

**Haynes**  
*shows you how*

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

## 26 Automatic transmission fluid and filter replacement

03:27

**Caution:**

This video is for familiarization purposes only. Read below for specific information on your vehicle.

**Note:**

A new drain plug gasket will be required on installation.

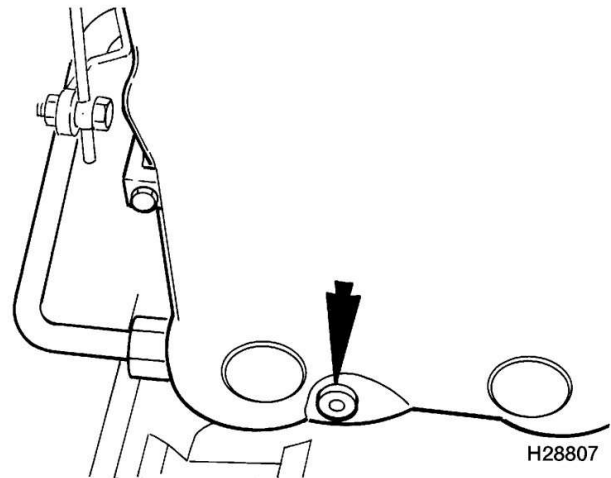
1 The transmission fluid should be drained with the transmission at operating temperature. If the car has just been driven at least 10 miles, the transmission can be considered warm.

2 Immediately after driving the car, park it on a level surface, apply the parking. If desired, jack up the car and support on axle stands to improve access, but make sure that the car is level.

3 Working under the car, loosen the transmission fluid pan drain plug about half a turn (see illustration). Position a draining container under the drain plug, then remove the plug completely. If possible, try to keep the

plug pressed into the fluid pan while unscrewing it by hand the last couple of turns. Measure the amount of fluid drained.

**26.3 Automatic transmission fluid drain plug (5-speed transmission shown, others similar)**



4 Recover the gasket from the drain plug.

5 Install the drain plug, using a new gasket and tighten it to the torque listed in [this Chapter's Specifications](#).

6 Remove all the mounting fasteners for the transmission oil pan.

7 Remove the pan gasket and clean the mating surfaces on the oil pan and transmission.

8 Remove the mounting fasteners (if equipped) for the transmission oil filter and remove it. **Note :** *Use a seal puller to remove the seal from the transmission if it does not come out with the filter.*

9 Install a new filter along with new seals.

10 Clean the inside of the pan and the magnet(s) (if equipped). **Caution:** *Only use lint-free rags or solvent with compressed air when cleaning the oil pan and magnet(s).*

11 Using a new pan gasket, install the oil pan and tighten the fasteners to the torque listed in [this Chapter's Specifications](#).

12 Fill the transmission with the specified type of fluid - fill the transmission through the filler/level plug hole (see [Section 2](#)). Start with the amount recorded in Step 3, so as not to overfill the transmission.

13 Check the fluid level, keeping in mind that the new fluid will not yet be at operating temperature (see [Section 2](#)).

14 With the parking brake applied and the transmission selector lever in position P, start the engine and run it at idle for a few minutes to warm up the new fluid; recheck the fluid level. Note that it may be necessary to drain off a little fluid once the new fluid has reached operating temperature.

