









(i) Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:

BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 316i 1.6, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 318i 1.8, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 318is 1.8, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 318is 1.8, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 320i 2.0, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 320i 2.0, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 325i 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 325i 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 325i 2.5, BMW 3 Convertible (E36) 320i 2.0, BMW 3 Convertible (E36) 325i 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 316i 1.6, BMW 3 Convertible (E36) 318i 1.8, BMW 3 Compact (E36) 316i 1.6, (+35)

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

CLUB.AUTODOC.CO.UK 1–18







REPLACEMENT: STRUT MOUNT – BMW E36. TOOLS YOU MIGHT NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #18
- Drive socket # 9
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 18

- Drive socket # 19
- Drive socket # 22
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Crow bar
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

BUY TOOLS

CLUB.AUTODOC.CO.UK 2-18







Replacement: strut mount – BMW E36. Tip from AUTODOC:

- The replacement procedure is identical for the mounts of the left and right shock struts of the front suspension.
- All mounts of the front shock struts should be replaced simultaneously.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: STRUT MOUNT – BMW E36. USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

1 Op

Open the bonnet.



Use a fender protection cover to prevent damaging paintwork and plastic parts of the car.



Secure the wheels with chocks.

CLUB.AUTODOC.CO.UK 3-18







Clean the fasteners of the shock strut upper mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



Loosen the upper fasteners of the suspension strut. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



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



Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.



CLUB.AUTODOC.CO.UK 4-18







8 Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.
 BMW E36
- 9 Remove the wheel.

10



Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



CLUB.AUTODOC.CO.UK 5-18







Unscrew the fasteners connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



Detach the brake hose from the shock strut.



Disconnect the ABS sensor wiring.



Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



Remove the fastening bolts.

14



CLUB.AUTODOC.CO.UK 6-18







Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut.



Unscrew the upper fasteners of the shock strut.



AUTODOC recommends:

- BMW E36 To avoid injury, hold the suspension strut while unscrewing the fastening bolts.
- 18 Remove the suspension strut.



Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.



CLUB.AUTODOC.CO.UK 7-18







Replacement: strut mount – BMW E36. Professionals recommend:

- Note that when using a spring compressor, spring coils need to be securely gripped, compressing the spring on the opposite sides.
- Ensure the correct position of the spring in the retainer.
- Make sure that the spring coils tightly entered the lock handles.
- Compress the spring.

22



Remove the shock strut mount cap. Use a crowbar.



Treat the shock strut rod. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



CLUB.AUTODOC.CO.UK 8-18







Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a drive socket #9. Use a drive socket #22. Use a ratchet wrench.



Remove the shock absorber mount, boot and bump stop.



Replacement: strut mount – BMW E36. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Examine the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop. Replace them if necessary.
- Install the boot and a bump stop onto the shock absorber.



26 Install a new top shock strut mount.



CLUB.AUTODOC.CO.UK 9-18







Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a drive socket #19. Use a drive socket #9. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 52 Nm torque.



Replacement: strut mount – BMW E36. Tip from AUTODOC experts:

• Check to make sure the spring is positioned correctly. Avoid its misalignment.

Treat the shock strut rod. Use copper grease.



29 Install the shock strut mount cap.



CLUB.AUTODOC.CO.UK 10-18