signs of wear or damage and replace if necessary; the hinges are secured to the vehicle by bolts.

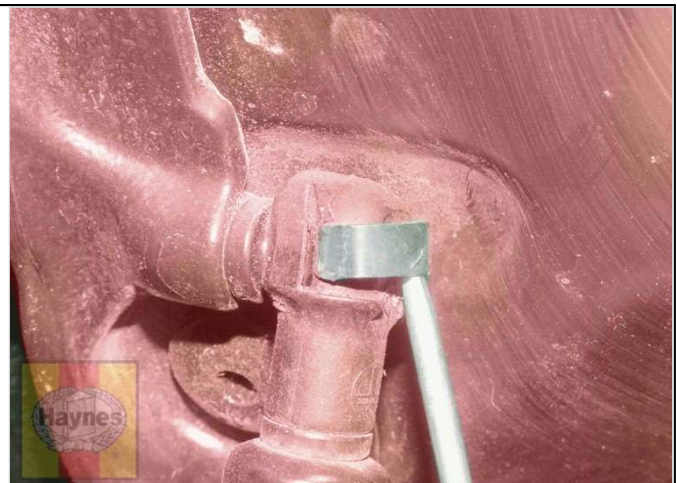
## Tailgate

7 Removal and installation of the tailgate requires special BMW body tools, and the experience to use them. Consequently, we recommend that this task be entrusted to a BMW dealer or suitably-equipped specialist.

## Support struts

8 Support the trunk lid/tailgate in the open position. Using a small flat-bladed screwdriver raise the spring clip, and pull the support strut off its upper mounting (see illustration) . Repeat the procedure on the lower strut mounting and remove the strut from the vehicle.

### 16.8 Pry out the strut retaining clip



## Installation

### Trunk lid

9 Installation is the reverse of removal, aligning the hinges with the marks made before removal.

**10** On completion, close the Trunk lid and check its alignment with the surrounding panels. If necessary slight adjustment can be made by loosening the retaining bolts and repositioning the trunk lid on its hinges. If the paint work around the hinges has been damaged, paint the affected area with a suitable touch-in brush to prevent corrosion.

## Support struts

**11** Installation is a reverse of the removal procedure, ensuring that the strut is securely retained by its retaining clips.

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