



325i
325xi

Congratulations, and thank you for choosing a BMW.

Thorough familiarity with your vehicle will provide you with enhanced control and security when you drive it. Therefore we have one request:

Please take the time to read this Owner's Manual and familiarize yourself with the information that we have compiled for you before starting off in your new BMW. The manual contains important data and instructions intended to assist you in obtaining maximum satisfaction from your BMW's unique array of advanced technical features. It also contains information on vehicle maintenance designed to enhance operating safety while simultaneously helping you to maintain your BMW's value throughout an extended service life. For additional information refer to the supplemental manuals.

This Owner's Manual should be considered a permanent part of this vehicle. It should stay with the vehicle when sold to provide the next owner with important operating, safety and maintenance information.

This manual is supplemented by a Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models) or a Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models).

We recommend that you read this publication thoroughly.

Your BMW is covered by the following warranties:

- New Vehicle Limited Warranty
- Limited Rust Perforation Warranty
- Federal Emissions System Defect Warranty
- Federal Emissions Performance Warranty
- California Emission Control System Limited Warranty

Detailed descriptions of these warranties are provided in the Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models) or in the Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models).

We wish you an enjoyable driving experience.

BMW AG

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Notes on the Owner's Manual

We have made every effort to ensure that you are able to find what you need in this Owner's Manual as quickly as possible. The fastest way to find specific topics is by using the detailed index at the end. If you wish to gain only an initial overview of your vehicle, you will find this in the first chapter. The detailed table of contents is intended to stimulate your interest and encourage you to read the remainder of the manual.

Should you wish to sell your BMW at some time in the future, please remember to hand over this Owner's Manual to the new owner; it is legal part of the vehicle.

If you have any additional questions, your BMW center will be glad to advise you.

Symbols used



Indicates precautions that must be followed precisely in order to avoid the possibility of personal injury and serious damage to the vehicle. ◀



Contains information that will assist you in gaining the optimum benefit from your vehicle and enable you to care more effectively for your vehicle. ◀



Refers to measures that can be taken to help protect the environment. ◀

◀ Marks the end of a specific item of information.

* Indicates special equipment, country-specific equipment and optional extras.



Identifies systems or components, which can either be activated or adapted to suit an individual driver's requirements ("Vehicle Memory", "Key Memory"), refer to page 54. Remember that activation and adjustments on some of these systems can only be performed at your BMW center. ◀

Your individual vehicle

On purchasing your BMW, you have decided in favor of a model with individualized equipment and features. This Owner's Manual describes all models and equipment that BMW offers within the same group.

We hope you will understand that equipment and features are included that you might not have chosen for your vehicle. You can easily identify any differences with the aid of the asterisk * used to identify all optional equipment and accessories.

If your BMW features equipment which is not described in this Owner's Manual (car radio or telephone, for instance), supplementary Owner's Manuals are enclosed. We ask you to read these manuals as well.

Status at time of printing

BMW pursues a policy of continuous, ongoing development designed to ensure that our vehicles continue to embody the highest quality and safety standards combined with advanced, state-of-the-art technology. For this reason, it is possible that the features described in this Owner's Manual could differ from those on your vehicle. Nor can errors and omissions be entirely ruled out. You are therefore asked to appreciate that no legal claims can be recognized on the basis of the data, illustrations or descriptions in this Owner's Manual.

For your own safety



Use unleaded gasoline only. Fuels containing up to and including 10 % ethanol or other oxygenates with up to 2.8 % oxygen by weight (i.e. 15 % MTBE or 3 % methanol plus an equivalent amount of co-solvent) will not void the applicable warranties respecting defects in materials or workmanship. Field experience has indicated significant differences in fuel quality (volatility, composition, additives, for example) among gasolines offered for sale in the United States and Canada. The use of poor-quality fuels may result in driveability, starting and stalling problems especially under certain environmental conditions, such as high ambient temperature and high altitude.

Should you encounter driveability problems which you suspect could be related to the fuel you are using, we recommend that you respond by switching to a recognized high-quality brand.

Failure to comply with these recommendations may result in unscheduled maintenance.

Obey all applicable safety rules when you are handling gasoline. ◀



Important safety information!

For your own safety, use genuine parts and accessories approved by BMW.

When you purchase accessories tested and approved by BMW and Original BMW Parts, you simultaneously acquire the assurance that they have been thoroughly tested by BMW to ensure optimum performance when installed on your vehicle.

