



Haynes
shows you how

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

12 Rear suspension coil spring - removal and installation

Removal

1 Loosen the rear wheel bolts. Chock the front wheels, then raise the rear of the vehicle and support it securely on jackstands. Remove the relevant wheel.

2 Referring to [Chapter 8](#) , loosen and remove the bolts and plates securing the relevant driveaxle to the final drive unit flange. Free the driveaxle and support it by tying it to the car underbody using a piece of wire.

Caution: Do not allow the driveaxle to hang under its own weight as the CV joint may be damaged.

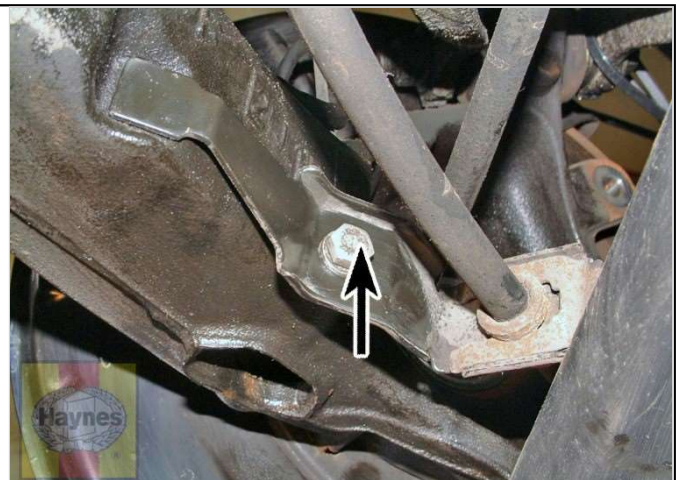
3 Detach the fuel tank panel from the rear underside of the vehicle (where installed).

4 On models equipped with suspension ride height sensors, unscrew the nut and detach the sensor link arm from the upper control arm.

5 Detach the rear suspension stabilizer bar (where installed) as described in [Section 16](#) .

6 Unscrew the bolt and detach the brake hose bracket from the trailing arm (see illustration) .

12.6 Remove the brake hose bracket bolt



7 Position a jack underneath the rear of the trailing arm, and support the weight of the arm.

8 Loosen and remove the shock absorber lower mounting bolt.

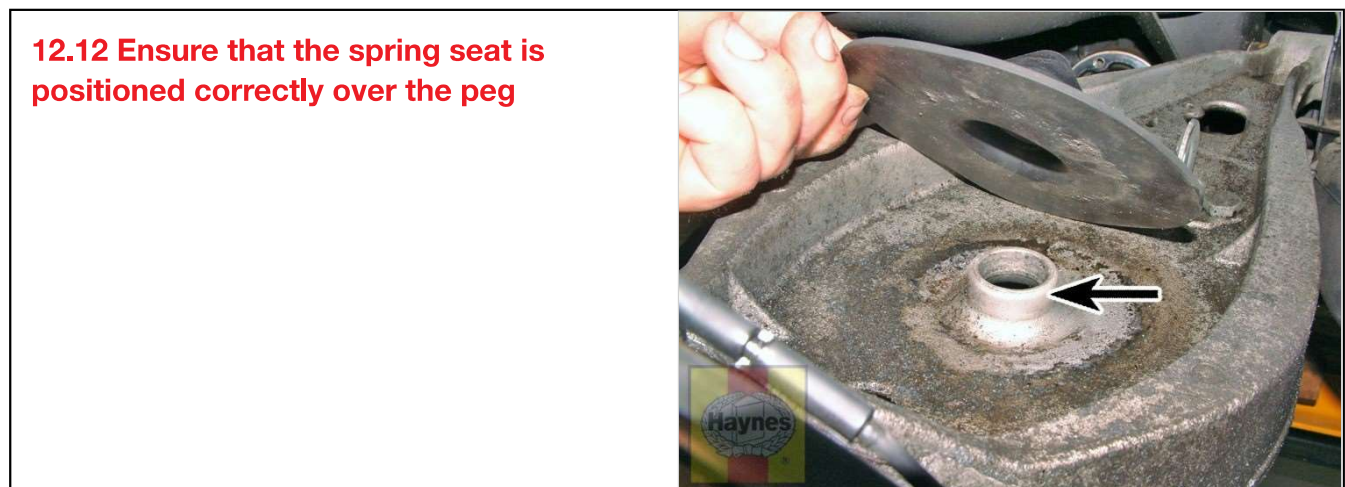
9 Slowly lower the trailing arm, keeping watch on the brake line/hose to ensure no excess strain is placed on them, until it is possible to withdraw the coil spring.

10 Recover the spring seats from the car body and control arm. If the car is to be left for some time, raise the trailing back up and reinstall the shock absorber lower mounting bolt.

11 Inspect the spring closely for signs of damage, such as cracking, and check the spring seats for signs of wear. Replace worn components as necessary.

Installation

12 Install the upper and lower spring seats, making sure they are correctly located on the pegs (see illustration)



13 Apply a little grease to the spring ends and engage the spring with its upper seat. Note that the spring is installed with the smaller diameter opening at the top.

14 Hold the spring in position and carefully raise the trailing arm while aligning the coil spring with its lower seat.

15 Raise the arm fully and reinstall the shock absorber lower mounting bolt, tightening it by hand only at this stage.

16 Reinstall the brake hose bracket to the trailing arm.

17 Reinstall the stabilizer bar (see [Section 16](#)).

18 Reinstall the panel to the fuel tank.

19 Referring to [Chapter 8](#), connect the driveaxle to the final drive unit, then reinstall the retaining plates and bolts and tighten them to the specified torque.

20 Reinstall the wheel then lower the car to the ground. Tighten the wheel bolts and shock absorber lower bolt to the specified torque. Tighten the wheel bolts to the specified torque.

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