



How to change rear strut
mount on **BMW X3 E83** –
replacement guide

VIDEO TUTORIAL



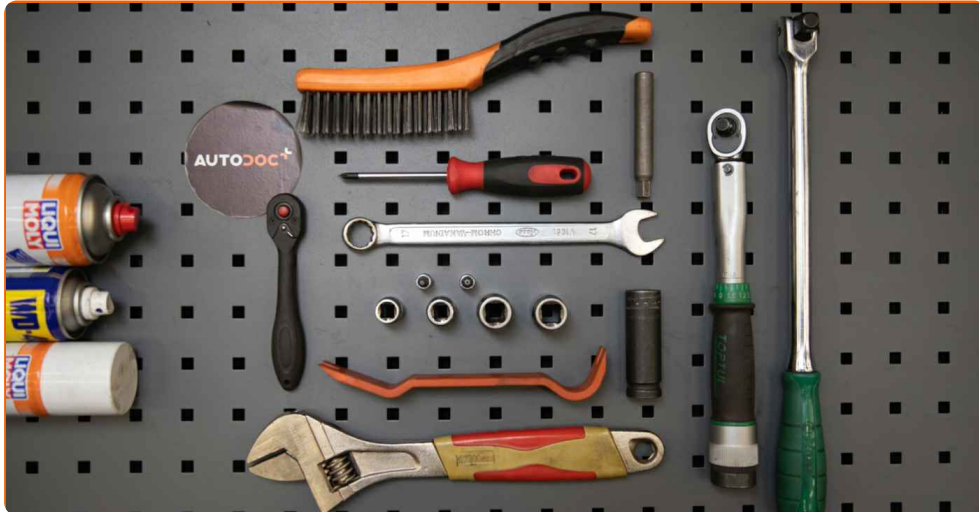
Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:

BMW X3 (E83) xDrive 20 d, BMW X3 (E83) xDrive 30 d, BMW X3 (E83) 3.0 i xDrive, BMW X3 (E83) 3.0 d, BMW X3 (E83) 2.0 d, BMW X3 (E83) 2.0 i, BMW X3 (E83) 3.0 si, BMW X3 (E83) 2.5 si, BMW X3 (E83) 3.0 sd, BMW X3 (E83) xDrive 20 i, BMW X3 (E83) xDrive 25 i, BMW X3 (E83) xDrive 30 i, BMW X3 (E83) xDrive 18 d, BMW X3 (E83) xDrive 35 d

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

REPLACEMENT: STRUT MOUNT – BMW X3 E83. TOOLS YOU MIGHT NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #17
- Drive socket # 10
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 18
- Torx bit T20
- Torx bit T25
- Shock absorber socket #DD6
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Adjustable wrench
- Plastic trim tool
- Phillips screwdriver
- Tap wrench
- Vice
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

BUY TOOLS

Replacement: strut mount – BMW X3 E83. Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- The replacement procedure is identical for the mounts of the right and left shock absorbers of the rear suspension.
- Both mounts of the rear shock struts should be replaced simultaneously.
- Please note: all work on the car – BMW X3 E83 – should be done with the engine switched off.

CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1

Open the boot lid.



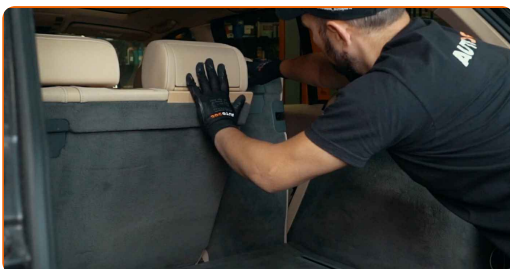
2

Move the folding shelf and detach it from the retainers. By doing this, you will get access to the side trim plastic panels.



3

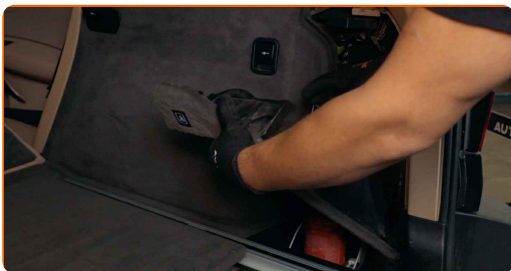
Fold down the backrests of the rear seats.



