



How to change rear strut  
mount on **BMW E36** –  
replacement guide

## VIDEO TUTORIAL



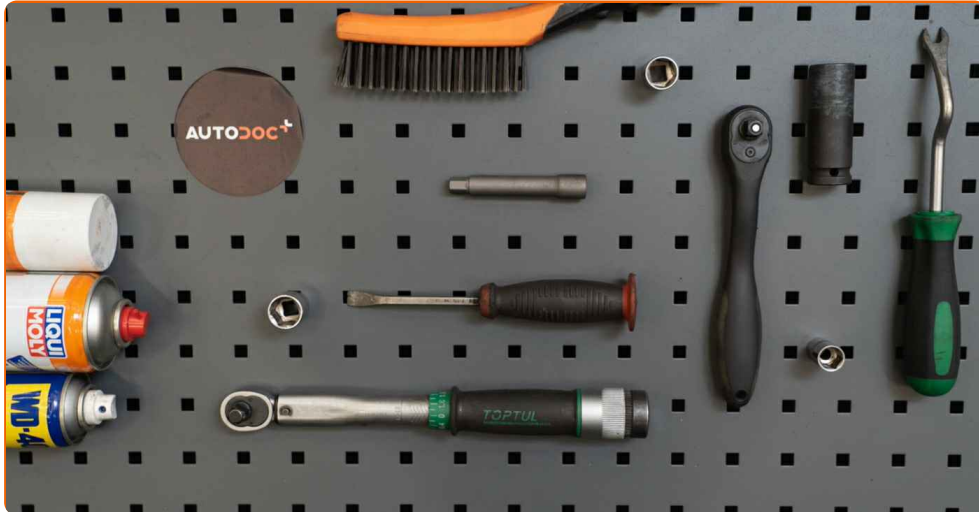
### Important!

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 Saloon (E36) 325td 2.5, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 325tds 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, (+ 62)

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

## REPLACEMENT: STRUT MOUNT – BMW E36. LIST OF THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 17
- Shock absorber socket #DD6
- Clip removal tool
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Vice
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

[BUY TOOLS](#)

Replacement: strut mount – BMW E36. 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.

## REPLACEMENT: STRUT MOUNT – BMW E36. RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF STEPS:

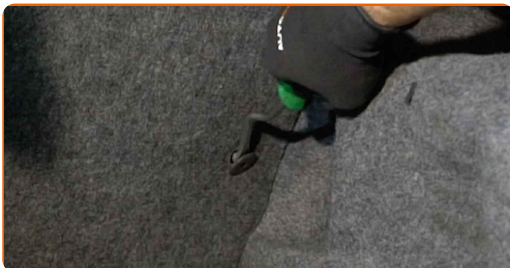
1

Open the boot lid.



2

Remove the clips of the boot side lining. Use a clip removal tool.



3

Detach the boot side lining.



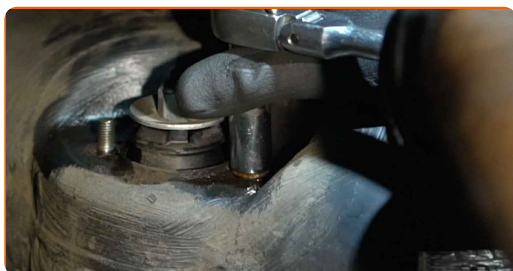
4

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



5

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



6

Secure the wheels with chocks.

7

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



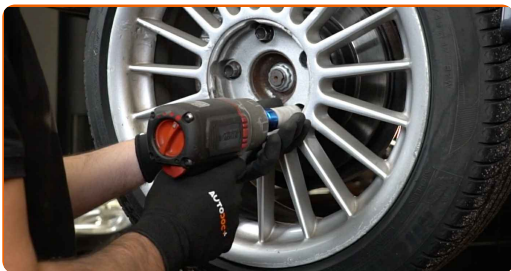
8

Raise the rear of the car and secure on supports.



9

Unscrew the wheel bolts.



### AUTODOC recommends:

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

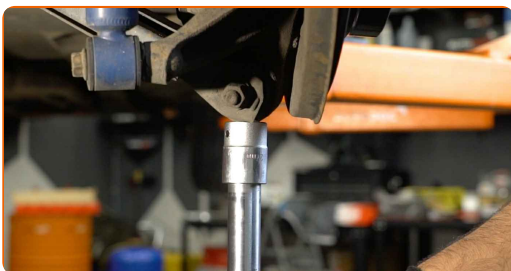
10

Remove the wheel.



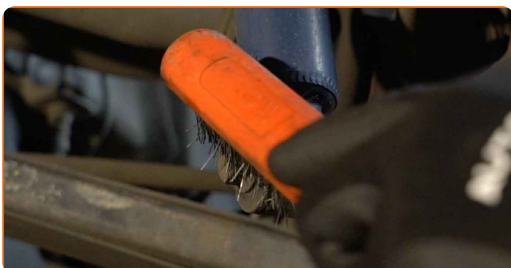
11

Support the arm. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



12

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



13

Unscrew the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #17. Use a ratchet wrench.

