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

# 1 General information

The braking system is of the power-assisted, dual-circuit hydraulic type. Under normal circumstances, both circuits operate in unison. However, if there is hydraulic failure in one circuit, full braking force will still be available at two wheels.

All models have disc brakes on all four wheels. ABS is available as standard equipment (refer to [Section 19](#) for further information on ABS operation). **Note:** *On models equipped with All Season Traction (AST), the ABS system also operates the traction control side of the system.*

The brakes are actuated by single-piston sliding type calipers, which ensure that equal pressure is applied to each disc pad.

The parking brake consists of a small drum brake fitted in the center of each rear brake disc.

**Note:**

When servicing any part of the system, work carefully and methodically; also observe scrupulous cleanliness when overhauling any part of the hydraulic system. Always replace components (in axle sets, where applicable) if in doubt about their condition. Note the warnings given in “Safety first” and at relevant points in this Chapter concerning the dangers of asbestos dust and brake fluid.

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