4 Raise the lower lining of the boot.



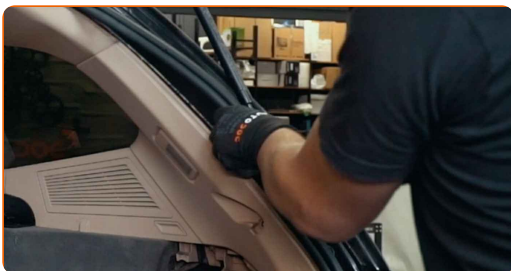
5 Detach the boot side lining.



6 Unscrew the fasteners of the plastic car body protective cover. Use a Phillips screwdriver.



7 Remove the rubber strip.



8 Remove the plastic car body protective cover.



- 9** Remove the interior boot light.



- 10** Remove the seat belt trim cover.



- 11** Detach the boot rear side lining.

- 12** Unscrew the fasteners of the side plastic trim panel. Use a drive socket #10. Use a ratchet wrench.

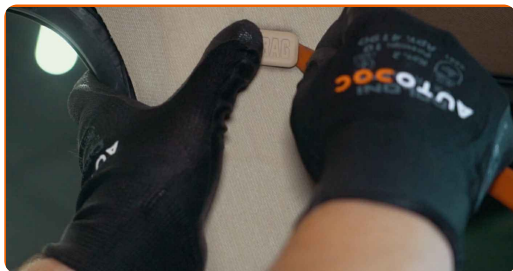


- 13** Remove the clips from the parcel shelf. Use Torx T25. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 14** Detach the parcel shelf.

- 15** Remove the airbag cover. Use a plastic trim tool.

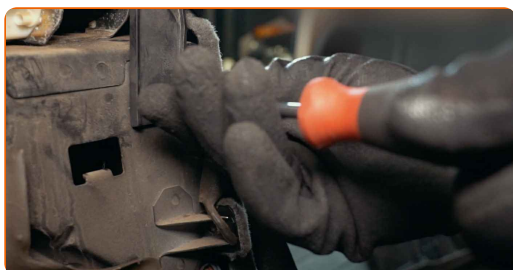


- 16** Unscrew the fastener of the body pillar trim panel. Use Torx T20. Use a ratchet wrench.

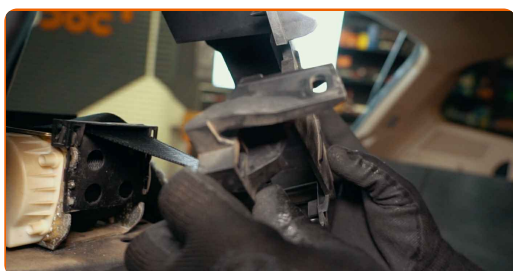
- 17** Remove the body pillar trim panel.



- 18** Unscrew the fasteners of the seat belt panel. Use a Phillips screwdriver.



- 19** Remove the seat belt panel.



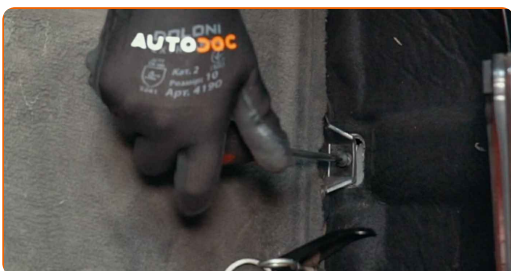
20 Remove the side plastic cover.



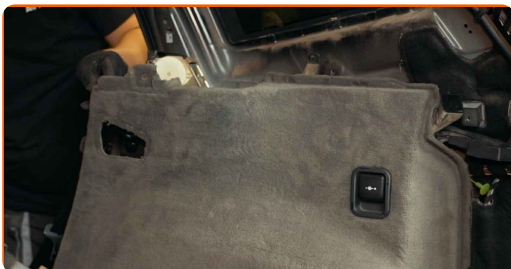
21 Detach the boot side lining.

22 Remove the clips of the boot side lining. Use a plastic trim tool.

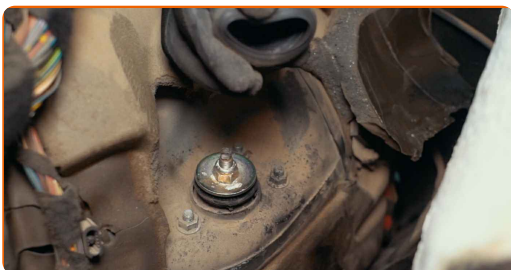
23 Unscrew the fastener of the boot side lining. Use a Phillips screwdriver.



