



Haynes
shows you how

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

28 Center console - removal and installation

Warning:

On models equipped with airbags, always disable the airbag system before working in the vicinity of the impact sensors, steering column or instrument panel to avoid the possibility of accidental deployment of the airbag, which could cause personal injury (see Chapter 12).

3-Series models

Removal

1 Disconnect the battery negative terminal. **Caution:** *If the radio in your vehicle is equipped with an anti-theft system, make sure you have the correct activation code before disconnecting the battery.*

2 Remove the hazard warning light switch (see [Chapter 12](#)).

3 Where ashtrays are fitted, unclip the ashtrays and remove them from the center console. Undo the retaining screws and remove the ashtray surrounds, freeing the illumination bulbholders from them (see illustration) .

28.3 Lift out the rear ashtray then unscrew the two retaining screws (arrows) and remove the ashtray surround



4 Where no ashtrays are fitted, unclip the storage compartment(s) and remove them from the center console.

5 On all models unclip the parking brake lever boot from the console.

6 Loosen and remove the retaining screws and remove the rear section of the console (see illustrations) .

28.6a Loosen and remove the front . . .



28.6b . . . and rear retaining screws . . .



28.6c . . . and remove the rear section of the center console



7 If the front section is also to be removed, remove the clock/multi-information display unit (as applicable) (see [Chapter 12](#)).

8 Remove the glovebox (see [Section 27](#)).

9 Loosen and remove the retaining screws securing the driver's side lower dash panel. Unclip the panel and remove it from the vehicle (see illustration) .

28.9 Unscrew the retaining screws (arrows) and remove the driver's side lower dash panel (coupe shown)



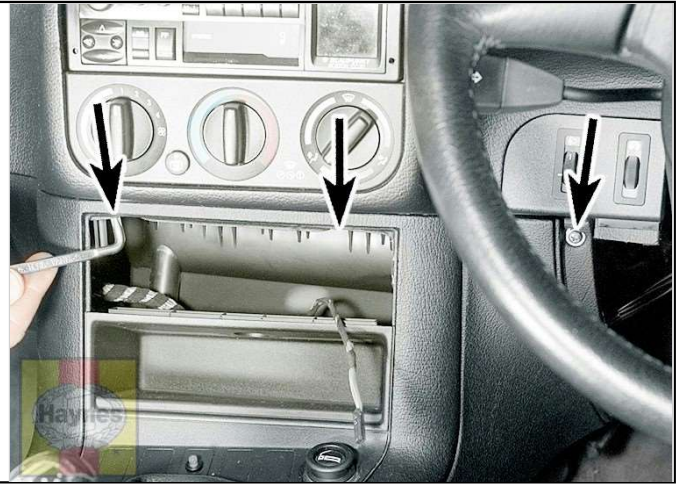
10 Unclip the storage compartment from the front of the center console and disconnect the wiring from the cigarette lighter.

11 Loosen and remove the retaining screws and nut then maneuver the front section of the center console upwards over the gear selector lever and out of the vehicle, disconnecting the various wiring connectors as they become accessible (see illustrations) .

28.11a Unscrew the rear retaining nut . . .



28.11b . . . and the four upper retaining screws (three arrows) and remove the center console front section



Installation

12 Installation is the reverse of removal making sure all fasteners are securely tightened.

Z3 models

13 Disconnect the cable from the negative battery terminal. **Warning:** Do NOT work in the vicinity of the dash with the airbag system enabled. The only way to prevent an airbag from accidentally deploying is to disconnect the cable from the negative battery terminal.

14 Remove the heated seat switch (if applicable) from the console (see [Section 4](#) in [Chapter 12](#)).

15 Remove the retaining bolts from the left and right rear corners of the center console (see illustration) .

28.15 Remove these two retaining bolts (arrows) from the rear end of the center console



16 Pry loose the rubber boot around the parking brake lever (see illustration) .

28.16 Pry loose the dust boot for the parking brake lever



17 Remove the retaining screws from the left and right lower side panels (see illustration) .

28.17 Remove the retaining screws (arrows) from the left (shown) and right sides of the forward end of the console



18 Remove the radio (see [Chapter 12](#)).

19 Remove the two mounting bolts in the recess for the radio, just below the center air vents (see illustration) .

28.19 Remove the two mounting screws (arrows) from the radio recess



20 Remove the shift lever handle (see [Chapter 7](#)). Pry back on the shift lever boot (manual transmission) or the shift indicator trim panel (automatic transmission) until the retaining clips disengage, then remove the shift lever boot (see illustration) or shift indicator trim panel.

28.20 Pry back on the shift lever boot until the retaining clips disengage, then remove the shift lever boot



21 Remove the two climate control retaining screws from the radio cavity and detach the climate control assembly from the console (see [Chapter 12](#)).

22 Remove the ashtray and then remove the ash tray holder retaining screw (see illustration) . Remove the cup holder or storage box (see illustration) . Under the ash tray holder remove the console retaining screw (see illustration) .

28.22a Remove the ashtray and then remove the ash tray holder retaining screw (arrow)



28.22b Remove the cup holder or storage box (shown)



28.22c Under the ash tray holder remove the console retaining screw (arrow)



23 Raise the rear end of the console slightly and pull it back far enough to disengage the locking clips.

24 Pull back and lift up the forward end of the console, tilt up the rear end of the console and unplug the cigarette lighter wiring harness (see illustrations) and any other electrical connectors plugged into devices attached to the console.

28.24a Pull back and lift up the forward end of the console . . .



28.24b . . . and then tilt up the rear end of the console and unplug the cigarette lighter wiring harness and any other electrical connectors plugged into devices attached to the console.



25 Slide the center console to the left, rotate it as necessary to clear the parking brake handle and remove the console.

26 Installation is the reverse of removal.

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