

VIDEO TUTORIAL



❗ Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:

BMW 3 Touring (E36) 320i 2.0, BMW 3 Touring (E36) 328i 2.8, BMW 3 Touring (E36) 318tds 1.7, BMW 3 Touring (E36) 325tds 2.5, BMW 3 Touring (E36) 323i 2.5, BMW 3 Touring (E36) 318i 1.8, 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 Coupe (E46) 323Ci 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 328Ci 2.8, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 316i 1.9, BMW 3 Touring (E46) 320i 2.0, (+ 44)

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

REPLACEMENT: SHOCK ABSORBERS – BMW E46 CONVERTIBLE. LIST OF THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Copper grease
- Combination spanner #17
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 18
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Adjustable wrench
- Tap wrench
- Crow bar
- Vice
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

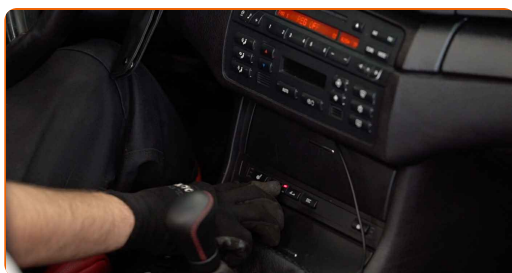
BUY TOOLS

Replacement: shock absorbers – BMW E46 convertible. AUTODOC recommends:

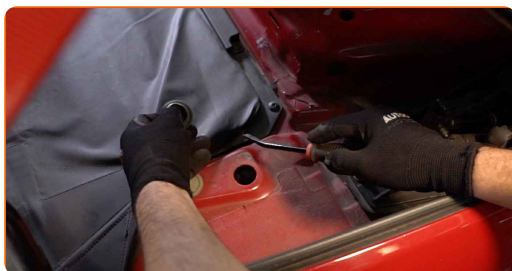
- Both shock absorbers of the rear suspension should be replaced simultaneously.
- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right shock absorbers of the rear suspension.
- Please note: all work on the car – BMW E46 convertible – should be done with the engine switched off.

CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

- 1 Press and hold the folding roof control switch. Hold the button pressed until you get access to the upper fasteners of the shock absorber.



- 2 Remove the shock strut mount caps. Use a crowbar.



- 3 Clean the fasteners of the shock absorber upper mount. Use WD-40 spray.



4

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



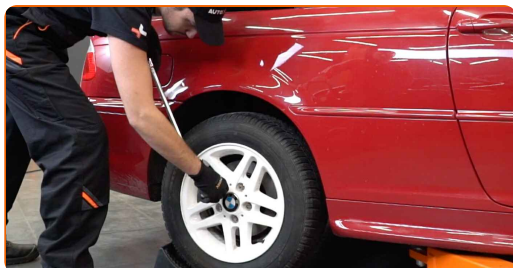
5

Secure the wheels with chocks.



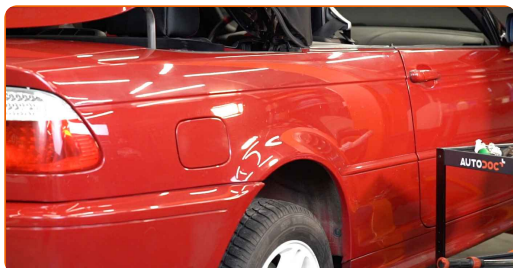
6

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



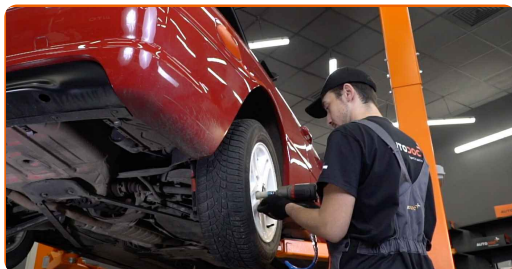
7

Raise the rear of the car and secure on supports.



8

Unscrew the wheel bolts.



Replacement: shock absorbers – BMW E46 convertible. Tip:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when unscrewing the bolts.

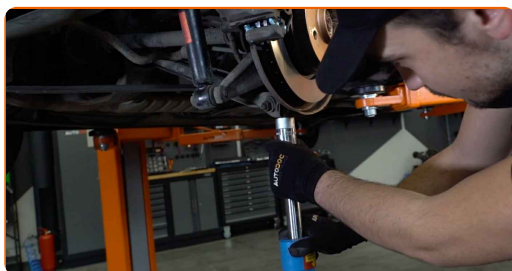
9

Remove the wheel.