24 Detach the boot side lining.

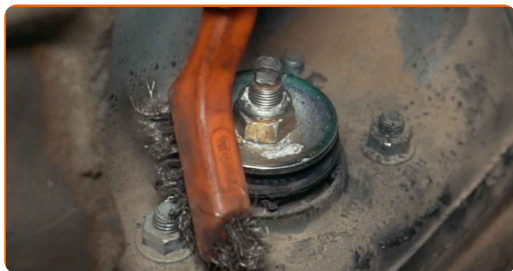


25 Remove the protective cap of the shock absorber mount.



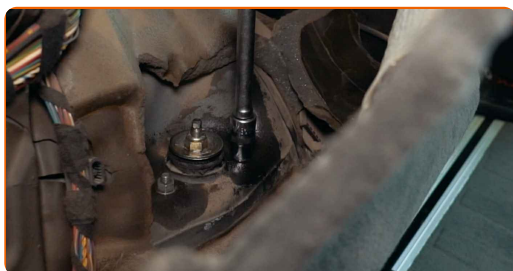
26

Clean the shock absorber fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



27

Loosen the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



28

Secure the wheels with chocks.

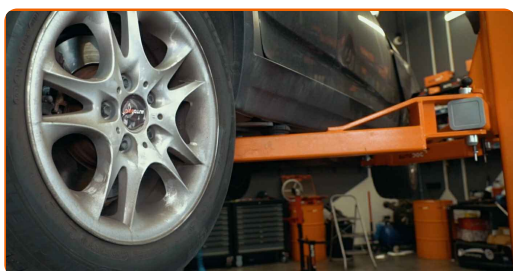
29

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



30

Raise the rear of the car and secure on supports.



31

Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.
BMW X3 E83

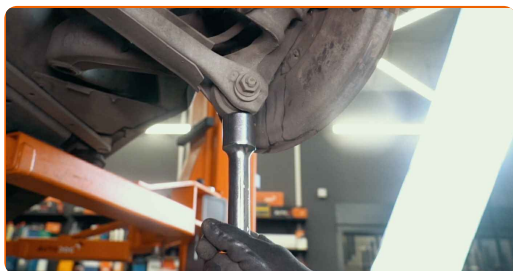
32

Remove the wheel.



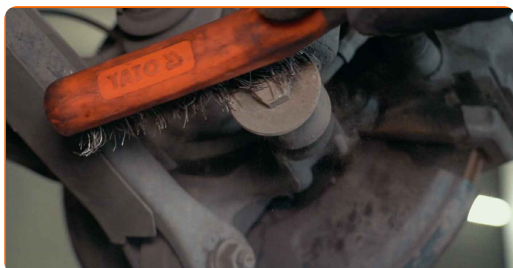
33

Support the arm. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



34

Clean the shock absorber fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



35

Unscrew the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



36

Unscrew the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #18. Use a tap wrench.



37

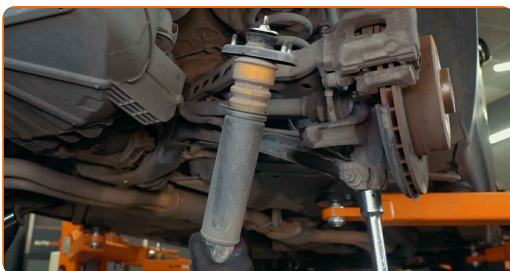
Remove the fastening bolt.

AUTODOC recommends:

- BMW X3 E83 – To avoid injury, hold the shock absorber while unscrewing the fastening bolts.

38

Remove the shock absorber.



39

Grip the shock absorber in a vice.

40

Clean the shock absorber rod fastener. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



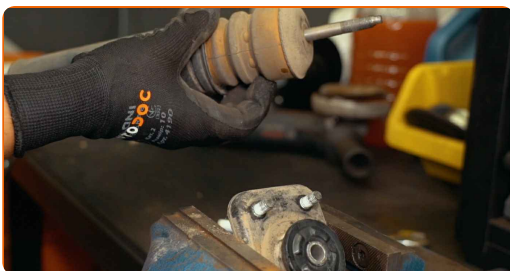
41

Remove the shock absorber piston rod fastening. Use a shock absorber socket DDN[®]6. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



42

Remove the shock strut mount.