BMW warrants these parts to be free from defects in material and workmanship.

BMW will not accept any liability for damage resulting from installation of parts and accessories not approved by BMW.

BMW cannot test every product made by other manufacturers to ascertain whether it can be used on a BMW safely and without risk to either the vehicle, its operation, or its occupants.

Original BMW Parts, BMW Accessories and other products approved by BMW, together with professional advice on using these items, are available from all BMW centers.

Installation and operation of non-BMW approved accessories such as alarms,

radios, amplifiers, radar detectors, wheels, suspension components, brake dust shields, telephones (including operation of any portable cellular phone from within the vehicle without using an externally mounted antenna) or transceiver equipment (such as CB, walkie-talkie, ham radio or similar) may cause extensive damage to the vehicle, compromise its safety, interfere with the vehicle's electrical system or affect the validity of the BMW Limited Warranty. Contact your BMW center for additional information.

Do not use key or remote control to lock doors or cargo area with anyone inside the vehicle. Refer to pages [29](#) and [32](#) for more details. ◀



Maintenance, replacement, or repair of the emission control devices and systems may be performed by any automotive repair establishment or individual using any certified automotive part. ◀

Symbol on vehicle parts



Indicates that you should consult the relevant section of this Owner's Manual for information on a particular part or assembly.

The following applies only to vehicles owned and operated in the US.

REPORTING SAFETY DEFECTS

If you believe that your vehicle has a defect which could cause a crash or could cause injury or death, you should immediately inform the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in addition to notifying BMW of North America, LLC, P.O. Box 1227, Westwood, New Jersey 07675-1227, Telephone (201) 307-4000.

If NHTSA receives similar complaints, it may open an investigation, and if it finds that a safety defect exists in a group of vehicles, it may order a recall and remedy campaign. However, NHTSA cannot become involved in individual problems between you, your dealer, or BMW of North America, LLC.

To contact NHTSA, you may either call the Auto Safety Hotline toll-free at 1-800-424-9393 (or 366-0123 in Washington, D.C. area) or write to: NHTSA, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590. You can also obtain other information about motor vehicle safety from the Hotline.



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Operation, maintenance

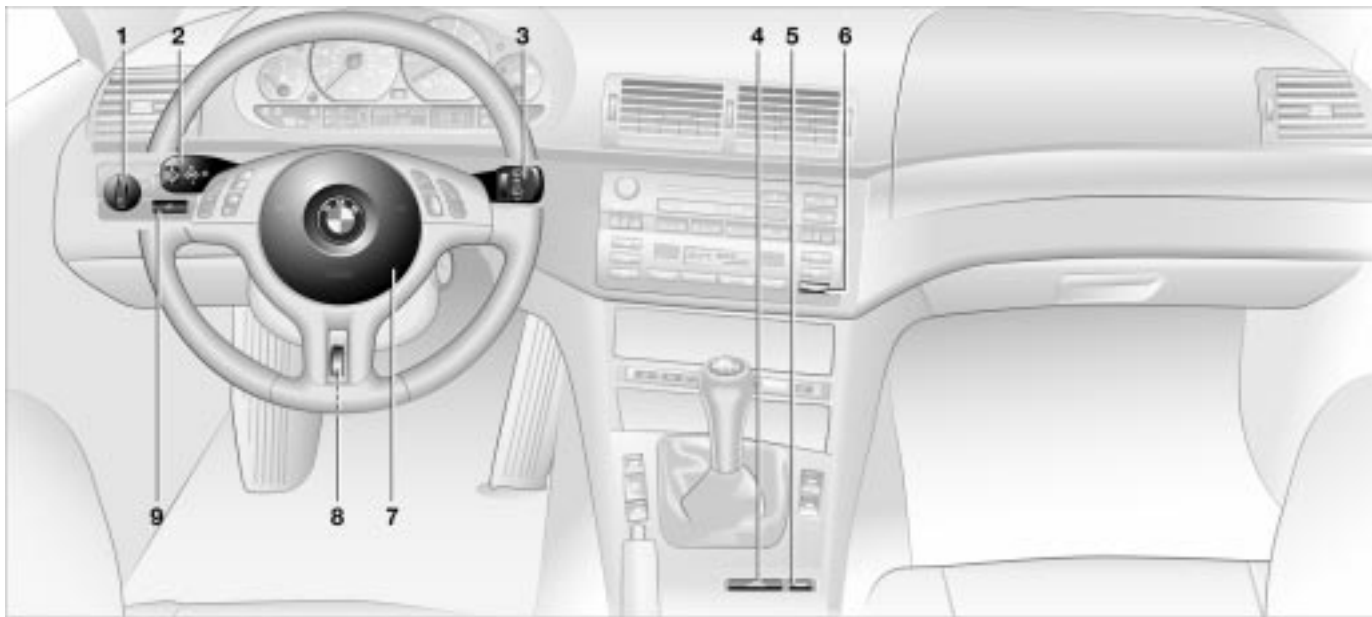
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Indicator and warning lamps

