



How to change front
brake pad wear sensor on
BMW 3 Saloon (E46) –
replacement guide

SIMILAR VIDEO TUTORIAL



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

i Important!

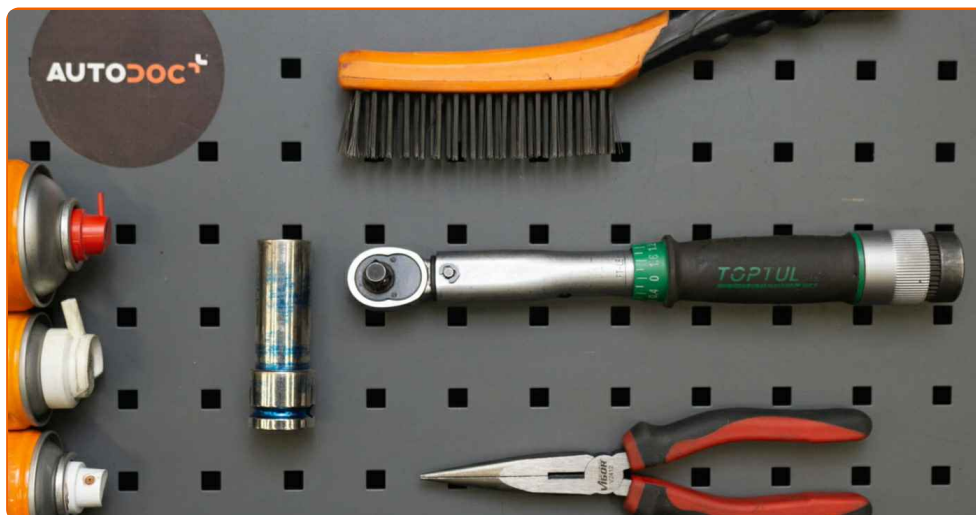
This replacement procedure can be used for:

BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 318i 1.9, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 328i 2.8, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 320d 2.0, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 323i 2.5, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 320i 2.0, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 316i 1.9, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 320i 2.2, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 325i 2.5, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 325xi 2.5, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 316i 1.6, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 318i 2.0, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 318d 2.0, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 316i 1.8

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 3 Touring (E46) 320d 2.0

REPLACEMENT: BRAKE PAD WEAR SENSOR – BMW 3 SALOON (E46). TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:



- Wire brush
- Brake cleaner
- Electronic spray
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Round-nose pliers
- Wheel chock

Buy tools

Replacement: brake pad wear sensor – BMW 3 Saloon (E46). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- The replacement procedure is identical for both brake pad wear sensors on the same axle.
- Please note: all work on the car – BMW 3 Saloon (E46) – should be done with the engine switched off.

CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1

Open the bonnet. Unscrew the brake fluid reservoir cap.

2

Secure the wheels with chocks.

3

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



4

Lift the car using a jack or place it over an inspection pit.

5

Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

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

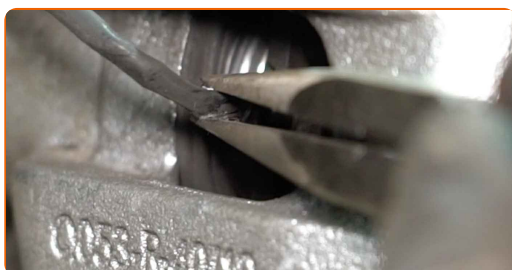
6

Remove the wheel.



7

Remove the brake pad wear sensor from the brake pad. Use round-nose pliers.



8

Open the cover of the wiring housing.

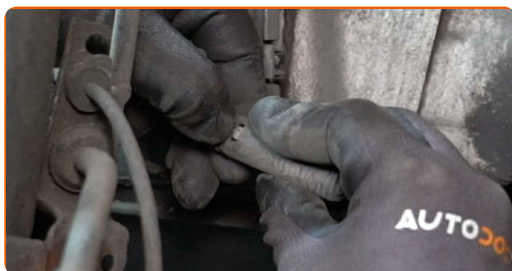


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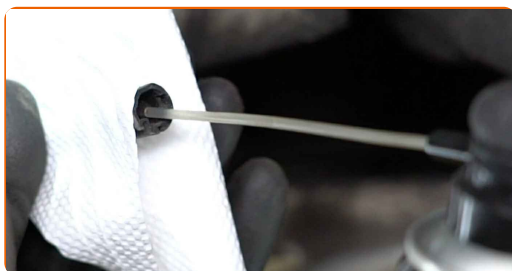
Disconnect the brake pad wear sensor wire.