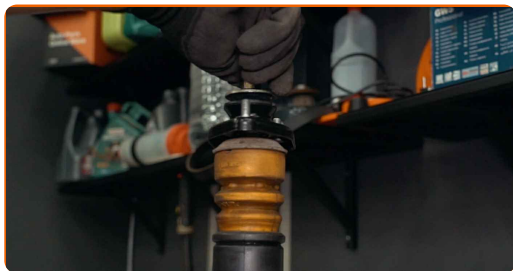


Replacement: strut mount – BMW X3 E83. Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- Examine the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop. Replace them if necessary.

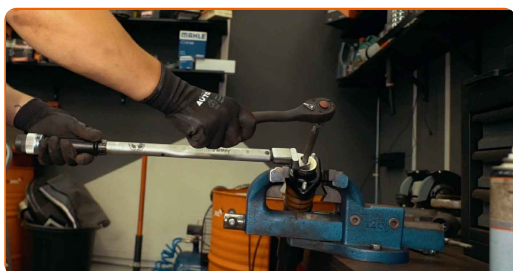
43

Install a new strut mount.



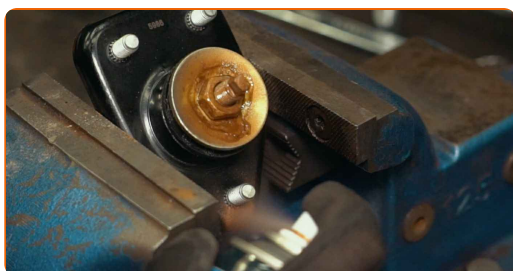
44

Tighten the shock absorber rod nut. Use a combination spanner #17. Use a shock absorber socket N°DD6. Use an adjustable wrench. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 14 Nm torque.



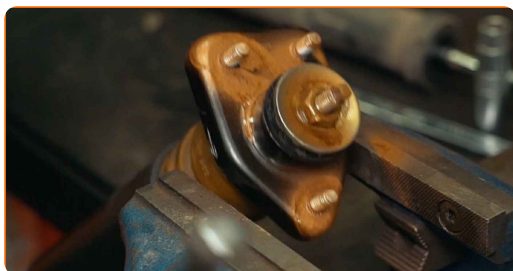
45

Treat the shock absorber rod fastener. Use copper grease.



46

Release the vice and take out the shock absorber.



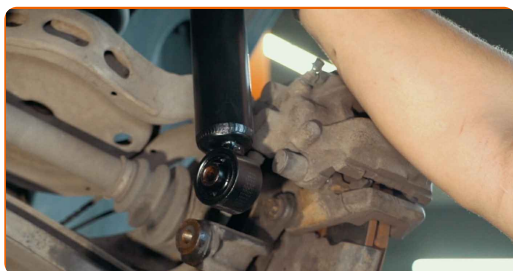
47

Clean the shock absorber mounting seats. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



48

Place the shock absorber in the wheel arch and secure it.

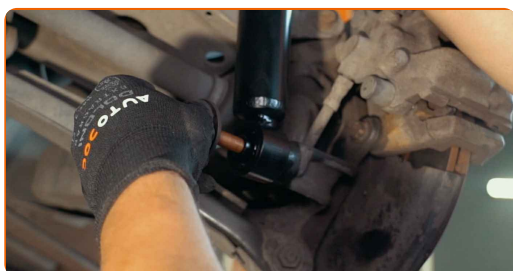


AUTODOC recommends:

- BMW X3 E83 – To avoid injury, hold the shock absorber while screwing in the fastening bolts.

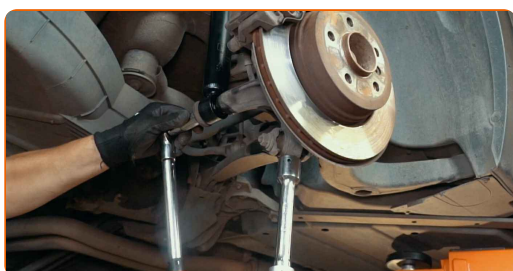
49

Install the fastening bolt.



