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How to change serpentine belt on **BMW 3 Compact (E46)** – replacement guide







SIMILAR VIDEO TUTORIAL



This video shows the replacement procedure of a similar car part on another vehicle

i Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for: BMW 3 Compact (E46) 325ti 2.5

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

This tutorial was created based on the replacement procedure for a similar car part on: BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 520i 2.0

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REPLACEMENT: SERPENTINE BELT – BMW 3 COMPACT (E46). TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:



- Combination spanner #13
- Combination spanner #32
- Drive socket # 16

- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Fender cover

Buy tools

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Replacement: serpentine belt – BMW 3 Compact (E46). AUTODOC recommends:

• All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: SERPENTINE BELT – BMW 3 COMPACT (E46). USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

- Open the bonnet.
- Use a fender protection cover to prevent damaging paintwork and plastic parts of the car.
- Unscrew the fastener of the viscous fan clutch. Use a combination spanner #32.



Remove the fan shroud seal.



Unscrew and remove the viscous fan clutch.



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6 Remove the fan shroud.



Pull aside the AC compressor belt tensioner pulley. Use a combination spanner #13.



Remove the AC compressor belt.



Remove the tensioner pulley cap.

10



Pull aside the V-ribbed belt tensioner pulley. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



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11 Remove the V-ribbed belt.



Return the tensioner pulley to its initial position. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



Replacement: serpentine belt – BMW 3 Compact (E46). Professionals recommend:

- Check the condition of the tensioner pulley and idler pulley. Replace them if necessary.
- Pull aside the V-ribbed belt tensioner pulley. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



13

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14 Install the V-ribbed belt.



Replacement: serpentine belt – BMW 3 Compact (E46). Tip from AUTODOC:

• Make sure that the V-ribbed belt fits all pulleys snugly.

Return the tensioner pulley to its initial position. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



Reinstall the tensioner pulley cap.



17 Install the AC compressor belt.



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Replacement: serpentine belt – BMW 3 Compact (E46). Tip:

• Make sure that the V-ribbed belt fits all pulleys snugly.

Return the tensioner pulley to its initial position. Use a combination spanner #13.



19 Install the fan shroud.



20 Install and screw in the viscous fan clutch.



Tighten the fastener of the viscous fan clutch. Use a combination spanner #32. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 40 nm torque.



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Reinstall the fan shroud seal.



- Remove the fender protection cover.
- Close the hood.



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