



Haynes
shows you how

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

3 Fuel tank - removal and installation

Warning:

Refer to the **Warnings** in Section 1 before proceeding.

Removal

Note:

New fuel hose clamps will be required on installation.

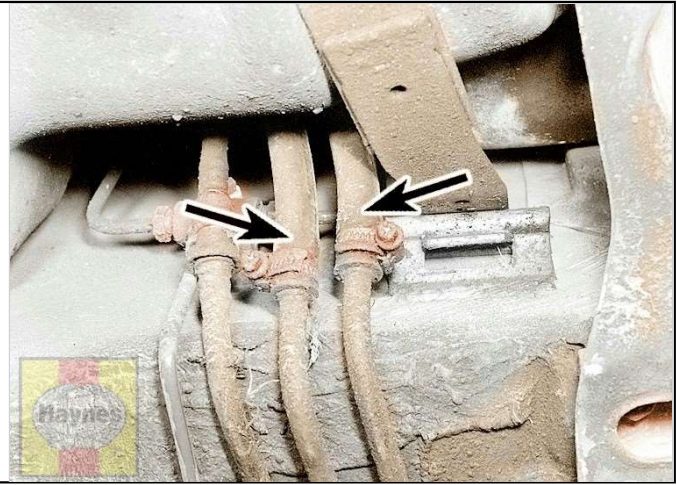
1 Depressurize the fuel system (see [Section 7](#)), then disconnect the battery negative cable. **Caution:** *If the stereo in your vehicle is equipped with an anti-theft system, make sure you have the correct activation code before disconnecting the battery.*

2 Before removing the fuel pump/fuel gauge sender unit, all fuel should be drained from the fuel tank. Since a fuel tank drain plug is not provided, it is preferable to carry out the removal operation when the tank is nearly empty. Before proceeding, disconnect the battery negative cable and siphon or hand-pump the remaining fuel from the tank. **Caution:** *If the stereo in your vehicle is equipped with an anti-theft system, make sure you have the correct activation code before disconnecting the battery.*

3 Working under the rear seats, disconnect the electrical connectors and the fuel hoses from the fuel pump and fuel gauge senders, with reference to Sections 8 and 9.

4 Jack up the rear of the vehicle and support it securely on axle stands.

5 Working under the rear of the vehicle, disconnect the two fuel hoses from the pipes in front of the fuel tank (see [illustration](#)) . Be prepared for fuel spillage, and clamp or plug the open ends of the hoses and pipes to prevent dirt entry and further fuel spillage.

3.5 Disconnect the fuel hoses (arrows)

6 Remove the rear section of the exhaust system as described in [Section 14](#) .

7 Remove the driveshaft as described in [Chapter 8](#) .

8 Disconnect the parking brake cables from the parking brake lever as described in [Chapter 9](#) , then release the cables from the clips under the vehicle and pull them through the retaining clips at the rear of the fuel tank.

9 Loosen the hose clamp, and disconnect the fuel filler hose from the right-hand side of the fuel tank.

10 Support the fuel tank using a floor jack and block of wood.

11 Unscrew the fuel tank strap securing bolts, noting the locations of any washers to ensure correct installation, then pivot the strap down, and lower the tank sufficiently to disconnect the vent pipes from the top of the tank (see illustrations) .

3.11a Left-hand fuel tank strap securing bolts (arrows)

3.11b Right-hand fuel tank strap securing bolt (arrow)



12 Disconnect the vent pipes, and withdraw the tank from under the rear of the vehicle.

Installation

13 Installation is a reversal of removal, bearing in mind the following points.

- A. Ensure that any washers are installed on the fuel tank strap bolts as noted before removal.
- B. Reconnect and adjust the parking brake cables as described in [Chapter 9](#).
- C. Install the driveshaft as described in [Chapter 8](#).
- D. Use new hose clamps when reconnecting the fuel hoses.
- E. On completion, before starting the engine, check that the fuel tank is correctly grounded by measuring the electrical resistance between the tank filler pipe ground and the rear wheel hub - the reading should be approximately 0.6 ohms. Fill the tank with at least two gallons of fuel before attempting to start the engine.

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