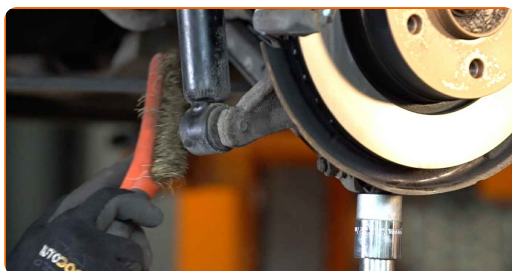
10

Support the arm. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



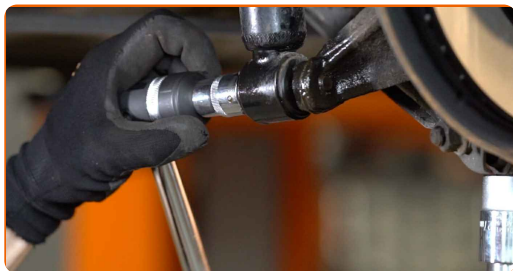
11

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



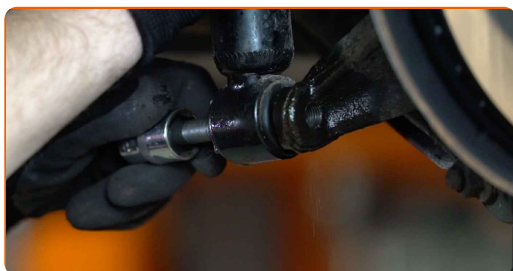
12

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



13

Remove the fastening bolt.



14

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

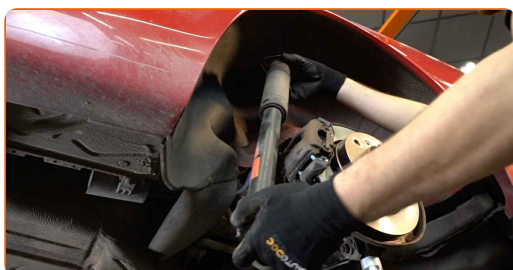


AUTODOC recommends:

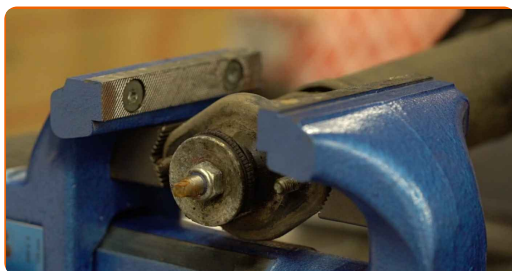
- Important! Hold the shock absorber while unscrewing the fastening bolts. BMW E46 convertible

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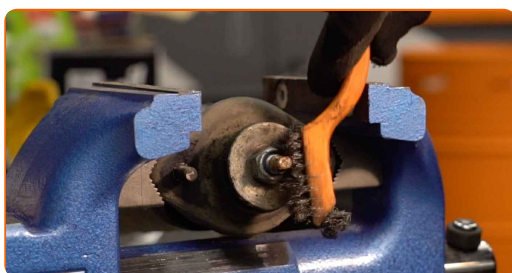
Remove the shock absorber.



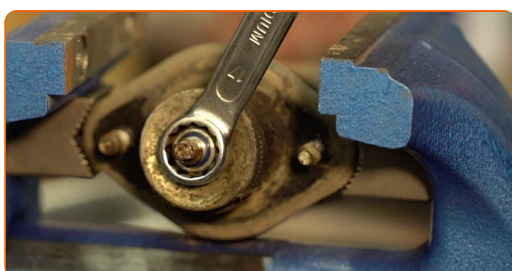
16 Grip the shock absorber in a vice.



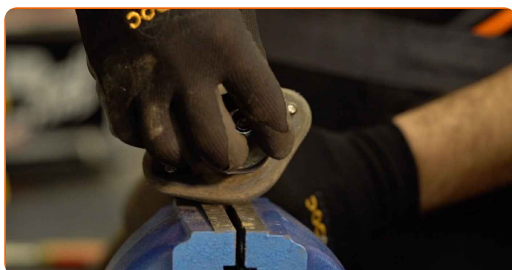
17 Clean the shock absorber rod fastener. Use a wire brush.