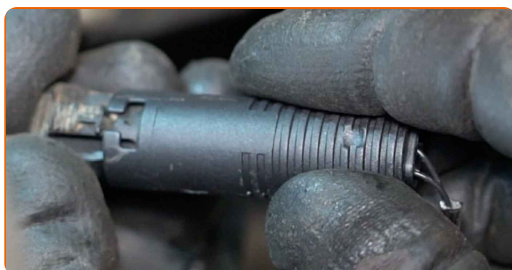
- 10 Detach the connector of the brake pad wear sensor.



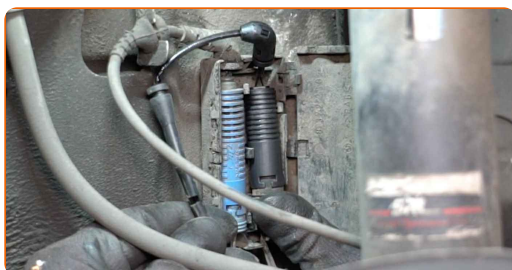
- 11 Treat the brake pad wear sensor plug. Use dielectric grease.



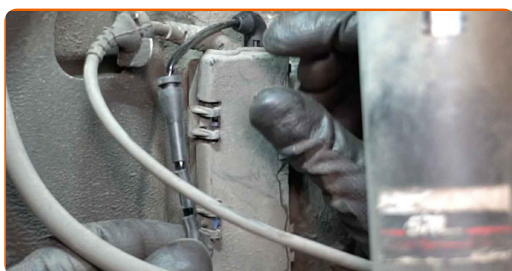
- 12 Attach the connector of the brake pad wear sensor.



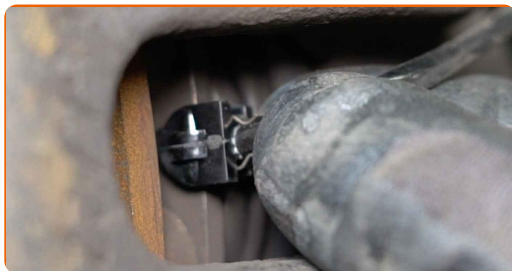
- 13 Connect the brake pad wear sensor wire.



- 14 Close the wiring housing cover.



- 15 Install the wear sensor on the brake pads. Use round-nose pliers.



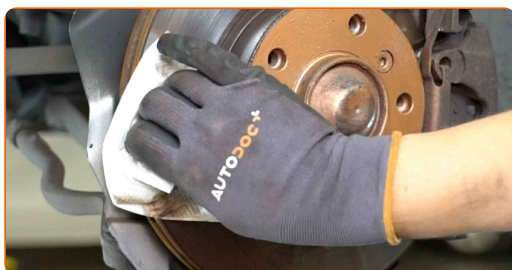
- 16 Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush.



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



- 18 Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.

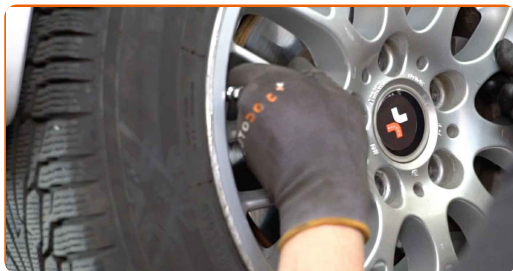


AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: brake pad wear sensor – BMW 3 Saloon (E46). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

19

Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. BMW 3 Saloon (E46)

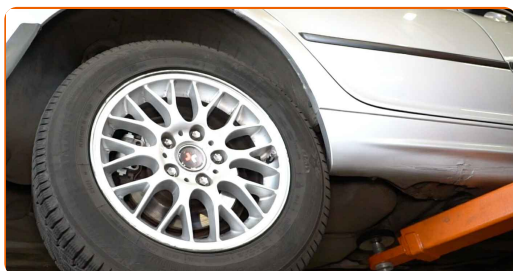
20

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



21

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 120 Nm torque.



22

Remove the jacks and chocks.



23

Tighten the brake fluid reservoir cap. Close the hood.

WELL DONE! 👍

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