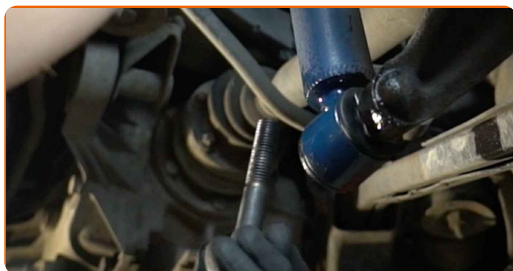


### AUTODOC recommends:

- BMW E36 – To avoid injury, hold the shock absorber while unscrewing the fastening bolts.

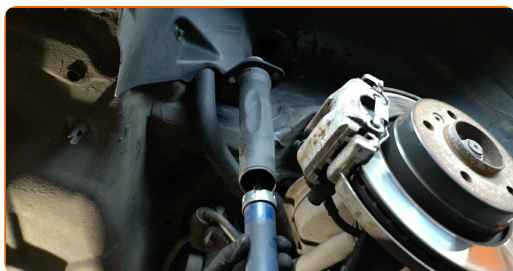
14

Remove the fastening bolt.



15

Remove the shock absorber.



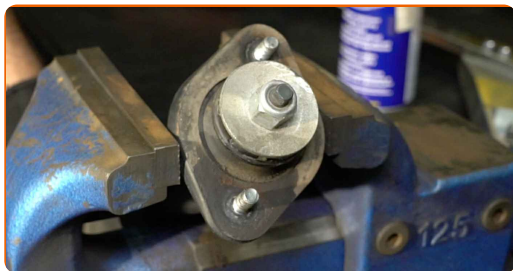
16

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





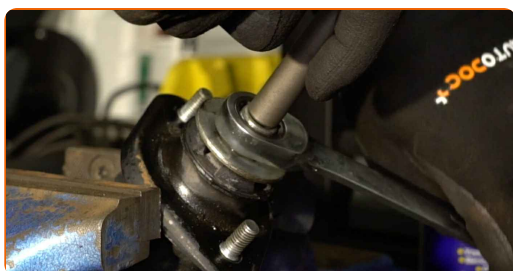
17 Grip the shock absorber in a vice.



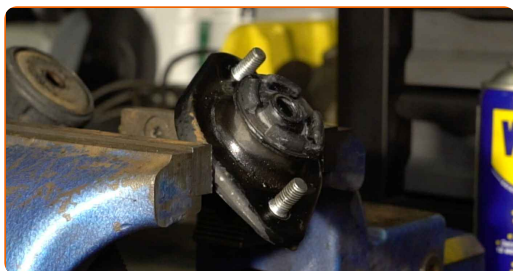
18 Clean the shock absorber rod fastener. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



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



20 Remove the shock absorber upper mount.



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

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



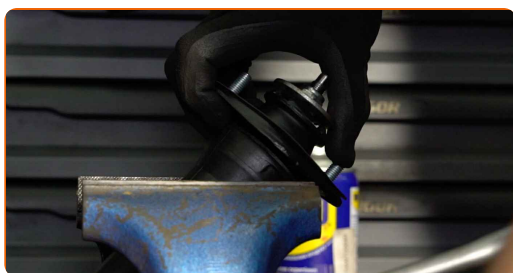
- 21 Install the new shock absorber mount.



- 22 Tighten the shock absorber rod nut. Use a drive socket #16. Use a shock absorber socket DDN°6 Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 37 nm torque.



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



- 24 Treat the shock absorber rod fastener. Use copper grease.



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

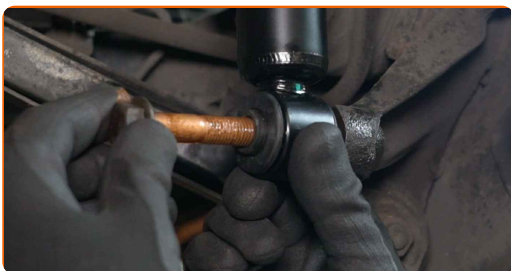


### AUTODOC recommends:

- BMW E36 – To avoid injury, hold the shock absorber while screwing in the fastening bolts.

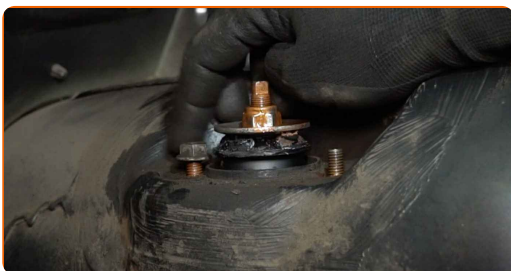
26

Install the fastening bolt.



27

Screw the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Do not tighten it.



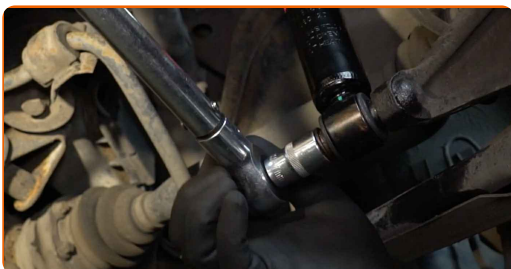
28

Raise the hydraulic transmission jack by 10-15 cm.