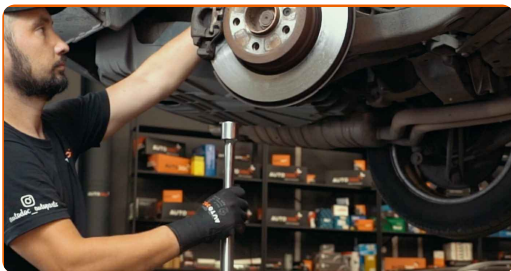
50

Tighten the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 100 Nm torque.



51

Remove the support from under the arm.



AUTODOC recommends:

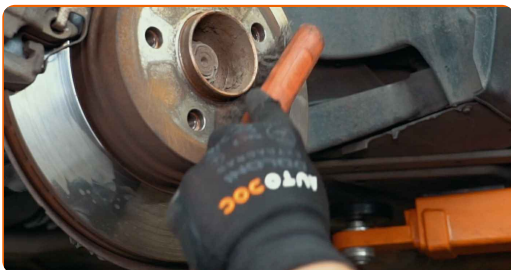
- Replacement: strut mount – BMW X3 E83. Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

52

Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Use copper grease.

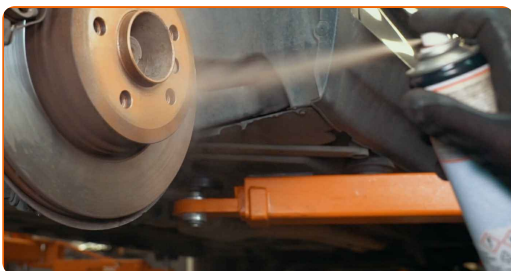
53

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



54

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



55

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: strut mount – BMW X3 E83. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

56

Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. BMW X3 E83

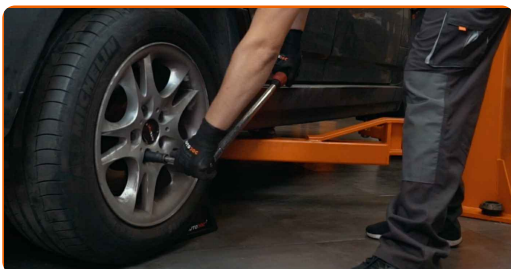
57

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



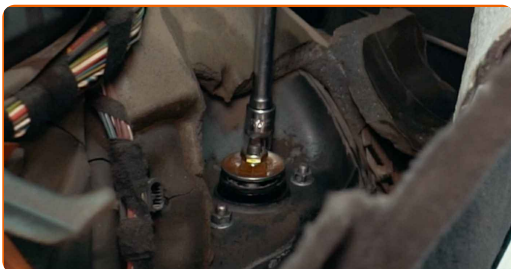
58

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.



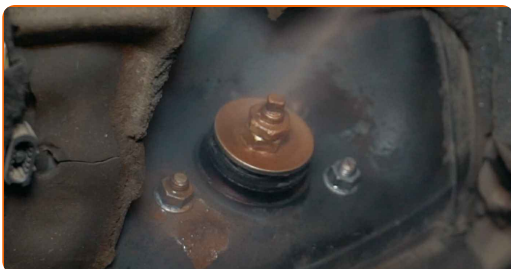
59

Tighten the top shock absorber fastening. Use a drive socket #13. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 24 Nm torque.



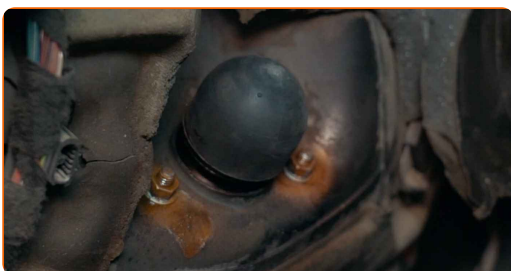
60

Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Use copper grease.



61

Install the protective cap of the shock absorber mount.



62

Attach the side lining of the boot.



63

Screw in the fastener of the boot side lining. Use a Phillips screwdriver.



64

Reinstall the parcel shelf.

65

Reinsert the parcel shelf clips. Use Torx T25. Use a ratchet wrench.



66

Attach the side lining of the boot.

67

Install the side plastic panel. Reinstall the seat belt panel.



68

Screw in the fasteners of the seat belt panel. Use a Phillips screwdriver.