Technology that monitors itself

Indicator and warning lamps that are identified by ● are tested for proper functioning whenever the ignition key is turned. They each light up once for different periods of time.

If a fault should occur in one of these systems, the corresponding lamp does not go out after the engine is started, or it lights up while the vehicle is moving. You will see how to react to this in the following section.

Red: stop immediately



Battery charge current ●
The battery is no longer being charged. Indicates a defective alternator drive belt or a problem with the alternator's charge circuit. Please contact the nearest BMW center.



! If the drive belt is defective, stop and switch off the engine immediately to prevent overheating and serious engine damage. If the drive belt is defective, increased steering effort is also required. ◀



Engine oil pressure ●
Stop the vehicle immediately and switch off the engine. Check the engine oil level and top off as required. If the oil level is correct, please contact the nearest BMW center.



! Do not continue driving, as the engine could sustain serious damage from inadequate lubrication. ◀



Brake warning lamp ●
If the lamp comes on when the parking brake is not engaged: check the brake fluid level. Before driving further, be sure to comply with the instructions on pages [106](#) and [118](#)



Brake warning lamp for Canadian models.



Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC)/Flat Tire Monitor ●
In addition, an acoustic signal is sounded: a tire failure has occurred. Reduce vehicle speed immediately and stop the vehicle. Avoid hard brake applications. As you steer the vehicle, use caution and avoid overcorrecting. For additional information refer to pages [78](#), [80](#)

18 Indicator and warning lamps

Red and yellow: continue driving cautiously



The brake warning lamp comes on together with the yellow indicator lamps for ABS and ASC+T/DSC:



The entire ABS, CBC, ASC+T/DSC and ADB/ADB-X/DBC control system has failed.



Continue driving cautiously and defensively. Avoid full brake applications. Please have the system checked by your BMW center as soon as possible.

For additional information refer to pages [71](#), [73](#)



CBC, ABS and ASC+T/DSC and ADB/ADB-X/DBC indicator and warning lamps for Canadian models.



Red: an important reminder



Parking brake warning lamp
Comes on when the parking brake is engaged – an additional acoustic signal sounds when starting off.

For additional information refer to page [57](#)



Parking brake warning lamp for Canadian models.



Fasten safety belts ●

An acoustic warning also sounds in some versions. Lights up either for several seconds or until the belt is engaged, depending upon version.

For additional information on safety belts refer to page [44](#)



Airbags ●

Please have the system inspected by your BMW center.
For additional information refer to page [48](#)

Orange: consult the nearest BMW center



Automatic transmission
The transmission has responded to a malfunction by reverting to operation in its emergency default program. Please consult the nearest BMW center.

For additional information refer to page [58](#)

Indicator and warning lamps

Yellow: check as soon as possible



Antilock Brake System (ABS) ●
ABS has been deactivated in response to system malfunction.

Conventional braking performance remains available with no loss of efficiency. Please have the system inspected by your BMW center.

For additional information refer to page [105](#)



ABS warning lamp for Canadian models.



Engine oil level

Comes on while driving: the engine oil level has fallen to the absolute minimum; refill as soon as possible. Do not drive more than approx. 30 miles (50 km) until you do. For additional information refer to page [115](#)



Engine oil level

Comes on after the engine has been switched off: add engine oil at the earliest opportunity (next time you stop to refuel). For additional information refer to page [115](#)



Brake pads ●

Have the brake pads checked. For additional information refer to page [106](#)



Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC)/Flat Tire Monitor ●

Check tire inflation pressures, refer to pages [24](#), [78](#), [80](#)



Automatic Stability Control plus Traction (ASC+T)/Dynamic Stability Control (DSC) ●

Indicator lamp flashes:

The system is actively regulating drive torque and braking force.

