



Haynes
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BMW 3-Series 320i & 320xi (12-14), 325i, 325xi, 330i & 330xi (06) & 328i & 328xi (07-14) Haynes Online Manual

3 Brake hoses and lines - replacement

Warning:

If the high-pressure hydraulic system linking the master cylinder, hydraulic unit and (where equipped) accumulator has been disturbed, then bleeding of the brakes should be entrusted to a BMW dealer or other qualified brake shop. They will have access to the special service tester which is needed to operate the ABS modulator pump and bleed the high-pressure hydraulic system safely.

Warning:

Wear eye protection when bleeding the brake system. If the fluid comes in contact with your eyes, immediately rinse them with water and seek medical attention.

Caution:

Don't allow brake fluid to come into contact with the paint as it will damage the finish.

1 About every six months, with the vehicle raised and placed securely on jackstands, the flexible hoses which connect the steel brake lines with the front and rear brake assemblies should be inspected for cracks, chafing of the outer cover, leaks, blisters and other damage. These are important and vulnerable parts of the brake system and inspection should be complete. A light and mirror will be needed for a thorough check. If a hose exhibits any of the above defects, replace it with a new one.

Flexible hoses

2 Clean all dirt away from the ends of the hose.

3 To remove a brake hose, unscrew the tube nut with a flare-nut wrench, if available, to prevent rounding-off the corners of the nut, then remove the bolt(s) or clip(s) securing the hose to the body (and any suspension components).

4 Disconnect the hose from the caliper, discarding the sealing washers on either side of the fitting.

5 Using new sealing washers, attach the new brake hose to the caliper. Tighten the banjo fitting bolt to the torque listed in this Chapter's Specifications .

6 Reverse the removal procedure to install the hose, making sure it isn't twisted.

7 Carefully check to make sure the suspension or steering components don't make contact with the hose. Have an assistant push down on the vehicle and also turn the steering wheel lock-to-lock during inspection.

8 Bleed the brake system (see [Section 2](#)). Test the brakes carefully before returning the vehicle to normal operation.

Metal brake lines

9 When replacing brake lines, be sure to use the correct parts. Don't use copper tubing for any brake system components. Purchase steel brake lines from a dealer parts department or auto parts store.

10 Prefabricated brake line, with the tube ends already flared and fittings installed, is available at auto parts stores and dealer parts departments. These lines can be bent to the proper shapes using a tubing bender.

11 When installing the new line make sure it's well supported in the brackets and has plenty of clearance between moving or hot components.

12 After installation, check the master cylinder fluid level and add fluid as necessary. Bleed the brake system as outlined in [Section 2](#) and test the brakes carefully before placing the vehicle into normal operation.