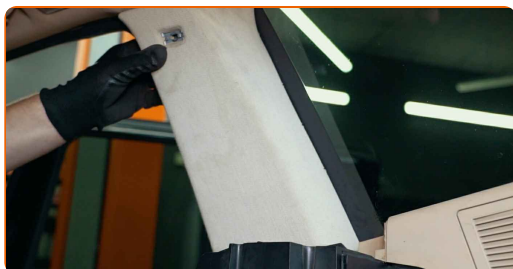


69

Screw the fasteners of the side plastic trim panel. Use a drive socket #10. Use a ratchet wrench.

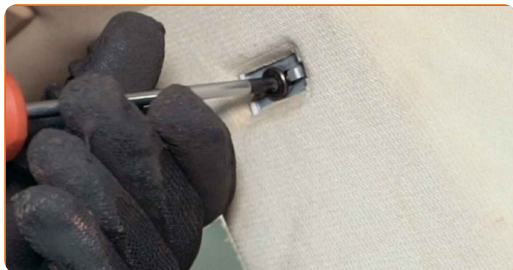
70

Attach the body pillar trim panel.



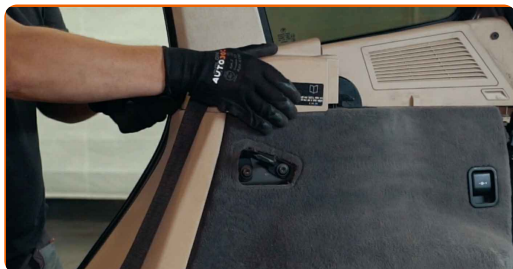
71

Screw in the fastener of the body pillar trim panel. Use Torx T20. Use a ratchet wrench.



72

Install the airbag cover.



73

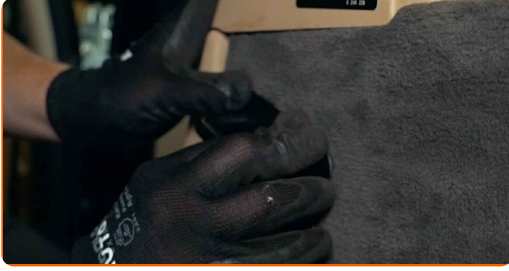
Install the boot rear side lining.

74

Install the seat belt trim cover.

75

Install the clips of the boot side lining.

**76**

Install the interior boot light.

77

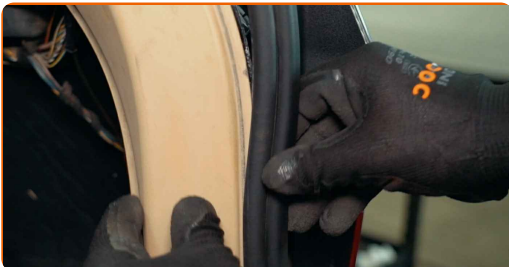
Reinstall the plastic car body protective cover.

**78**

Screw in the fasteners of the plastic car body protective cover. Use a Phillips screwdriver.

**79**

Install the rubber strip.



80

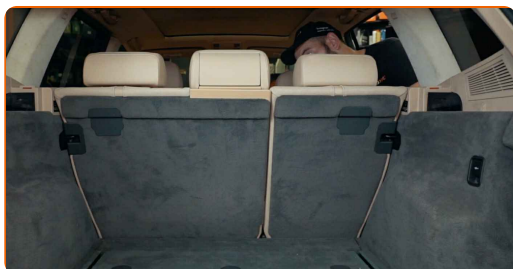
Attach the side lining of the boot.

**81**

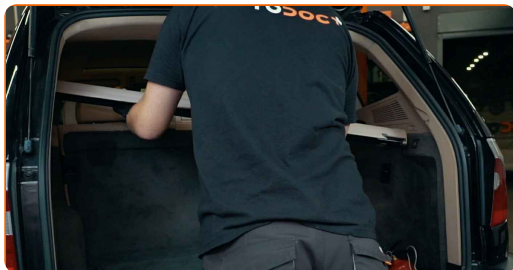
Put down the lower lining of the boot.

82

Return the seat to its original position.

**83**

Install the folding shelf to its mounting seat.

**84**

Close the lid of the luggage compartment.



85

Remove the jacks and chocks.

WELL DONE! 

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