The indicator lamp stays lit:

ASC+T has been switched off with the button or it is defective or, the DSC has been switched off, ADB is operational. Please contact the nearest BMW center in case of a malfunction.

For additional details refer to information beginning on page [71](#)

BMW 325xi:

DSC has been switched off manually or there is a system malfunction. ADB-X is operational in its standby mode. If the warning lamp fails to go out when you press the DSC button again, this indicates a system malfunction affecting both DSC and ADB-X.

Please consult the nearest BMW center.

For additional information refer to page [75](#)



Indicator lamp for Automatic Stability Control plus Traction (ASC+T)/Dynamic Stability Control (DSC) and brake warning lamp ●

The indicator lamps remain on:

The DSC and ADB/DBC have been switched off with the button or are defective.

Please consult the nearest BMW center. For additional information refer to page [73](#)

BMW 325xi:

DSC and ADB-X system malfunction. There is no provision for switching off ADB-X.

Please consult the nearest BMW center. For additional information refer to page [75](#)



DSC and ADB indicator and warning lamps for Canadian models.



Dynamic Brake Control (DBC) ●
Malfunction in DBC system.

Conventional braking efficiency is available and unrestricted. Have the system repaired at your BMW center as soon as possible. For additional information refer to page [74](#)

20 Indicator and warning lamps



Add washer fluid

The washer fluid level is too low. Top off the fluid at the earliest opportunity. For additional information refer to page [114](#)



SERVICE ENGINE SOON ●

If the indicator lamp comes on either continuously or intermittently, this indicates a fault in the emissions-related electronic systems. Although the vehicle remains operational, you should have the systems checked by your BMW center at the earliest possible opportunity. For additional information refer to page [121](#).



SERVICE ENGINE SOON warning lamp for Canadian models.



Engine electronics ●

There is a fault in the electronic engine-management system. You can continue to drive with reduced engine output or engine speed. Please have the system inspected at your BMW center.



Add coolant

The coolant level is too low. Add coolant at the earliest opportunity. For additional information refer to page [117](#)

Green: for your information



Turn signal indicator

Flashes when the turn signals are on.

Rapid flashing indicates a system malfunction.

For additional information refer to page [60](#)



Cruise control

Lights up when the cruise control is activated: available for operation via the multifunction steering wheel.

For additional information refer to page [63](#)



Fog lamps

Lights up whenever you switch on the fog lamps.

For additional information refer to page [83](#)

Blue: for your information



High beams

Comes on when the high beams are on or the headlamp flasher is actuated.

For additional information refer to pages [60](#), [83](#)

Multifunction steering wheel (MFL)*

The buttons integrated in the multifunction steering wheel are provided so that you can operate a number of accessories quickly and without being distracted from traffic conditions. You may operate:

- ▷ Selected radio functions
- ▷ The cruise control
- ▷ Selected cellular phone functions.



The controls are active only when the corresponding systems and accessories are switched on. ◀



Press briefly:
Receive a phone call, initiate dialing, terminate a call.



Switch between phone, radio, cassette and CD.



Forward:

- ▷ Radio
Press briefly: station scan in FM band
Extended pressure: search function
- ▷ CD
Press briefly: jump to next track
Extended pressure: search function in track
- ▷ Cassette
Press briefly: stop track scan or fast forward
Extended pressure: fast forward
- ▷ Phone
Scan personal phone book.



Rewind/reverse: functions as fast forward.



Volume



Cruise control: select a stored setting.



Cruise control: store and accelerate (+) or decelerate and store (-).



Cruise control: activate/interrupt/deactivate.

22 **Hazard warning triangle*** **Refueling**



The warning triangle is located on the left side of the cargo area behind the cover panel.

To open: press the button (arrow) and remove the cover.

 Always observe all legal regulations requiring a warning triangle to be carried in the vehicle. ◀



Fuel filler door

 Before filling the tank, switch off the engine. If you do not, fuel cannot be filled into the tank and the SERVICE ENGINE SOON lamp may come on. ◀

Press on the rear edge of the fuel filler door to open and close it.

Manual release: undo the trim panel on the right side of the cargo area. Pull the knob with the fuel pump symbol.

