



Haynes
shows you how

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

9 Brake pad check

Warning:

The dust created by the brake system is harmful to your health. Never blow it out with compressed air and don't inhale any of it. An approved filtering mask should be worn when working on the brakes. Do not, under any circumstances, use petroleum-based solvents to clean brake parts. Use brake system cleaner only!

1 Loosen the wheel lug bolts. Jack up the car and support it securely on jackstands. Remove the wheels.

2 For a comprehensive check, the brake pads should be removed and cleaned. The condition of the calipers can then also be checked, and the condition of the brake discs can be fully examined on both sides. Refer to [Chapter 9](#) for further information.

3 Look through the cutout in each caliper and measure the amount of friction material remaining on the brake pads (see illustration) .

9.3 For a quick check, the thickness of the friction material of the brake pad can be measured through the aperture in the caliper body



4 If any front or rear pad's friction material is worn to the specified thickness or less, *all four front or rear pads must be replaced as a set.*