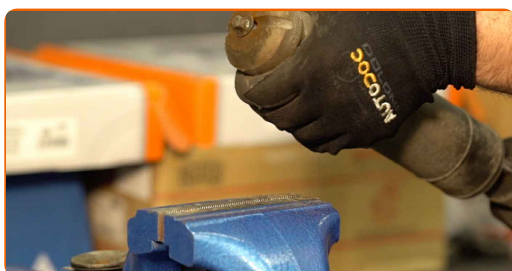
18 Remove the shock absorber piston rod fastening. Use a combination spanner #17.



19 Release the vice and take out the shock absorber.



20 Remove the shock absorber mount, boot and bump stop.

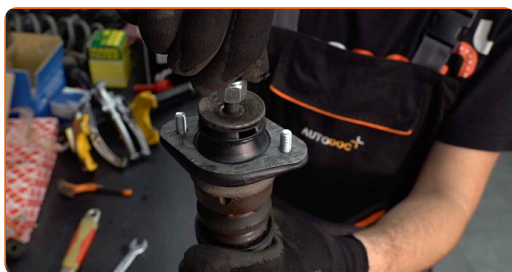


Replacement: shock absorbers – BMW E46 convertible. AUTODOC recommends:

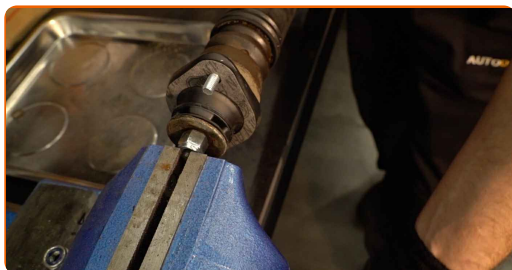
- Thoroughly examine the shock absorber mount, dust boot, bump stop. Replace them if necessary.
- Before installing a new shock absorber you should pump it manually 3-5 times.

21

Install the mount, boot and bump stop onto a new shock absorber.

**22**

Grip the shock absorber in a vice.

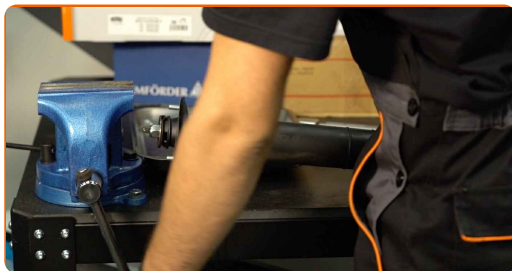
**23**

Screw the shock strut piston rod upper fastening. Use a combination spanner #17. Use an adjustable wrench. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 20 Nm torque.



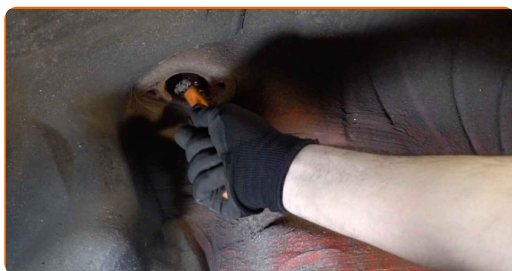
24

Release the vice and take out the shock absorber.



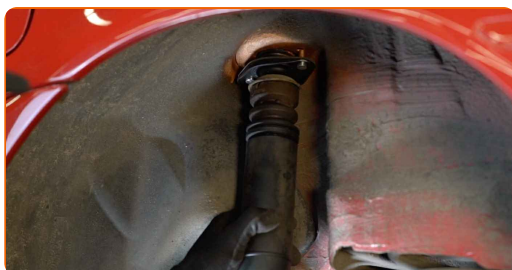
25

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



26

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



Replacement: shock absorbers – BMW E46 convertible. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- To avoid injury, hold the shock absorber cautiously tight when screwing in the fastening bolts.

27

Screw the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #13. Do not tighten it.



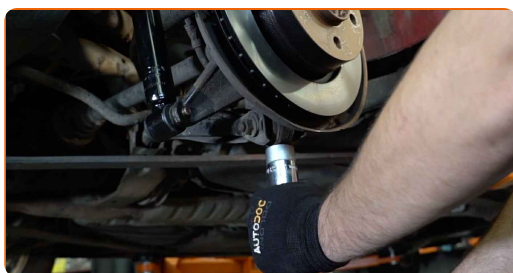
28

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



29

Remove the support from under the arm.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: shock absorbers – BMW E46 convertible. Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.