

## SIMILAR VIDEO TUTORIAL



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

### **Important!**

This replacement procedure can be used for:

BMW 3 Compact (E46) 316ti 1.8, BMW 3 Compact (E46) 325ti 2.5, BMW 3 Compact (E46) 318ti 2.0, BMW 3 Compact (E46) 320td 2.0, BMW 3 Compact (E46) 318td 2.0, BMW 3 Compact (E46) 316ti 1.6, BMW 3 Compact (E46) 318Ti 2.0

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 X3 (E83) 2.5 i

## REPLACEMENT: REAR SUSPENSION LOWER CONTROL ARM – BMW 3 COMPACT (E46). TOOLS YOU NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #18
- Drive socket # 18
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Pin punch
- Hammer
- Crow bar
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

## Replacement: rear suspension lower control arm – BMW 3 Compact (E46). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right lower control arms.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

## REPLACEMENT: REAR SUSPENSION LOWER CONTROL ARM – BMW 3 COMPACT (E46). USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

**1** Secure the wheels with chocks.

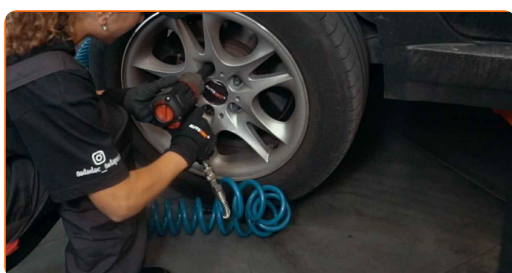
**2** Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



**3** Raise the rear of the car and secure on supports.



**4** Unscrew the wheel bolts.



### AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.  
BMW 3 Compact (E46)

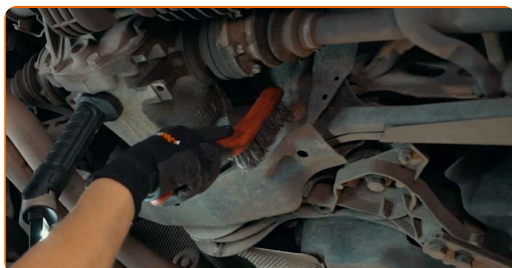
5

Remove the wheel.



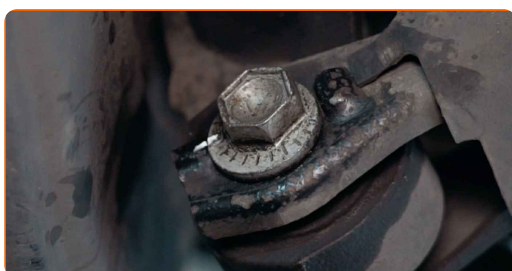
6

Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



7

Make a mark on the camber adjustment bolt.



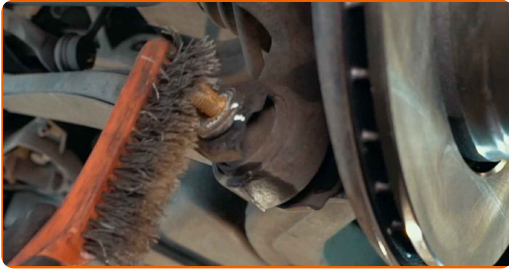
8

Unscrew the fastener connecting the control arm to the rear knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



9

Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush.



10

Remove the fastening bolt. Use a drive socket #18. Use a crowbar.



11

Unscrew the fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a drive socket #18. Use a crowbar.



12

Support the rear knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



13

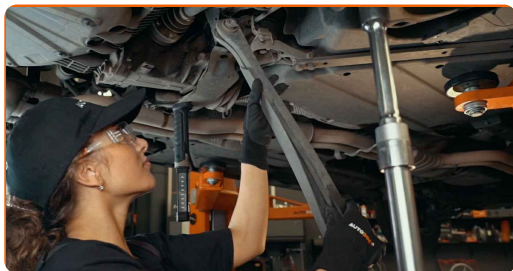
Remove the fastening bolts. Use a pin punch. Use a hammer. Use a crowbar. Use a combination spanner #18.





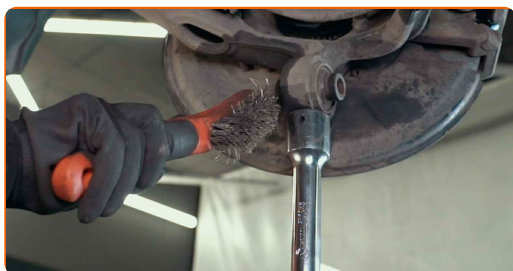
14

Remove the arm.



15

Clean the mounting seats and the thread of the suspension arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



16

Install a new arm.

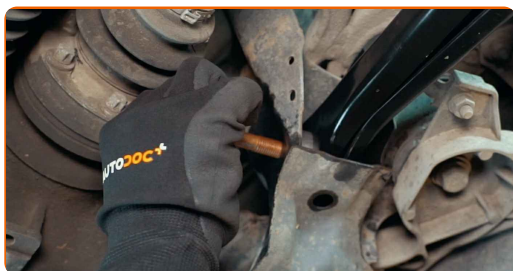


### AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: rear suspension lower control arm – BMW 3 Compact (E46). Use only new bolts and nuts for installation.
- Do not damage the ball joint cover.