 Always observe all safety precautions posted at the service station when handling fuel. Never carry spare fuel containers in your vehicle. Whether empty or full, these containers can leak, cause an explosion, or lead to fire in the event of a collision. ◀



Simple and environmentally friendly

 Open the fuel filler cap carefully to prevent fuel from spraying out. Fuel spray may cause injury. ◀

Put the filler cap in the bracket (arrow) attached to the fuel filler door.

When refueling, insert the filler nozzle completely into the filler pipe. Pulling the nozzle out of the pipe during refueling

- ▷ results in premature pump shutoff
- ▷ and will reduce the effectiveness of the vapor recovery system on the pump.

As long as the filler nozzle is used properly, the fuel tank is full whenever the nozzle shuts off the first time.

 Refill early to avoid damaging the catalytic converter; never attempt to drive to the last drop of fuel in the tank. ◀

 Close the fuel filler cap carefully after refueling until a click is heard. While closing, be sure not to squeeze the strap which is fastened to the cap. A loose or missing cap will activate the CHECK FILLER CAP lamp or the SERVICE ENGINE SOON lamp. ◀

Tank capacity: approx. 16.6 gal. (63 liters), incl. a reserve capacity of approx. 2.1 gal. (8 liters).

The engine uses lead-free gasoline only.

Required fuel:

- ▷ Premium Unleaded Gasoline, min. 91 AKI.
AKI = Anti Knock Index

 Never use leaded fuel, as it would cause permanent and irreversible damage to the oxygen sensor and the catalytic converter. ◀



The specified inflation pressures are provided on a sticker attached to the B-pillar and visible with the driver's door open.

Checking tire pressures

All pressures are specified in the standard units of pressure for your country, psi or kilopascal, and apply to cold tires (tires at ambient temperature, refer to tire pressure table on the following page).

Vehicles with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC)/Flat Tire Monitor:

After correcting the inflation pressures, reactivate the system, refer to pages [78](#), [80](#).

Another instruction plate regarding inflation pressures on the door pillar indicates which system is equipped on your vehicle.



Check the tire pressures on a regular basis – at least twice a month – and before every extended journey. Otherwise, incorrect tire pressure can lead to driving instability, tire damage and accidents.

Remember to check the inflation pressure in the space-saver or standard spare tire.

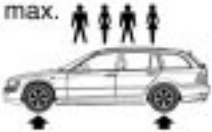
Inflate the spare tire to the highest inflation pressure of any tire on your vehicle. ◀

Comply with tire approval specifications

The inflation pressures in the table apply to BMW approved tire sizes and tire manufacturers. Your BMW center is familiar with these pressures. Higher pressures may be specified for tires made by other manufacturers.

Your vehicle is equipped with tires that not only meet US standards, but also European standards. We recommend the exclusive use of BMW approved tires.

Tire inflation pressures

BMW	Tires	 			
	All pressure specifications in the table are indicated in psi (kilopascal) with cold tires (cold = ambient temperature)				
325i 325xi	205/55 R 16 91 H M+S				
	205/55 R 16 91 H				
	225/50 R 16 92 W (not 325xi)	32 (220)	38 (260)	38 (260)	45 (310)
	225/45 R 17 91 W				
	225/45 ZR 17	32 (220)	–	38 (260)	–
	245/40 ZR 17	–	38 (260)	–	45 (310)
	205/50 R 17 93 V M+S extra load				
	205/50 R 17 93 W extra load				
	205/55 R 16 91 Q M+S				
	225/50 R 16 92 Q M+S (not 325xi)	35 (240)	41 (280)	41 (280)	48 (330)
	205/50 R 17 93 Q M+S extra load				
	225/45 R 17 91 Q M+S				
Space-saver spare tire in cargo area			61 (420)		



Overview

Controls in detail

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Overview

Controls

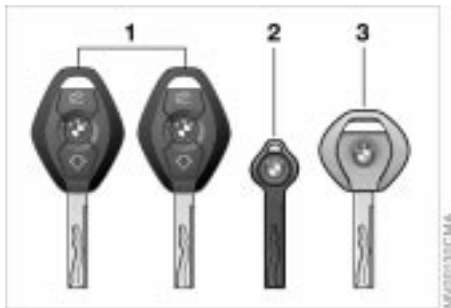
Maintenance

Repairs

Data

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The key set

- 1 Master keys with remote control unit, determine the functions of the Key Memory, refer to page 54.