29

Tighten the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 100 Nm torque.



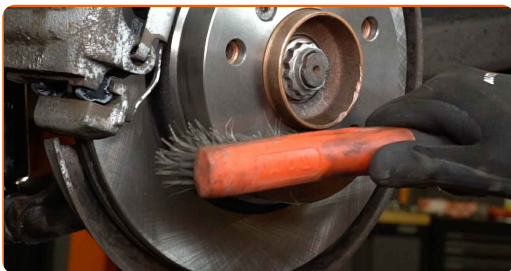
30 Remove the support from under the arm.

### AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: strut mount – BMW E36. Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

31 Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Use copper grease.

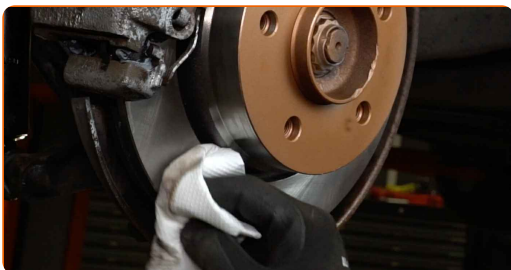
32 Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush.



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



34 Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



### AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: strut mount – BMW E36. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

35

Install the wheel.

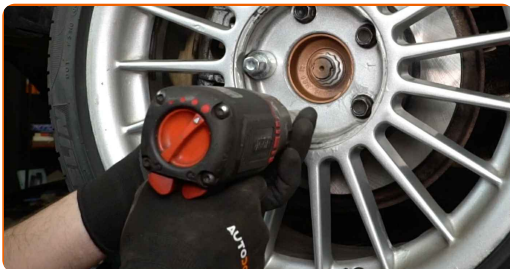


### AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. BMW E36

36

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

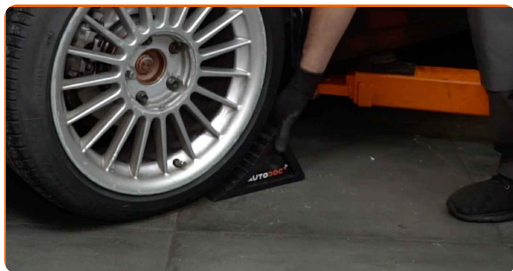


37

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.



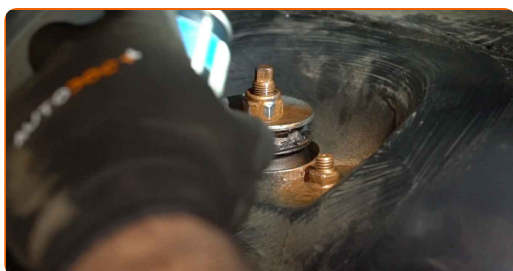
**38** Remove the jacks and chocks.



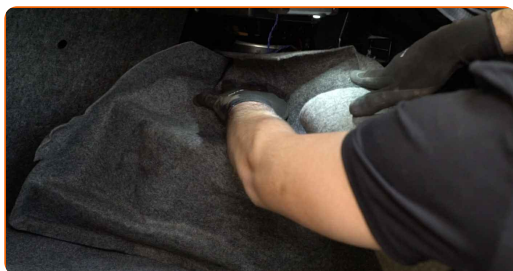
**39** Tighten the top shock absorber fastening. Use a drive socket #13. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 24 Nm torque.



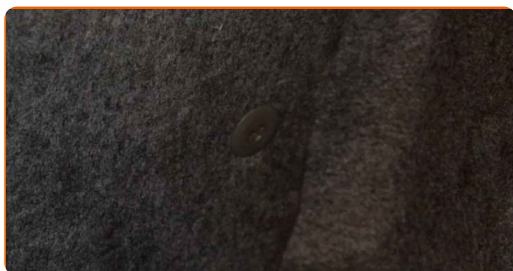
**40** Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Use copper grease.



**41** Attach the side lining of the boot.



**42** Install the clips of the boot side lining.



**43**

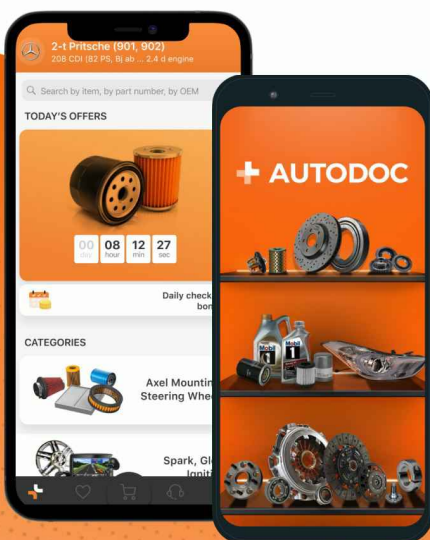
Close the lid of the luggage compartment.

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