

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

9 Headlights - adjustment

Warning:

The headlights must be aimed correctly. If adjusted incorrectly, they could temporarily blind the driver of an oncoming vehicle and cause an accident or seriously reduce your ability to see the road. The headlights should be checked for proper aim every 12 months and any time a new headlight is installed or front-end bodywork is performed. The following procedure is only intended to provide temporary adjustment until you can have the headlights professionally adjusted by a dealer service department.

Note:

All covered models have halogen bulbs for the high beam. On earlier models, the low-beam bulb is also a halogen type. On later models, the low-beam bulb is a Xenon type, also called High Intensity Discharge (HID).

Note:

Some models have an electrically-operated headlight beam adjustment system which is controlled through the switch in the instrument panel. On these models ensure that the switch is set to the off position before adjusting the headlight aim .

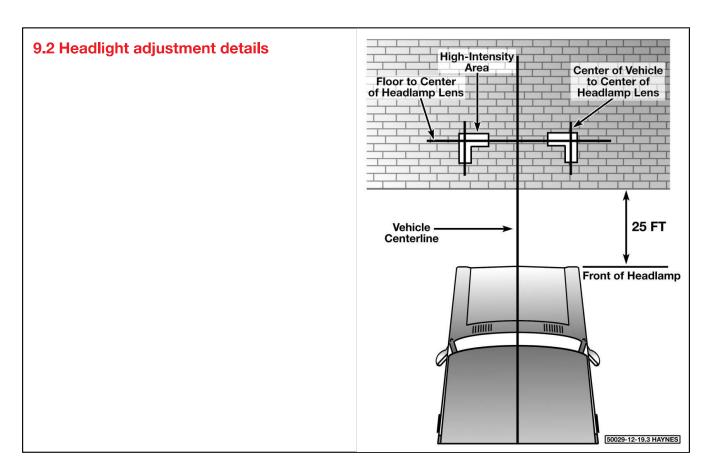
Headlights

1 Each headlight has an adjusting screw for vertical adjustment (see illustration) . There is no horizontal adjustment screw.

9.1 The headlight vertical adjustment screw is accessed from behind the headlight, while the horizontal screw (if equipped) is accessed through a hole in the inner fender



2 There are several ways to adjust the headlights. The simplest method requires an open area with a blank wall and a level floor (see illustration).



- 3 Position masking tape vertically on the wall in reference to the vehicle centerline and the centerlines of both headlights.
- 4 Position a horizontal tape line in reference to the centerline of the headlights. **Note**: *It might be easier to position the tape on the wall with the vehicle parked only a few inches away.*
- 5 Adjustment should be made with the vehicle parked 25 feet from the wall, sitting level, the gas tank full and no unusually heavy load in the vehicle.

6 The high intensity zone should be vertically centered with the exact center about three inches below the horizontal line.

7 Have the headlights adjusted by a qualified technician at the earliest opportunity.

Fog lights

- 8 Park the vehicle 25 feet from the wall.
- 9 Tape a horizontal line on the wall that represents the height of the fog lights and tape another line four inches below that line.
- 10 Using the adjusting screw on each fog light, adjust the pattern on the wall so that the top of the fog light beam meets the lower line on the wall.

Note:

The adjustment screw on F-series chassis models is accessed through a small hole in the fog light fascia in the bumper cover.

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