You can mark individual keys for subsequent identification by applying the colored decals that you received when accepting delivery of your vehicle.



Each master key is equipped with an extended-life battery. This battery is recharged in the ignition lock during normal operation.

For this reason, if you have master keys that are not being used you should use those keys approx. once a year while driving for an extended period to charge the battery, refer also to page 29. ◀

- 2 Spare key for storage in a safe place, such as in your wallet. This key is not intended for constant use

- 3 Door and ignition key
The lock for the glove compartment cannot be operated with this key – this is useful for valet parking, for instance.

Central locking system

The concept

The central locking system is ready for operation whenever the driver's door is closed. The system engages and releases the locks on the

- ▷ doors
- ▷ tailgate and rear window
- ▷ fuel filler door.

The central locking system can be operated

- ▷ from outside via the remote control as well as via the driver's door lock
- ▷ from inside by pressing a button.

Operating it from inside does not lock the fuel filler door, refer to page 32.

When the system is operated from the outside, the anti-theft system is activated simultaneously. Both the door locks and release handles remain locked. The alarm system is also armed or disarmed.

If locked from the inside, the central locking systems unlocks automatically in the event of an accident, but only doors which were not locked separately with the door lock buttons, refer to page 32. In addition, the hazard warning flashers and interior lamps come on.

Opening and closing – via the remote control

The concept

The remote control gives you an exceptionally convenient method for unlocking and locking your vehicle. Furthermore, it provides two additional functions which you can only execute via the remote control:

- ▷ To switch on interior lamps, refer to page 30.

With this function, you can also search for the vehicle, when parked in an underground garage, for instance

- ▷ Opening the rear window, refer to page 30.

The rear window will open slightly, regardless of whether it was previously locked or unlocked.

Whenever you unlock (lock) the vehicle, you simultaneously deactivate (activate) the anti-theft system, disarm (arm) the alarm system and switch the interior lamps on (off).



You can have a signal set to confirm that the vehicle's locks have engaged securely. ◀



Since children might be able to lock the doors from the inside, always take the vehicle keys with you so that the vehicle can be opened again from the outside at any time. ◀



If it is no longer possible to lock the vehicle via the remote control, the battery is discharged. Use this key while driving for an extended period in order to recharge the battery.

To prevent unauthorized use of the remote control, surrender only the door and ignition key or the spare key when leaving the vehicle for valet parking, for example, refer to page 28.

In the event of a system malfunction, please contact your BMW center. You can also obtain replacement keys there. ◀



- 1 Unlock and convenience opening mode
- 2 Lock and secure, switch on interior lamps, deactivate tilt alarm sensor and interior motion sensor
- 3 Open rear window

To unlock



Press the button once to unlock the driver's door.

Press the button a second time to unlock all vehicle locks.

30 Opening and closing – via the remote control

Convenience opening mode



Press and hold button: the power windows and sliding/tilt sunroof are opened.

To lock and secure



Press button.

 Do not lock the vehicle if anyone will be remaining inside, as it would then be impossible for the occupant(s) to disengage the locks from the inside. ◀

To switch on the interior lamps



After locking the vehicle, press button again.

To switch off tilt alarm sensor* and interior motion sensor*



Press button a second time immediately after locking. For additional information refer to page 36.

To open the rear window



Press button.

The rear window opens slightly. It can now be tilted up.



Before and after a trip, be sure that the rear window has not been opened unintentionally. ◀



If you prefer, the tailgate will open instead of the rear window. ◀

Panic mode (trigger alarm)



By pressing the button for two to five seconds, the alarm system can be triggered in the event of danger, if it is armed.

Press the button to cancel the alarm.

External systems

The remote control system's operation may be affected by other units or equipment operating in the immediate vicinity of your vehicle.

If this should occur, you can still open and close the vehicle using the master key in the door lock.

For US owners only

The transmitter and receiver units comply with part 15 of the FCC (Federal Communication Commission) regulations. Operation is governed by the following:

FCC ID: LX8EWS
LX8FZVS
LX8FZVE

Compliance statement:

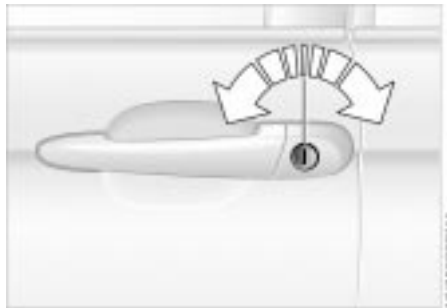
This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- ▷ This device may not cause harmful interference, and
- ▷ this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.



