

**Haynes**  
*shows you how*

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

## 25 Automatic transmission fluid replacement

03:27

**Caution:**

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

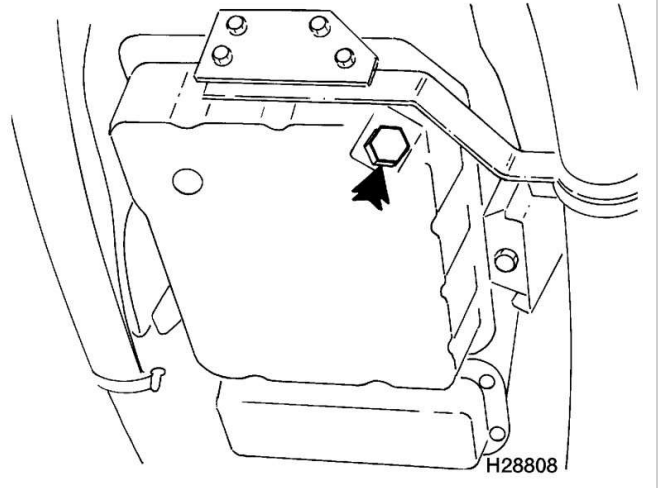
**Note:**

A new drain plug sealing ring will be required on installation.

- 1 The transmission fluid should be drained with the transmission at operating temperature. If the vehicle has just been driven at least 20 miles, the transmission can be considered warm.
- 2 Immediately after driving the vehicle, park it on a level surface, apply the parking brake. If desired, jack up the vehicle and support it on axle stands to improve access, but make sure that the vehicle is level.
- 3 Working under the vehicle, loosen the transmission fluid pan drain plug about half a turn (see illustration) . Position a draining container under the drain plug, then remove the plug completely. If possible, try to keep the

plug pressed into the fluid pan while unscrewing it by hand the last couple of turns.

### 25.3 Automatic transmission fluid drain plug (arrow)



4 Recover the sealing ring from the drain plug.

5 Unscrew the fluid pan bolts and carefully detach the pan. Clean the pan with solvent and remove all traces of gasket material from the mating surfaces on the pan and transmission.

6 Remove the screws and detach the oil screen. Clean the screen with solvent then reinstall it (or replace it with a new one, if necessary), tightening the screws to the torque listed in [this Chapter's Specifications](#).

7 Reinstall the fluid pan, using a new gasket. Tighten the bolts to the torque listed in [this Chapter's Specifications](#).

8 Install the drain plug, using a new sealing ring, and tighten it to the specified torque.

9 With reference to [Section 5](#), fill the transmission with the specified quantity of the correct type of fluid (see Specifications).

10 Check the fluid level (see [Section 5](#)).

11 Note that it may be necessary to add or drain off a little fluid once the new fluid has reached the proper checking temperature.