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

## 27 Interior trim - removal and installation

### Warning:

The models covered by this manual are equipped with Supplemental Restraint systems (SRS), more commonly known as airbags. Always disarm the airbag system before working in the vicinity of any airbag system component to avoid the possibility of accidental deployment of the airbag, which could cause personal injury (see Chapter 12) . Do not use a memory saving device to preserve the ECM's memory when working on or near airbag system components.

### Interior trim panels

1 The interior trim panels are secured using either screws or various types of trim fasteners, usually studs or clips.

2 Check that there are no other panels overlapping the one to be removed; usually there is a sequence that has to be followed that will become obvious on close inspection.

3 Remove all obvious fasteners, such as screws. If the panel will not come free, it is held by hidden clips or fasteners. These are usually situated around the edge of the panel and can be pried up to release them; note, however that they can break quite easily so new ones should be available. The best way of releasing such clips, without the correct type of tool, is to use a large flat-bladed screwdriver. Note that some panels are secured by plastic expanding rivets, where the center pin must be preyed up before the rivet can be removed. Note in many cases that the adjacent sealing strip must be preyed back to release a panel.

4 When removing a panel, never use excessive force or the panel may be damaged; always check carefully that all fasteners have been removed or released before attempting to withdraw a panel.

5 Installation is the reverse of the removal procedure; secure the fasteners by pressing them firmly into place and ensure that all disturbed components are correctly secured to prevent rattles.

### A-pillar trim

6 Due to the head-impact airbag fitted in the area, disconnect the battery as described in [Chapter 5, Section 1](#). Also see The airbag Section in [Chapter 12](#) .

7 Using a wooden or plastic flat-bladed lever, carefully pry out the trim insert from the A-pillar trim (see illustration) .

**27.7 Carefully pry the insert from the A-pillar trim**



8 Remove the three retaining Torx screws, and pull the trim to the rear, starting at the top (see illustration) .

**27.8 Remove the three screws and remove the pillar trim**



9 Installation is the reverse of the removal procedure; secure the fasteners by pressing them firmly into place and ensure that all disturbed components are correctly secured to prevent rattles.

## B-pillar trim - Sedan/Sport Wagon

10 Begin by carefully prying up the front door sill trim panel from its retaining clips (see illustration) .

**27.10 Pry up the sill trim to release the retaining clips**



11 Starting at the base of the B-pillar trim, pull the trim in towards the center of the cabin, and release it from the two lower retaining clips. Note how the lower part of the trim engages with the upper section of trim (see illustration) .

**27.11 The B-pillar lower trim has two clips which located behind the upper trim**



12 Remove the bolt securing the seat belt outer anchorage to the seat rail.

13 The lower edge of the upper trim is secured by two plastic expanding rivets. Pry up the center pins, and lever out the complete rivets (see illustration) .

**27.13 Pry out the center pin then remove the plastic rivet**



14 Feed the seat belt strap through the upper mounting, and pull the trim down and out. Note how the upper edge of the trim engages with the headlining molding (see illustration) .

**27.14 The upper edge of the B-pillar trim locates over the two lugs**



15 Installation is the reverse of the removal procedure; secure the fasteners by pressing them firmly into place and ensure that all disturbed components are correctly secured to prevent rattles.

## B-pillar trim - Coupe

16 Carefully pry up the front door sill trim panel from its retaining clips.

17 Pull the rubber weatherstrip from the door aperture adjacent to the trim then, using a clip release tool or flat-bladed screwdriver, carefully release the front edge of the rear side panel trim from its retaining clips.

18 Pry off the plastic cap, and remove the front mounting bolt from the seat belt lower anchorage rail. Slide the belt from the rail.

19 The lower edge of the upper trim is secured by two plastic expanding rivets. Pry up the center pins, lever out the complete rivets, and lower the trim from place (see illustrations) .

