



Haynes
shows you how

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

23 Power steering system - bleeding

- 1 With the engine stopped, fill the fluid reservoir right up to the top with the specified type of fluid.
- 2 With the engine stopped, slowly move the steering from lock-to-lock several times to purge out the trapped air, then top-up the level in the fluid reservoir. Repeat this procedure until the fluid level in the reservoir does not drop any further.
- 3 Have an assistant start the engine, while you keep watch on the fluid level. Be prepared to add more fluid as the engine starts as the fluid level is likely to drop quickly. The fluid level must be kept above the “MIN” mark at all times.
- 4 With the engine running at idle speed, turn the steering wheel slowly two or three times approximately 45-degrees to the left and right of the center, then turn the wheel twice from lock to lock. Do not hold the wheel on either lock, as this imposes strain on the hydraulic system. Repeat this procedure until bubbles cease to appear in fluid reservoir.
- 5 If, when turning the steering, an abnormal noise is heard from the fluid lines, it indicates that there is still air in the system. Check this by turning the wheels to the straight-ahead position and switching off the engine. If the fluid level in the reservoir rises, then air is present in the system and further bleeding is necessary.
- 6 Once all traces of air have been removed from the power steering hydraulic system, turn the engine off and allow the system to cool. Once cool, check that fluid level is up to the maximum mark on the power steering fluid reservoir, topping-up if necessary (see [Chapter 1](#))

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