

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 Coupe (E46) 323Ci 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 328Ci 2.8, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 320Ci 2.0, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 318Ci 1.9, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 320Ci 2.2, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 325Ci 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 316Ci 1.6, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 318Ci 2.0, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 330Cd 3.0, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 320Cd 2.0, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 330Ci 3.0

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 3 Convertible (E46) 318Ci 2.0

REPLACEMENT: STRUT MOUNT – BMW 3 COUPE (E46). 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: strut mount – BMW 3 Coupe (E46). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- 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.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

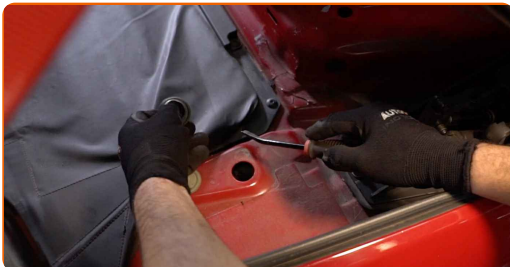
CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

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.



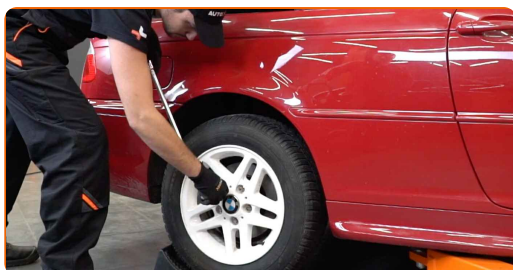
5

Secure the wheels with chocks.



6

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

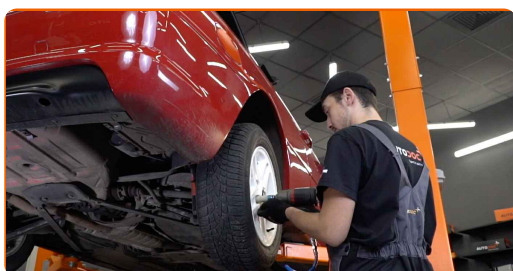


7

Raise the rear of the car and secure on supports.

8

Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

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

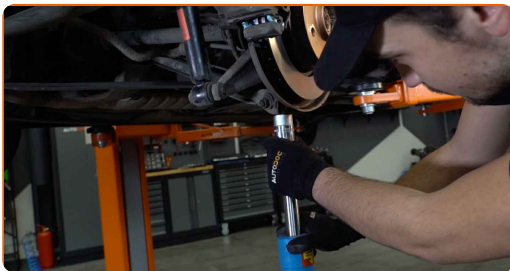
9

Remove the wheel.



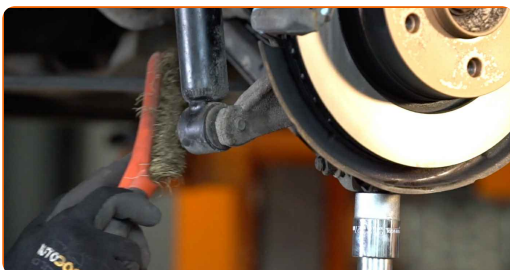
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Support the arm. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



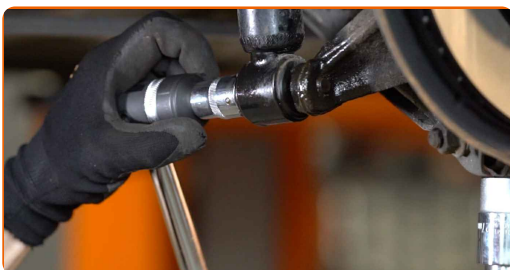
11

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



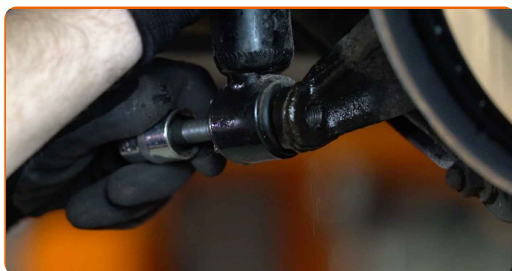
12

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



13

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



Replacement: strut mount – BMW 3 Coupe (E46). AUTODOC recommends:

- To avoid injuries, hold the shock absorber when undoing the fastening bolts.

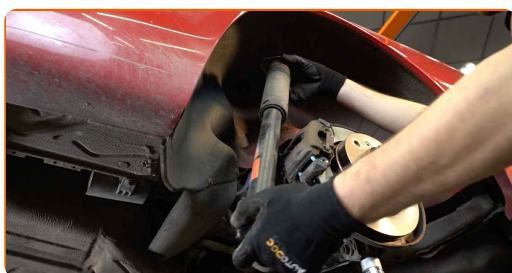
14

Remove the fastening bolt.



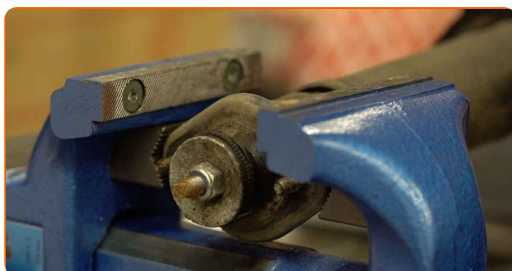
15

Remove the shock absorber.