**27.19a The lower edge of the B-pillar trim is secured by two expanding rivets . . .**



**27.19b . . . and the upper edge locates with these clips**



## C-pillar trim - Sedan/Coupe

20 Pry out the outer edge of the courtesy light, and remove it from the pillar trim. Disconnect the wiring connector as the unit is withdrawn.

21 Pull the door weatherstrip away from the area adjacent to the pillar trim. Pull the top edge of the pillar trim away, releasing the two retaining clips, and then lift the trim away (see illustration) .

**27.21 Pull the C-pillar trim at the top and release the retaining clips**





22 Installation is the reverse of the removal procedure; secure the fasteners by pressing them firmly into place and ensure that all disturbed components are correctly secured to prevent rattles.

## C-pillar trim - Sport Wagon

23 Pull the top of the pillar trim towards the center of the cabin to release the top push-on clip (see illustration)

**27.23 Pull the top of the trim to release the clip**



24 With the top released, pull up the lower edge of the trim and remove it.

25 Installation is a reversal of removal.

## D-pillar trim - Sport Wagon

26 Open the tailgate, press the release button, and fold down the flap in the luggage compartment side panel.

27 The pillar trim is secured by two screws in the center, and two push-on clips at the top edge. Remove the screws, pull the top of the trim to release the clips, then lift the trim away (see illustration) . Disconnect the luggage compartment light as the trim is removed.

**27.27 Remove the D-pillar trim screws**



28 Installation is a reversal of removal.

## Side trim panel - Coupe

**Note:**

On models fitted with rear side airbags, due to the proximity of side airbags, disconnect the battery as described in [Chapter 5](#) , then wait two minutes before proceeding.

29 Using a plastic wedge, carefully lever away the plastic cap over the window link rod (see illustration 15.2) .

30 Lever the window link rod from the mounting on the window (see illustration 15.3) .

31 Push the seat belt to one side, and push down the center pin of the expanding rivet securing the plastic trim at the top of the seat side cushion (see illustration) . Maneuver the plastic trim over the hinged window link rod.

**27.31 Push-in the center pin, and remove the trim**



32 Remove the rear seat cushion as described in [Section 24](#) .

33 Fold the seat backrest forward and, using a screwdriver, release the retaining clip at the top and pull the seat side cushion from its location (see illustration) . Note how the fitting at the base of the trim engage with the fitting on the wheel arch.

**27.33 Release the clip and pull the seat side cushion forward**



34 Carefully pry up the front door sill trim panel from its retaining clips, and pull the rubber weatherstrip from the door aperture adjacent to the trim panel.

35 Where applicable, carefully pry out the airbag emblem from the side panel speaker grill, remove and remove the screw revealed. Remove the two screws securing the armrest (see illustration) .

**27.35 The armrest is secured by two screws**



36 The side panel is now secured by 7 push-on clips around its perimeter. Using a trim removal tool or flat-bladed screwdriver, carefully release the clips, and maneuver the panel from the vehicle. Note their fitted locations, and disconnect and wiring connectors as the panel is withdrawn.

37 Installation is the reverse of the removal procedure; secure the fasteners by pressing them firmly into place and ensure that all disturbed components are correctly secured to prevent rattles. Note that the plastic cap on the rear-side hinged window link rod has an internal lug which must locate over the groove in the window link rod socket.

## Luggage area trim panel - Sport Wagon

38 Remove the C- and D-pillar trims as described earlier in this Section.



39 Fold the rear seat forward, unclip the top section of the side trim adjacent to the door aperture, then lift the trim upwards and remove it (see illustration 24.14) .

40 Release the two clips at the front edge, and remove the seat belt reel trim cover from the top of the side panel (see illustration) .

