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

## 3 Tune-up general information

The term tune-up is used in this manual to represent a combination of individual operations rather than one specific procedure.

If, from the time the vehicle is new, the routine maintenance schedule is followed closely and frequent checks are made of fluid levels and high wear items, as suggested throughout this manual, the engine will be kept in relatively good running condition and the need for additional work will be minimized.

More likely than not, however, there will be times when the engine may run poorly due to lack of regular maintenance. This is even more likely if a used vehicle, which has not received regular and frequent maintenance checks, is purchased. In such cases, an engine tune-up will be needed outside of the regular routine maintenance intervals.

The first step in any tune-up or diagnostic procedure to help correct a poor-running engine is a cylinder compression check. A compression check (see [Chapter 2B](#)) will help determine the condition of internal engine components and should be used as a guide for tune-up and repair procedures. If, for instance, a compression check indicates serious internal engine wear, a conventional tune-up will not improve the performance of the engine and would be a waste of time and money. Because of its importance, the compression check should be done by someone with the right equipment and the knowledge to use it properly.

The following procedures are those most often needed to bring a generally poor running engine back into a proper state of tune.

### Minor tune-up

- Check all engine related fluids ( [Section 4](#) )
- Clean, inspect and test the battery ( [Section 8](#) )
- Check the cooling system ( [Section 9](#) )
- Check all underhood hoses ( [Section 12](#) )
- Check the fuel system ( [Section 15](#) )
- Check the air filter ( [Section 23](#) )

## Major tune-up

*All items listed under Minor tune-up, plus . . .*

- Replace the air filter ( [Section 23](#) )
- Check the drivebelt ( [Section 20](#) )
- Replace the spark plugs ( [Section 28](#) )

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