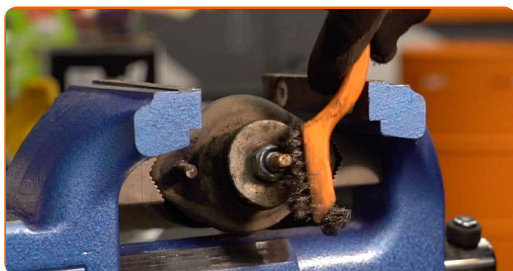


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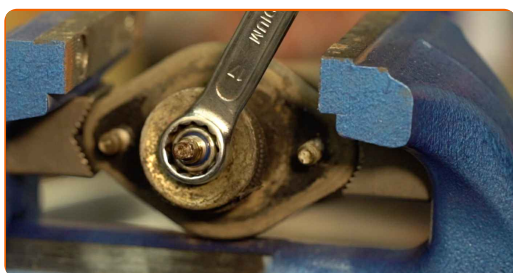
Grip the shock absorber in a vice.



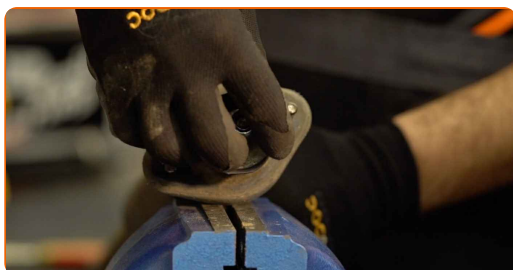
- 17 Clean the shock absorber rod fastener. Use a wire brush.



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



- 19 Release the vice and take out the shock absorber.



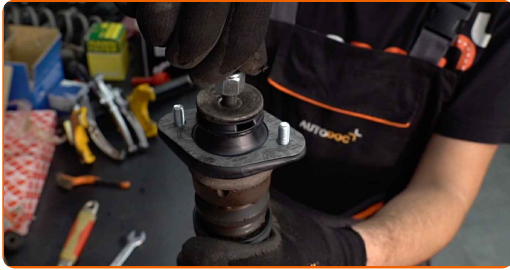
- 20 Remove the shock absorber mount, boot and bump stop.



Replacement: strut mount – BMW 3 Coupe (E46). Tip from AUTODOC:

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

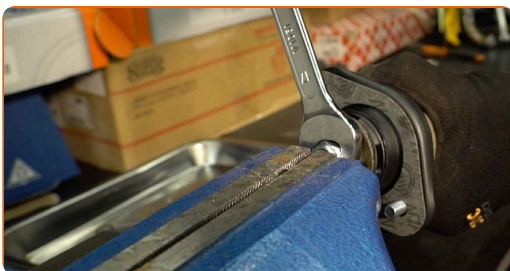
- 21 Install the new mount, boot, and bump stop on the shock absorber.



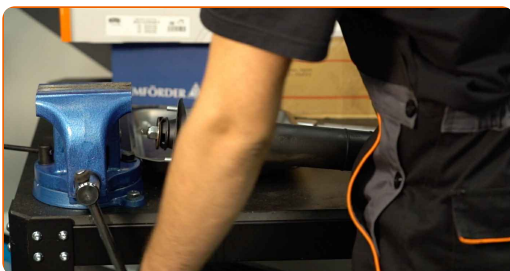
- 22 Grip the shock absorber in a vice.



- 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.

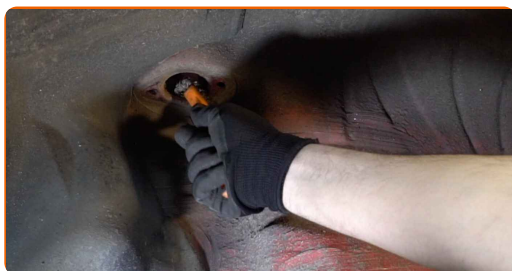


- 24 Release the vice and take out the shock absorber.



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.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the shock absorber while screwing in the fastening bolts. BMW 3 Coupe (E46)

27

Screw the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #13.



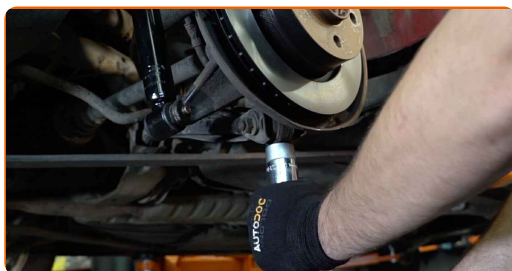
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Tighten the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 100 Nm torque.



29

Remove the support from under the arm.

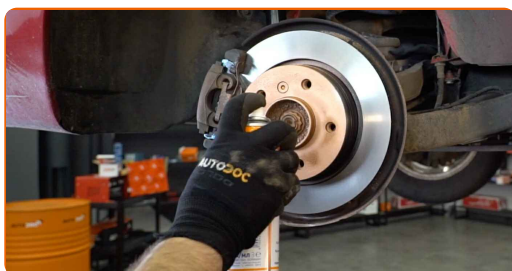


AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: strut mount – BMW 3 Coupe (E46). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

30

Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush. Treat the contacting surface. Use copper grease.



31

Install the wheel.



Replacement: strut mount – BMW 3 Coupe (E46). Professionals recommend:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when screwing in the fastening bolts.