



**Haynes**  
shows you how

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

## 12 Initial start-up and break-in after overhaul

### Warning:

Have a fire extinguisher handy when starting the engine for the first time.

- 1 Once the engine has been installed in the vehicle, double-check the engine oil and coolant levels.
- 2 With the spark plugs out of the engine and the ignition system and fuel pump disabled, crank the engine until oil pressure registers on the gauge or the light goes out.
- 3 Install the spark plugs, hook up the plug wires and restore the ignition system and fuel pump functions.
- 4 Start the engine. It may take a few moments for the fuel system to build up pressure, but the engine should start without a great deal of effort.
- 5 After the engine starts, it should be allowed to warm up to normal operating temperature. While the engine is warming up, make a thorough check for fuel, oil and coolant leaks.
- 6 Shut the engine off and recheck the engine oil and coolant levels.
- 7 Drive the vehicle to an area with minimum traffic, accelerate from 30 to 50 mph, then allow the vehicle to slow to 30 mph with the throttle closed. Repeat the procedure 10 or 12 times. This will load the piston rings and cause them to seat properly against the cylinder walls. Check again for oil and coolant leaks.
- 8 Drive the vehicle gently for the first 500 miles (no sustained high speeds) and keep a constant check on the oil level. It is not unusual for an engine to use oil during the break-in period.
- 9 At approximately 500 to 600 miles, change the oil and filter.
- 10 For the next few hundred miles, drive the vehicle normally. Do not pamper it or abuse it.
- 11 After 2,000 miles, change the oil and filter again and consider the engine broken in.