

**Haynes**  
*shows you how*

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

## 6 Bulbs (interior lights) - replacement

04:36

### Caution:

This video is for familiarization purposes only. Read below for specific information on your vehicle.

## General

- 1 Refer to [Section 5](#) .

## Courtesy light

- 2 Using a small, flat-bladed screwdriver, carefully pry light unit out of position and release the bulb from the light unit contacts. On some lights it will be necessary to unclip the reflector to gain access to the bulb (see illustration) .

## 6.2 Replacing the rear pillar courtesy light bulb



3 Install the new bulb, ensuring it is securely held in position by the contacts, and clip the lens back into position.

## Front seat reading light

4 Carefully lever the courtesy light lens out from the headlining.

5 Rotate the reading light bulb counterclockwise and remove it from the light unit (see illustration) .

## 6.5 Replacing the front seat reading light bulb



6 Install the new bulb into position and install the lens to the light unit.

## Luggage compartment light

7 Refer to the information given above in Steps 2 and 3.

## Instrument panel illumination/warning lights

8 Remove the instrument panel (see [Section 9](#) ).

9 Twist the relevant bulb holder counterclockwise and withdraw it from the rear of the panel (see illustration) .



10 All bulbs are integral with their holders. Be very careful to ensure that the new bulbs are of the correct rating, the same as those removed; this is especially important in the case of the ignition/battery charging warning light.

11 Install the bulb holder to the rear of the instrument panel then install the instrument panel (see [Section 9](#) ).

## Glovebox illumination light bulb

12 Open up the glovebox. Using a small flat-bladed screwdriver carefully pry the top of the light assembly and withdraw it. Release the bulb from its contacts.

13 Install the new bulb, ensuring it is securely held in position by the contacts, and clip the light unit back into position.

## Heater control panel illumination bulb

### Models with an automatic air conditioning system

14 Remove the heater control panel from the dash (see [Chapter 3](#) ) and remove the bulb holder from the rear of the control unit.

15 Installation is the reverse of removal.

### Models with a manually adjusted air conditioning and models without air conditioning

16 Pull off the heater control panel knobs then remove the retaining screws and unclip the faceplate from the front of the control unit.

17 Using a pair of needle-nose pliers, rotate the bulb holder counterclockwise and remove it from the vehicle

(see illustration) .

### 6.17 Removing the heater control panel illumination bulb



18 Installation is the reverse of removal.

## Switch illumination bulbs

19 All of the switches are equipped with illuminating bulbs; some also have a bulb to show when the circuit concerned is operating. On most switches, these bulbs are an integral part of the switch assembly and cannot be obtained separately. Bulb replacement will therefore require the replacement of the complete switch assembly. The exception to this is the lighting switch illumination bulb which can be removed once the switch has been removed (see [Section 4](#)); the bulb is a push-fit in its holder (see illustration) .

### 6.19 Lighting switch illumination bulb is a push-fit in the switch



## Z3 Models

### Overhead light

20 Pry off the overhead light lens (see illustration) .

**6.20 To access the overhead light in the Z3 windshield frame, pry off the lens**



**21 Remove the overhead light bulb (see illustration) .**

**6.21 Remove the overhead light bulb (arrow) by pulling it straight out; make sure the new bulb is fully seated**



**22 Installation is the reverse of removal.**

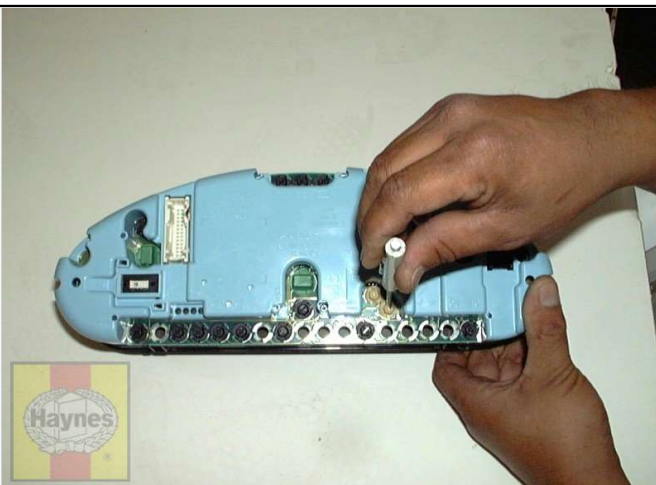
## **Instrument cluster illumination bulbs**

**23 Remove the instrument cluster (see [Section 9](#) ).**

**24 Unscrew and remove the bulb holder (see illustration) .**



**6.24 Using a small screwdriver unscrew the bulb holders on the Z3 instrument cluster**



25 Remove the bulb from the holder.

26 Installation is the reverse of removal.

## Climate control assembly illumination bulbs

27 Remove the climate control assembly (see [Section 10](#) in [Chapter 3](#)).

28 Pull the illumination bulb out of the backside of the climate control assembly.

29 Installation is the reverse of removal.

## Switch illumination bulbs

30 Switch illumination bulbs on Z3 models are similar to those used on 3-Series models. Refer to Step 19.

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