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shows you how

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

## 17 Trunk lid and support struts - removal and installation

### 3-Series models

#### Removal

##### Trunk lid

1 Open up the trunk lid and then disconnect the battery negative terminal.

2 Remove the trim caps then remove the retaining screws securing the tool kit to the trunk lid. Remove the tool kit then unclip the trim panel from the trunk lid (see illustrations) .

**17.2a Unscrew the retaining screws (arrows) and remove the tool kit**



**17.2b Remove the retaining clips (arrows) .**

..



### 17.2c . . . and remove the trim panel from the trunk lid



3 Support the trunk lid in the open position and unclip the support struts (see step 7).

4 Disconnect the wiring connectors from the license plate lights, luggage compartment light switch and central locking servo (as applicable) and tie a piece of string to the end of the wiring. Noting the correct routing of the wiring harness, release the harness rubber grommets from the trunk lid and withdraw the wiring. When the end of the wiring appears, untie the string and leave it in position in the trunk lid; it can then be used on installation to draw the wiring into position.

5 Draw around the outline of each hinge with a suitable marker pen then loosen and remove the hinge retaining bolts and remove the trunk lid from the vehicle (see illustration) .

### 17.5 Trunk lid hinge retaining bolts (arrows)



6 Inspect the hinges for signs of wear or damage and replace if necessary; the hinges are secured to the vehicle by bolts.

### Support struts

7 Support the trunk lid in the open position. Using a small flat-bladed screwdriver raise the spring clip, and pull the support strut off its upper mounting (see illustration) . Repeat the procedure on the lower strut mounting and remove the strut from the vehicle.

### 17.7 Lift the retaining clip and unclip the support strut from the hinge



## Installation

### Trunk lid

8 Installation is the reverse of removal, aligning the hinges with the marks made before removal.

9 On completion, close the trunk lid and check its alignment with the surrounding panels. If necessary slight adjustment can be made by loosening the retaining bolts and repositioning the trunk lid on its hinges. If the paint work around the hinges has been damaged, paint the affected area with a suitable touch-up brush to prevent corrosion.

### Support struts

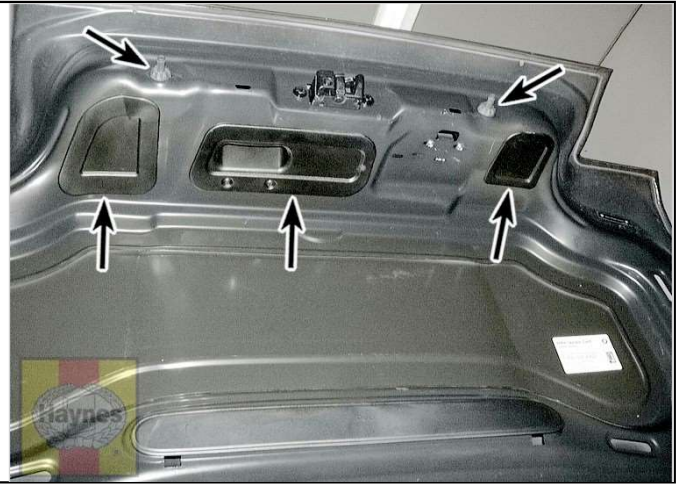
10 Installation is a reverse of the removal procedure, ensuring that the strut is securely retained by its retaining clips.

## Z3 models

11 Remove the access covers (see illustration) from the underside of the trunk lid, unplug all electrical connectors and remove the wiring harness by pulling it out through the opening in the lower left corner of the trunk lid.



**17.11 To unplug the wire harness electrical connectors, remove these three access covers (three lower arrows) from the trunk lid; to adjust the detent buffers (two upper arrows), turn them in or out**



12 Remove the retaining clips from the trunk lid support struts (see illustration 17.7) and remove the struts.

13 Mark the relationship of the hinges to the trunk lid (see illustration) and then, with an assistant supporting the trunk lid, remove the hinge bolts and remove the trunk lid.

**17.13 Be sure to mark the relationship of each hinge to the trunk lid before removing the hinge bolts (arrows)**



14 Installation is the reverse of removal. Make sure that the hinges are aligned with the marks you made during disassembly.

15 If the lock (in the trunk lid) and the striker (on the body) aren't correctly aligned, loosen the striker bolts (see illustration) , move the striker slightly and recheck the alignment between the lock and the striker. When the alignment is correct, tighten the striker bolts securely.

**17.15 To adjust the striker, loosen these bolts (arrows)**



**16** Close the trunk lid and check the gap between all four sides of the trunk lid and the adjacent bodywork panels. The gap should be even all the way around, and should be about 5 mm wide.

**17** Make sure that the trunk lid detent buffers (see illustration 17.11) are making contact with the body when the trunk lid is closed. Apply a light coat of grease on the end of each buffer and shut the trunk lid. Open the trunk and note whether there is a grease spot at the point of contact between the buffers and the body. If there isn't, turn out the buffer(s) in 1/4-turn increments until there is.

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