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

17 Engine/transmission mounts - inspection and replacement

Inspection

- 1 Two engine mounts are used, one on either side of the engine.
- 2 If improved access is required, raise the front of the vehicle and support it securely on axle stands.
- 3 Check the mounting rubber to see if it is cracked, hardened or separated from the metal at any point. Replace the mount if any such damage or deterioration is evident.
- 4 Check that all the mounting fasteners are securely tightened.
- 5 Using a large screwdriver or a crowbar, check for wear in the mount by carefully levering against it to check for free play. Where this is not possible, enlist the aid of an assistant to move the engine/transmission back and forth, or from side to side, while you observe the mount. While some free-play is to be expected, even from new components, excessive wear should be obvious. If excessive free-play is found, check first that the fasteners are correctly secured, then replace any worn components as required.

Replacement

- 6 Support the engine, either using a hoist and lifting tackle connected to the engine lifting brackets (refer to *Engine - removal and installation* in Part C of this Chapter), or by positioning a jack and interposed block of wood under the oil pan. Ensure that the engine is adequately supported before proceeding.
- 7 Unbolt the power steering fluid reservoir from the left-hand engine mounting bracket, and disconnect the ground lead(s) from the mounting bracket(s).
- 8 Unscrew the nuts securing the left- and right-hand engine mounting brackets to the mount rubbers, then unbolt the mounting brackets from the cylinder block, and remove the mounts.
- 9 Unscrew the nuts securing the mounts to the body, then withdraw the mounts. Recover the metal protector plates from the mounts if they are loose.

10 Installation is a reversal of removal, but ensure that the metal protector plates are in position on the mounts, and securely tighten all fixings.