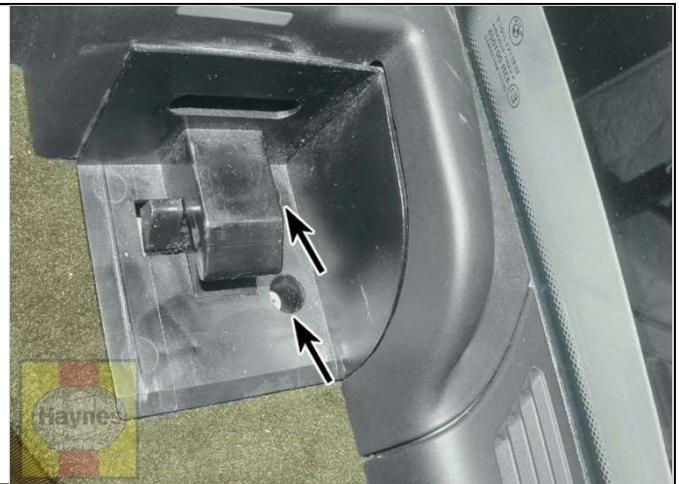
**27.40 Release the two clips and remove the trim cover**



41 Remove the bolt securing the lower seat belt mounting.

42 Remove the two retaining screws, and remove the luggage compartment roller cover mounting from the side panel (see illustration).

**27.42 Remove the two screws and remove the roller cover mounting**



43 Lever out the center pin and pry out the expanding plastic rivet, remove the screws/nut, then remove the cover from the seat belt reel (see illustration) .

**27.43 Pry out the expansion rivet, remove the screws/nuts and remove the cover from the seat belt reel**



44 Loosen the retaining screw and remove the trim from the lower edge of the rear side window (see illustration) .

**27.44 Remove the screw and remove the trim**



45 Lift the trim flap, remove the screws and remove the 'lashing eye' from the side panel (see illustration) .

**27.45 Lift the flap and remove the lashing-eye screws**



46 Carefully pry the 12V power socket from the side trim, and disconnect the wiring connectors as the socket is withdrawn.

47 Pry out the center pin and lever out the plastic expansion rivet from the lower edge of the trim panel.

48 Lever out the mounting at the top, and remove the trim panel, feeding the power socket wiring through the hole as the panel is removed.

## Glovebox

### Driver's side

49 Open the glovebox, remove the two screws and remove the glovebox (see illustration) . Disconnect any wiring connectors as the glovebox is removed.

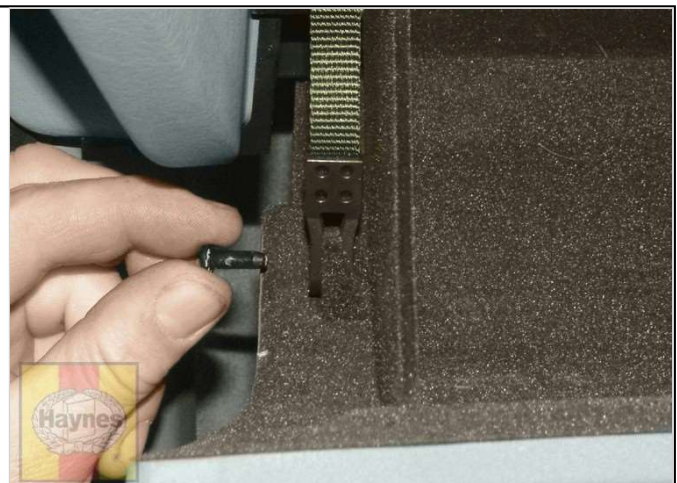
**27.49 The driver's glovebox is retained by two screws**



### Passenger side

50 Open the glovebox, and pull out the pin at the base of the retaining strap/ shock absorber each side (see illustration) .