Any unauthorized modifications to these devices could void the user's authority to operate the equipment. ◀

Opening and closing – via the door lock



One turn of the key in the driver's door lock unlocks the driver's door only. Turning the key a second time unlocks all of the remaining doors, the tailgate and the fuel filler door.

 Do not lock the vehicle if anyone will be remaining inside, as it would then be impossible for the occupant(s) to disengage the locks from the inside. ◀

 You can have a signal set to confirm that the vehicle's locks have engaged securely. ◀

Convenience operation

You can also operate the power windows and the sliding/tilt sunroof via the door lock.

- ▷ To open: with the door closed, hold the key in the "Unlock" position
- ▷ To close: with the door closed, hold the key in the "Lock" position.

 Watch the closing process carefully and be sure that no one is trapped by the closing motion. Releasing the key stops the operation. ◀

Manual operation

(in the event of electrical malfunction)
Turn the key all the way to the left or right to unlock/lock the driver's door.

32 Opening and closing – from the inside



You can use this button to operate the central locking system when the front doors are closed. With this button, only the doors, the tailgate and rear window are unlocked or locked. The anti-theft system is not activated.

 If only the driver's door was unlocked from the outside and you press the button, then, with the driver's door still open, the passenger-side door, the tailgate and the fuel filler door will unlock, too. If the driver's door is closed, it will be locked. ◀

 The central locking system can be locked automatically as soon as you begin to drive if you desire. This can be adjusted to be key-specific. ◀

To unlock and open the doors

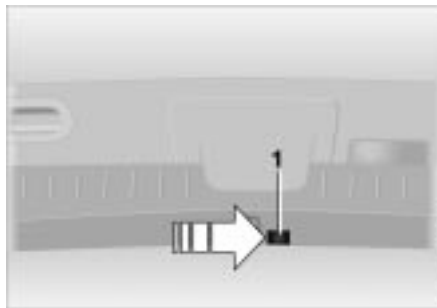
- ▷ Either unlock the doors together with the button for the central locking system and then pull each of the release handles above the armrests or
- ▷ pull the release handle for each door twice: the first pull unlocks the door, and the second one opens it.

To lock the doors

- ▷ Either use the central locking button to lock all doors at once or
- ▷ press the individual door lock buttons down. To prevent the driver from being inadvertently locked out of the vehicle, the driver's door lock button will not engage as long as the door is open.



Since children might be able to lock the doors from the inside, always take the vehicle's keys with you so that you can open the vehicle again from the outside at any time. ◀



To open from the outside

 To avoid damage, check to ensure that you have adequate clearance before opening the tailgate. ◀

Press the button in the handle recess (arrow): the tailgate opens slightly.

The cargo area is illuminated when the tailgate is open.

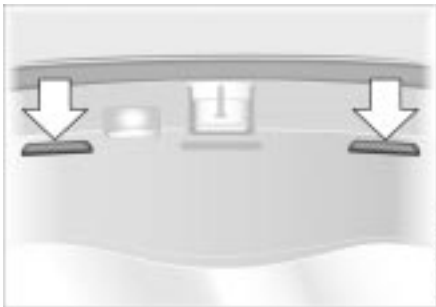
Manual operation

- ▷ Fold rear center armrest or rear backrest forward
- ▷ Remove cover 1 (this operation is easy to carry out with the aid of the ignition key)
- ▷ Press the lever (arrow) to the right.

The tailgate is locked again as soon as you close the lid.

To open from the inside*

If the tailgate has not been locked separately, you can open it with this button in the footwell on the driver's side when the vehicle is stationary.



To close

The handle recesses in the interior trim panel of the tailgate (arrows) make it easier to pull the lid down.



