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BMW 3-Series 320i & 320xi (12-14), 325i, 325xi, 330i & 330xi (06) & 328i & 328xi (07-14) Haynes Online Manual

1 General information

The independent front suspension is of the MacPherson strut type, incorporating coil springs and integral telescopic shock absorbers. The MacPherson struts are located by transverse lower suspension arms, which use rubber inner mount bushings, and incorporate a balljoint at the outer ends. The front hub carriers, which carry the brake calipers and the hub/disc assemblies, are bolted to the MacPherson struts and connected to the lower arms through balljoints. A front stabilizer bar is installed on all models. The stabilizer bar is rubber-mounted and is connected to both suspension struts/lower arms (as applicable) by connecting links (see illustration) .

1.1 Front suspension details

1 Stabilizer bar link

2 Tension strut

3 Front stabilizer bar

4 Strut top mounting

5 Coil spring

6 Wheel bearing

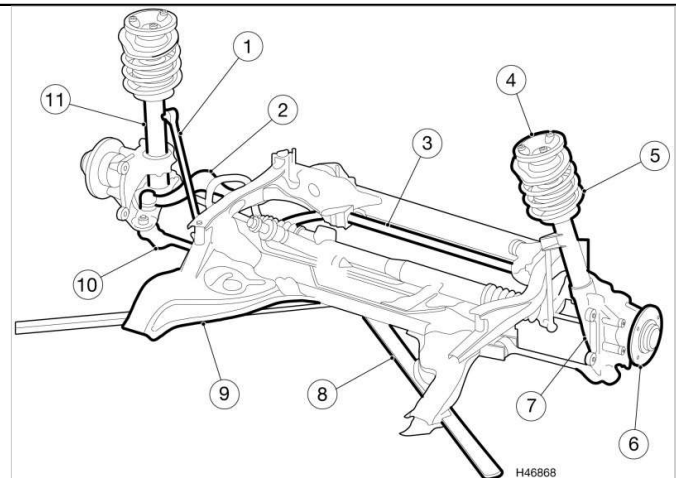
7 Hub carrier

8 Reinforcement strut/brace

9 Front subframe

10 Control arm

11 Shock absorber strut



The rear suspension is of the fully independent type consisting of trailing arms, which are linked to the rear axle carrier by various control arms/struts. Coil springs are installed between the upper control arms and vehicle

body, and shock absorbers are connected to the vehicle body and trailing arms. A rear stabilizer bar is installed on all models. The stabilizer bar is rubber-mounted, and is connected to the upper control arms by connecting links (see illustration) .

1.2 Rear suspension details

1 Hub

2 Shock absorber

3 Stabilizer bar

4 Coil spring

5 Stabilizer bar link

6 Hub carrier

7 Rear subframe

8 Brace

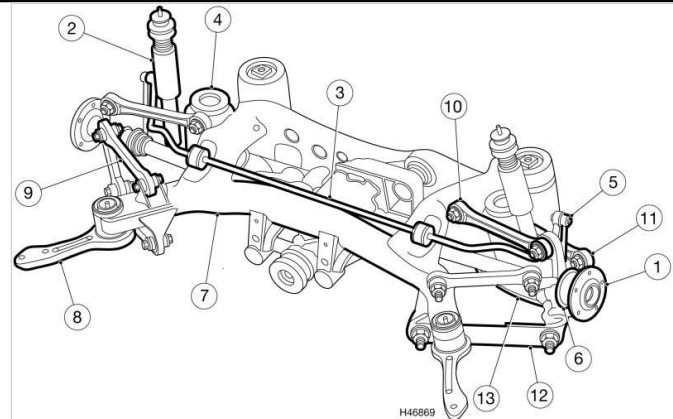
9 Traction strut

10 Control arm

11 Toe arm

12 Trailing arm

13 Camber arm



The steering column is connected to the steering gear by an intermediate shaft, which incorporates a universal joint.

The steering gear is mounted onto the front subframe, and is connected by two tie-rods to the steering arms projecting forwards from the hub carriers. The tie-rod ends are threaded, to facilitate adjustment.

Power-assisted steering is standard equipment on all models. The hydraulic steering system is powered by a belt-driven pump, which is driven off the crankshaft pulley. On some models, a fully-electronic system is available, which has a rack-mounted electric motor to provide the power assistance.

Note:

The information contained in this Chapter is applicable to the standard suspension set-up. On models with M-Technic sports suspension, slight differences will be found. Refer to your BMW dealer for details.