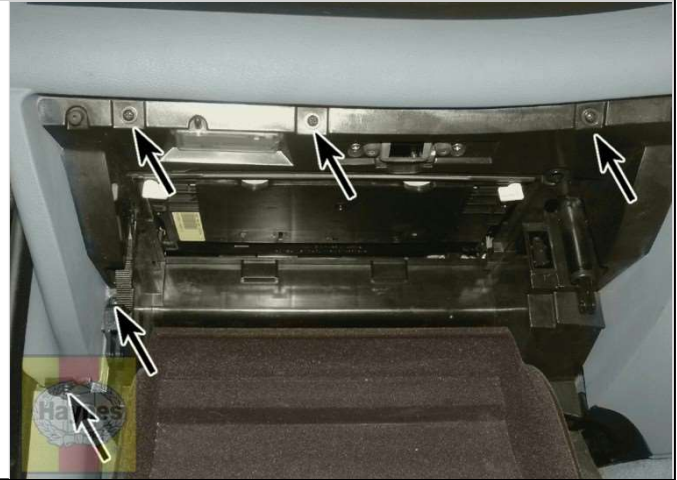
**27.50 Pull out the pin at the base of the retaining strap/shock absorber each side**





51 Working in the dash opening, remove the retaining screws, and remove the glovebox complete with hinge and bracket **(see illustration)** . Disconnect all wiring connectors as the glovebox is withdrawn.

### 27.51 Remove the screws and remove the glovebox



52 Installation is the reverse of the removal procedure.

## Glovebox lock

53 Open the glovebox lid, remove the two retaining screws and remove the lock **(see illustration)** .

### 27.53 The glovebox lock is retained by two screws



## Carpets

54 The passenger compartment floor carpet is in one piece, secured at its edges by screws or clips, usually the same fasteners used to secure the various adjoining trim panels.

55 Carpet removal and installation is reasonably straightforward but very time-consuming because all adjoining trim panels must be removed first, as must components such as the seats, the center console and seat belt lower anchorages.

## Headlining

56 The headlining is clipped to the roof and can be withdrawn only once all fittings such as the grab handles, sun visors, sunroof (if equipped), windshield, rear quarter windows and related trim panels have been removed, and the door, tailgate and sunroof aperture sealing strips have been pried clear.

57 Note that headlining removal requires considerable skill and experience if it is to be carried out without damage and is therefore best entrusted to an expert.

## Cup holders

58 Squeeze in the sides of the tray and lift it, complete with the cup holders, from the center console.

59 Install the tray first, followed by the cup holders.

## Rear headrests

60 Fold the rear seat forward, or remove the rear seat back as applicable (see [Section 24](#) ).

61 Pull the center pins down, and pry out the plastic rivets, then remove the plastic trim from the front edge of the parcel shelf.

62 Lift up the front edge of the parcel shelf trim, pull out the retaining clips, and remove the rear headrest (see illustration) .

**27.62 Lift up the parcel shelf edge and pry out the headrest clips**



63 Installation is a reversal of removal, but before installation the shelf trim, fit the retaining clips into the rear headrest holders (see illustration) .



**27.63 Before installation the parcel shelf trim, insert the retaining clips into the headrest holders**



## Parcel shelf - Sedan/Coupe

64 Fold the rear seats forward, or remove the rear seat back as applicable (see [Section 24](#) ).

65 Pull the top of the rear seat side trim forwards releasing the retaining clips, then lift and remove it (see [illustration](#)) . Repeat this procedure on the remaining rear seat side trim.

**27.65 Rear seat side trim retaining clip and locating lug**



66 Pull the center pins down, and pry out the plastic rivets, then remove the plastic trim from the front edge of the parcel shelf.

67 Remove both C-pillar trims as described earlier in this Section.

68 Lift up the front edge of the parcel shelf trim, pull out the retaining clips, and remove the rear head rests (see [illustration 27.62](#)) .

69 Carefully pry out the covers over the rear speakers set into the parcel shelf. Remove the bolts, disconnect the wiring connectors and remove the speakers. Lift out the speaker enclosures.

**70 Remove the shelf trim to the front. If required, remove the Torx screw securing the lower seat belt anchor, and feed the belt through the parcel shelf trim.**

**71 Installation is a reversal of removal, but before installing the shelf trim, install the retaining clips into the rear headrest holders (see illustration 27.63) .**

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