

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

## Jacking and towing

### Jacking

The jack supplied with the vehicle should be used only for raising the vehicle when changing a tire or placing jackstands under the frame. **Warning:** *Never crawl under the vehicle or start the engine when this jack is being used as the only means of support.*

The vehicle should be on level ground with the wheels blocked and the transmission in Park (automatic) or Reverse (manual). Pry off the hub cap (if equipped) using the tapered end of the lug wrench. Loosen the lug bolts one-half turn and leave them in place until the wheel is raised off the ground.

On all except Z3 models, unscrew the access cover in the rocker panel nearest the wheel to be changed (see illustration) . Engage the head of the jack with the hole in the rocker panel (see illustration) . If you're working on a Z3 model, engage the head of the jack with the jacking point on the underside of the vehicle, directly behind the front wheel or right in front of the rear wheel. Block the wheel opposite the one being changed. Make sure the jack is located on firm ground; if not, place a block of wood under it. Turn the jack handle clockwise until the wheel is raised off the ground, then unscrew the lug bolts and remove the wheel.

**Unscrew the access cover from the rocker panel . . .**



**... and insert the jack into the hole (all except Z3 models)**



Install the spare wheel and tighten the lug bolts until they are snug. Lower the vehicle by turning the jack handle counterclockwise, then remove the jack and install the access cover (3-series models). Tighten the bolts in a diagonal pattern to the torque listed in the [Chapter 1 Specifications](#) . If a torque wrench is not available, have the torque checked by a service station as soon as possible. Reinstall the hub cap, if equipped.

## Towing

Manual transmission-equipped vehicles can be towed with all four wheels on the ground. Automatic transmission-equipped vehicles can be towed with all four wheels on the ground if speeds do not exceed 35 mph and the distance is not over 50 miles, otherwise transmission damage can result.

Towing equipment specifically designed for this purpose should be used and should be attached to the main structural members of the vehicle, not the bumper or brackets. For towing with a strap or cable (and for pulling the vehicle onto a trailer with a winch), a towing eye is provided in the tool kit (located in the luggage compartment lid) which can be screwed into the front or rear of the vehicle, as necessary, after prying open a cover on the bumper (see illustration) .

**The towing eye is supplied as part of the vehicle's tool kit. To install the eye, pry out the access cover from the front or rear bumper, then screw the eye into position and tighten it securely**

