



Haynes
shows you how

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

24 Seats - removal and installation

3-Series models

Removal

Front seat

- 1 Slide the seat fully forwards and raise the seat cushion fully.
- 2 Loosen and remove the bolts and washers securing the rear of the seat rails to the floor (see illustration) .

24.2 Front seat rear mounting bolt (arrow)



- 3 Slide the seat fully backwards and disable the seat belt tensioner (see [Section 25](#)). **Warning:** *Failure to disable the tensioner could result in serious injury.*

- 4 On all models, remove the trim caps from the seat front mounting nuts/bolts then loosen and remove the nuts/bolts and washers (see illustration) .

24.4 Remove the rim cap to gain access to the front seat front mountings



5 On sedan models, unscrew the mounting bolt and free the seat belt lower mounting from the base of the seat.

6 Lift the seat out from the vehicle, where necessary, disconnecting its wiring connectors as they become accessible.

Rear seat assembly - models with fixed rear seat

7 Pull down the rear seat armrest (where fitted) and unclip it from the seat back.

8 Pull up on the cushion to release the left- and right-hand retaining clips and remove it from the vehicle.

9 Unclip the top of the seat back then slide it upwards to release its lower retaining pins and remove it from the vehicle.

Rear seat assembly - models with folding rear seat

10 Pull up on the cushion to release the left and right-hand retaining clips and remove it from the vehicle (see illustration) .

24.10 Unclip and remove the rear seat cushion



11 Loosen and remove the bolts securing the seat belt lower mountings to the body.

12 Fold the seat backs forward and unclip the cover from the seat pivot (see illustration) .

24.12 On models with a folding rear seat, unclip the cover from the seat back pivot .

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13 Release the pivot locking clip by levering it backwards with a screwdriver and remove the seat backs from the vehicle (see illustration) .

24.13 . . . then release the retaining clip and unhook the seat pivot



Installation

Front seats

14 Installation is the reverse of removal, noting the following points.

- A. On manually adjusted seats, fit the seat retaining bolts and tighten them by hand only. Slide the seat fully forwards and then slide it back by two stops of the seat locking mechanism. Rock the seat to ensure that the seat locking mechanism is correctly engaged then tighten the mounting bolts to the specified torque.**
- B. On electrically adjusted seats, ensure that the wiring is connected and correctly routed then tighten the seat mounting bolts to the specified torque.**
- C. On sedan models tighten the seat belt mounting bolt to the specified torque.**

D. Enable the seat belt tensioner mechanism (see [Section 25](#)).

Rear seat assembly - models with fixed rear seat

15 Installation is the reverse of removal making sure the seat back lower locating pegs are correctly engaged with the body.

Rear seat assembly - models with folding rear seats

16 Installation is the reverse of removal ensuring that the seat pivot is clipped securely in position. Tighten the seat belt lower mounting bolts to the specified torque setting.

Z3 models

17 Disconnect the cable from the negative battery terminal. **Warning:** *Failure to disconnect the negative battery terminal on 1997 and later models, which use pyrotechnic seat belt tensioners that are powered at all times, is dangerous. When the battery is connected, the tensioners on these models are fully energized and capable of inflicting serious injury if accidentally deployed.*

18 Disconnect the seat belt from the seat guide and unbolt the seat belt from the side of the seat.

19 Move the seat to its rearmost position and remove the two nuts from the front ends of the seat tracks.

20 Move the seat to its full forward position and remove the two nuts from the rear ends of the seat tracks.

21 Lift up the seat slightly and unplug the electrical connectors from the underside of the seat.

22 Remove the seat.

23 On models with a mechanical-spring-type seat belt tensioner (1996 models only), disarm the tensioner (see [Section 25](#)).

24 On models with a pyrotechnic-type seat belt tensioner (1997 and later models), unplug the orange connector.

25 Installation is the reverse of removal.