

**Haynes**  
shows you how

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

## 24 Brake fluid replacement

03:18

### Caution:

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

### Warning:

Brake hydraulic fluid can harm your eyes and damage painted surfaces, so use extreme caution when handling and pouring it. Do not use fluid that has been standing open for some time, as it absorbs moisture from the air. Excess moisture can cause a dangerous loss of braking effectiveness.

1 The procedure is similar to bleeding the hydraulic system as described in [Chapter 9](#) , except that the brake fluid in the reservoir should be replaced with new fluid before you begin. A clean poultry baster (or equivalent) works well for this. **Warning:** *If a baster is used, never again use it for food preparation.*

2 Working as described in [Chapter 9](#) , open the first bleed screw in the sequence and pump the brake pedal gently until nearly all the old fluid has been emptied from the master cylinder reservoir.

**3** Top-up to the **MAX** level with new fluid, and continue pumping until only the new fluid remains in the reservoir, and new fluid can be seen emerging from the bleed screw. Tighten the screw, and top the reservoir level up to the **MAX** level again.

**4** Work through all remaining bleed screws in sequence until new fluid can be seen at all of them. Be careful to keep the master cylinder reservoir topped-up to above the **MIN** level at all times, or air may enter the system and increase the length of the task.

**5** When the operation is complete, check that all bleed screws are securely tightened (be careful not to over-tighten them) and re-install the dust caps. Wash off all traces of fluid with water and recheck the reservoir fluid level.

**6** Check the operation of the brakes before taking the car on the road.

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