17

Install the control arm fasteners. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a crowbar.



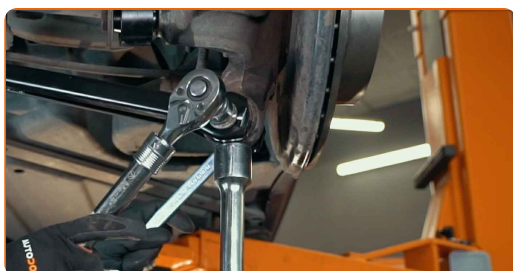
18

Adjust the position of the alignment bolt according to the mark.



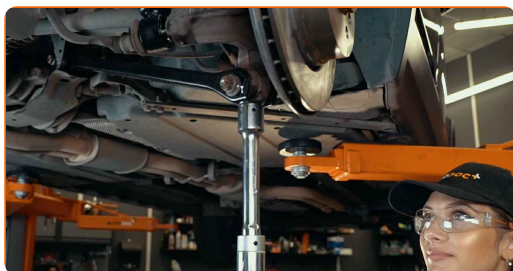
19

Screw in the fasteners connecting the control arm to the rear knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.

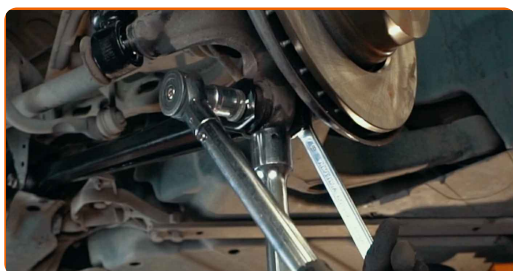


20

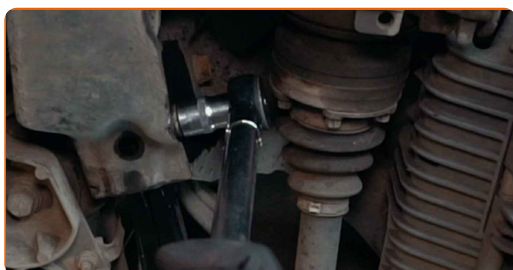
Raise the hydraulic transmission jack by 10-15 cm.



- 21** Tighten the fastener connecting the control arm to the rear knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 100 Nm torque.



- 22** Tighten the fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 77 Nm torque.



- 23** Remove the support from under the rear knuckle.

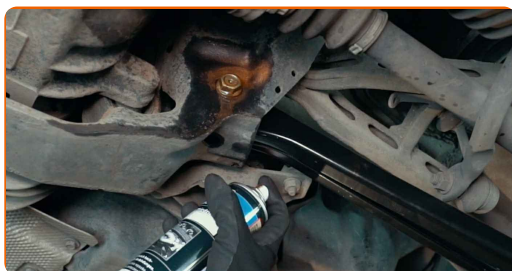


### AUTODOC recommends:

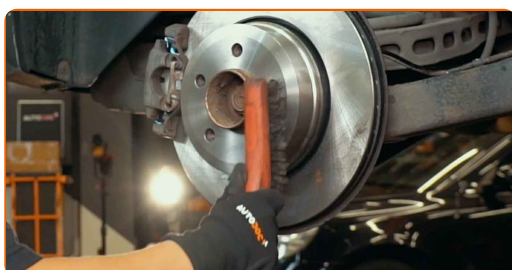
- Replacement: rear suspension lower control arm – BMW 3 Compact (E46). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.



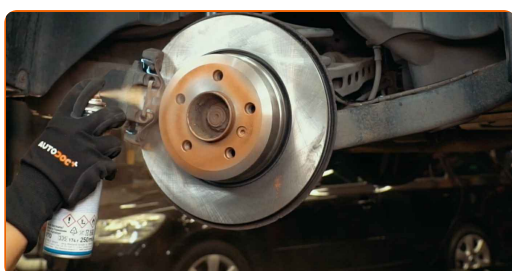
**24** Treat all joints of the arm. Use copper grease.



**25** Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush.



**26** Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use copper grease.



**27** Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.

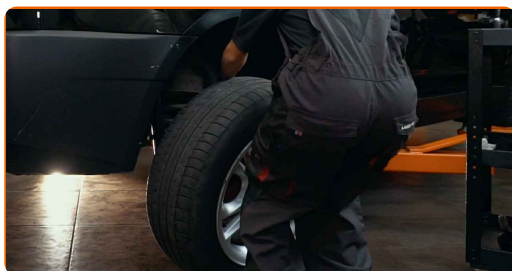


### AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: rear suspension lower control arm – BMW 3 Compact (E46). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

28

Install the wheel.



### AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. BMW 3 Compact (E46)

29

Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



30

Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 140 Nm torque.

