

**Haynes**
shows you how

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

15 Trunk lid/tailgate and support struts - removal and installation

Trunk lid

Removal

1 Open the trunk, pry up the center pins slightly and remove the plastic expanding rivets. Remove the trim panel from the trunk lid (see illustration) .

15.1 Pry out the center pins and the plastic expansion rivets



2 Disconnect the wiring connectors from the license plate lights and trunk lid lock, 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 the string in position in the trunk lid; it can then be used to draw the wiring into position during installation.

3 Draw around the outline of each hinge with a marking pen. Loosen the hinge upper bolt, remove the lower bolt and remove the trunk lid from the vehicle.

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

Installation

5 Installation is the reverse of removal, aligning the hinges with the marks made before removal. Have an assistant to help hold the trunk lid while you install the fasteners.

6 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. Ideally, the gap around the trunk lid should be the same all around. If the paint work around the hinges has been damaged, paint the affected area with a suitable touch-up brush to prevent corrosion.

Tailgate

7 Open the tailgate and remove the trim from the left and right sides (see illustration 16.10) , and also at the top of the tailgate.

8 Disconnect the electrical connectors and washer hose.

9 Detach the support struts from the tailgate.

10 Use a felt-tip pen to mark the position of the tailgate hinges on the body.

11 With the help of two assistants, remove the tailgate hinge bolts, then remove the tailgate.

12 Installation is the reverse of removal.

Support struts

13 Support the trunk lid/tailgate 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 7.2) . Repeat the procedure on the lower strut mounting and remove the strut from the vehicle. When one strut has been removed, install the new strut before removing the strut from the other side.

14 Installation is the reverse of removal, ensuring that the struts are securely retained by their retaining clips.