



Haynes
shows you how

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

10 Driveaxle - removal and installation

Note:

New driveshaft retaining fasteners will be required on installation.

Removal

1 Remove the wheel trim/hub cap (as applicable) and loosen the driveaxle retaining nut with the vehicle resting on its wheels. Also loosen the wheel bolts.

2 Chock the front wheels, then raise the rear of the vehicle and support it on jackstands.

3 Remove the relevant rear wheel.

4 If the left-hand driveaxle is to be removed, remove the exhaust system tailpipe to improve access.

5 Loosen and remove the left- and right-hand stabilizer bar mountings and pivot the bar downwards (see [Chapter 10](#)).

6 Remove the driveaxle nut.

7 Make alignment marks, then loosen and remove the bolts securing the driveaxle constant velocity joint to the differential unit and recover the retaining plates (if equipped) (see illustration). Position the driveaxle clear of the flange and tie it to the vehicle underbody using a piece of wire. **Note :** *Do not allow the driveaxle to hang under its own weight, as the CV joint may be damaged.*

10.7 Make alignment marks then remove the bolts



8 Withdraw the driveaxle outer constant velocity joint from the hub assembly. The outer joint will be very tight; carefully tap the joint out of the hub using a soft-faced hammer. If this fails to free it from the hub, the joint will have to be pressed out using a suitable tool.

9 Remove the driveaxle from underneath the vehicle.

Installation

10 Installation is the reverse of removal noting the following points.

- A. Apply a drop of clean oil to the new driveaxle nut (where it contacts the flange) prior to installing it and tighten it to the specified torque. If necessary, wait until the vehicle is lower to the ground and then tighten the nut to the specified torque. Once tightened, use a hammer and punch to stake the nut (see illustration).
- B. Install new inner joint retaining bolts and plates (if equipped) and tighten to the specified torque.

10.10 When the driveshaft nut has been fully tightened, stake the nut using a punch

