



Haynes
shows you how

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

12 Driveaxle boots - replacement

- 1 Remove the driveaxle (see [Section 11](#)).
- 2 Clean the driveaxle and mount it in a vise.
- 3 Tap off the sealing cover from the end of the inner constant velocity (CV) joint (see illustration) .

12.3 Carefully tap the sealing cover off the inner end of the joint



- 4 Release the two inner joint boot retaining clips and free the boot and dust cover from the joint (see illustration) .

12.4 Release the boot retaining clamps and slide the boot down the shaft



5 Scoop out excess grease and remove the inner joint snap-ring from the end of the driveaxle (see illustration)

12.5 Removing the inner joint snap-ring from the driveaxle



6 Securely support the joint inner member and tap the driveaxle out of position using a hammer and suitable drift (see illustration) . If the joint is a tight fit, a suitable puller will be required to draw off the joint. Do not disassemble the inner joint.

12.6 Tap the axleshaft out of the CV joint . .



7 With the joint removed, slide the inner boot and dust cover off from the end of the driveaxle (see illustration)

12.7 . . . and slide off the boot



8 Release the outer joint boot retaining clips then slide the boot along the shaft and remove it.

9 Thoroughly clean the constant velocity joints using solvent, then dry them thoroughly. Carry out a visual inspection as follows.

10 Move the inner splined driving member from side to side to expose each ball in turn at the top of its track. Examine the balls for cracks, flat spots or signs of surface pitting.

11 Inspect the ball tracks on the inner and outer members. If the tracks have widened, the balls will no longer be a tight fit. At the same time check the ball cage windows for wear or cracking between the windows.

12 If on inspection any of the constant velocity joint components are found to be worn or damaged, it must be replaced. The inner joint is available separately but if the outer joint is worn it will be necessary to replace the complete joint and driveaxle assembly. If the joints are in satisfactory condition, obtain new boot repair kits which contain boots, retaining clamps, an inner constant velocity joint snap-ring and the correct type and quantity of grease required.

13 Tape over the splines on the end of the driveaxle.

14 Slide the new outer boot onto the end of the driveaxle.

15 Pack the outer joint with the specified type of grease. Work the grease well into the bearing tracks while twisting the joint, and fill the rubber boot with any excess.

16 Ease the boot over the joint and ensure that the boot lips are correctly located on both the driveaxle and constant velocity joint. Lift the outer sealing lip of the boot to equalize air pressure within the boot.

17 Install the large metal retaining clamp on the boot. Pull the retaining clamp tight then bend it back to secure it in position and cut off any excess clamp. Secure the small retaining clamp using the same procedure.

18 Engage the new inner boot with its dust cover and slide the assembly onto the driveaxle.

19 Remove the tape from the driveaxle splines and install the inner constant velocity joint. Press the joint fully onto the shaft and secure it in position with a new snap-ring.

20 Work the grease supplied fully into the inner joint and fill the boot with any excess (see illustrations) .

12.20a Fill the inner joint with the grease supplied . . .



12.20b . . . and work it into the bearing tracks



21 Slide the inner boot into position and press the dust cover onto the joint, making sure the retaining bolt holes are correctly aligned. Lift the outer sealing lip of the boot, to equalize air pressure within the boot, and secure it in position with the retaining clips (see paragraph 17).

22 Apply a smear of suitable sealant (the manufacturer recommends BMW sealing gel) and press the new sealing cover fully onto the end of the inner joint.

23 Check that both constant velocity joints are free to move easily then install the driveaxle (see [Section 11](#)).