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shows you how

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

## 12 Door trim panel - removal and installation

### 3-Series models

#### Removal

##### Front door

1 Disconnect the battery negative terminal then open the door. **Caution:** *If the radio in your vehicle is equipped with an anti-theft system, make sure you have the correct activation code before disconnecting the battery.*

2 On models with electric mirrors, remove the mirror switch (driver's door only) (see [Chapter 12](#) ).

3 On models with manual windows, unclip the trim cover from the regulator handle then remove the screw and remove the handle and spacer (see illustrations) .

**12.3a On models with manual windows, pry off the trim cover . . .**



**12.3b . . . then remove the retaining screw**

. . .

**12.3c . . . and remove the regulator handle and spacer from the door**

4 Unscrew and pull off the door lock inner operating knob from its rod (see illustration) .

**12.4 Removing the lock inner operating knob**

5 Lift the door lock inner handle and unclip the trim cover from around the handle by sliding it forwards (see illustration) .



## 12.5 Removing the inner handle trim cover



6 Unclip the trim caps from the door handle and loosen and remove the handle screws (see illustrations) .

### 12.6a Pry out the trim caps (arrows) . . .



### 12.6b . . . then remove the retaining screws



7 Release the door trim panel clips, carefully levering between the panel and door with a flat-bladed screwdriver or a trim panel tool. Work around the outside of the panel, and when all the studs are released, ease the panel away from the door, disconnecting the wiring connector from the speaker as it becomes accessible (see illustrations) .

**12.7a Carefully unclip the trim panel and remove it from the door . . .**



**12.7b . . . then disconnect the wiring from the speakers**



## Rear door

8 Disconnect the battery negative terminal then remove the trim panel (see steps 3 through 7), unclipping the panel from the top first. **Caution:** *If the radio in your vehicle is equipped with an anti-theft system, make sure you have the correct activation code before disconnecting the battery.*

## Installation

9 Installation of the trim panel is the reverse of removal. Before installation, check whether any of the trim panel retaining clips were broken on removal, and replace them as necessary.

## Z3 models

10 Open the door all the way and lower the window.

11 On models with power mirrors, carefully pry the power mirror switch out of the upper front end of the door handle with a small screwdriver, unplug the switch from the electrical connector and set the switch aside (see [Section 4](#) in [Chapter 12](#) ). On models without power mirrors, pry out the trim plate.

12 Remove the screw from the forward end of the door handle (see illustration) .



**12.12 Remove the screw (arrow) from the forward end of the door handle**



**13 Slide the door latch trim plate forward (see illustration) and remove the plate.**

**12.13 Slide the door latch trim plate forward and remove the plate.**



**14 Disengage the door trim panel from the six retaining clips, one at the rear, three along the lower edge, two on the front edge (see illustration) .**

**12.14 To detach the door trim panel, disengage it from these six retaining clips (arrows)**



**15 Lift the door trim panel up and pull it off the door. Unplug the electrical connectors for the speaker and any**

**other electrical accessories.**

**16 Installation is the reverse of removal. Be sure to replace any damaged or broken trim panel clips.**

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