Both before starting off and after completing every journey, check the rear window or the tailgate to ensure that it has not been opened inadvertently. ◀

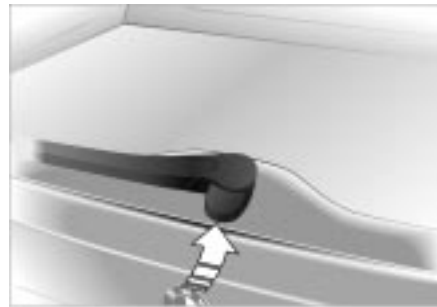


To avoid injuries, be sure that the travel path of the tailgate is clear when it is closed, as with all closing procedures. ◀



Always drive with both the tailgate and the rear window securely closed, as exhaust gases might otherwise be drawn into the interior of the vehicle. Should it be absolutely necessary to operate the vehicle with the tailgate or rear window open:

- ▷ Close all windows. Shut the sliding/tilt sunroof
- ▷ Sharply increase the air supply for the air conditioning or automatic climate control, refer to page 85 or 88. ◀



To open from outside

Small items can be loaded or unloaded quickly if the rear window is opened separately.

Press the button (arrow): the rear window opens slightly. It can now be tilted up.

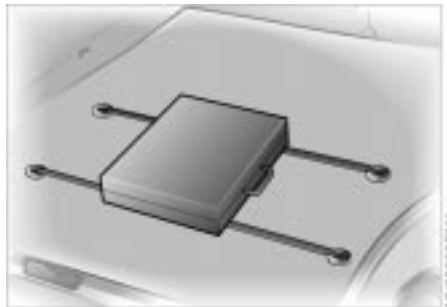
Opening with the remote control, refer to page 30.

Push the window down to close it.



If pointed or sharp-edged objects could strike the rear window while driving, be sure to provide protection around all edges. If you do not do this, the heating conductors of the rear window could be damaged. ◀

Cargo area



Luggage straps

Use the retaining straps on the cargo area floor to secure smaller items of luggage.

Movement is reduced when objects are placed on the straps.

To secure your luggage, use the luggage nets* or flexible straps that you can attach to the fittings at the inner corners of the cargo area.

Refer also to Cargo loading on page 99.

For additional details in the cargo area and for the cargo area cover, please refer to Cargo area beginning on page 97.

Alarm system*

The concept

The vehicle alarm system responds:

- ▷ When a door, the hood, the tailgate or the rear window is opened
- ▷ To movement inside the vehicle (interior motion sensor)
- ▷ To variations in the vehicle's tilt angle such as those occurring during attempts to steal the wheels or tow the vehicle
- ▷ To interruption of battery voltage.

The system responds to unauthorized vehicle entry and attempted theft by simultaneously activating the following:

- ▷ Sounding an acoustic alarm for 30 seconds
- ▷ The hazard warning flashers are activated for approx. five minutes
- ▷ Flashing the high beams on and off in rhythm with the hazard warning flashers.

To arm and disarm the alarm system

When the vehicle is locked or unlocked via the driver's door lock or with the remote control, the alarm system is also simultaneously armed or disarmed.



You can have different acknowledgment signals set to confirm arming and disarming. ◀



You can use the button on the remote control to open the rear window even when the alarm is armed, refer to page 30. The alarm will start monitoring the window again as soon as it is reclosed.



Indicator lamp displays

- ▷ The indicator lamp below the interior rearview mirror flashes continuously: the system is armed
- ▷ The indicator lamp flashes while the system is armed: the door(s), the hood, the tailgate or rear window are not completely closed. Even if you do not close the alerted area(s), the remaining areas are secured, and the indicator lamp will flash continuously after 10 seconds. However, the interior motion sensor is not activated.

- ▷ The indicator lamp goes out when the system is disarmed: no manipulation or attempted intrusions have been detected in the period since the system was armed.
- ▷ The indicator lamp flashes for 10 seconds when the system is disarmed: an attempted entry has been detected in the period since the system was armed.

Following triggering of an alarm, the indicator lamp will flash continuously.

Avoiding unintentional alarms

The tilt alarm sensor and interior motion sensor may be switched off at the same time. You can do this to prevent a false alarm from being triggered in garages with elevator ramps, for instance, or when the vehicle is transported by trailer or train:



Lock the vehicle twice (= arm the system). Press the button on the remote control twice in succession or lock the vehicle twice with the key. The indicator lamp lights up briefly and then flashes continuously. The tilt alarm sensor and the interior motion sensor are deactivated as long as the system is armed.

Interior motion sensor

In order for the interior motion sensor to function properly, the windows and sliding/tilt sunroof must be completely closed.

Nevertheless, you should switch off the interior motion sensor (refer to previous column) if

- ▷ children or animals are left in the vehicle
- ▷ the windows or the sliding/tilt sunroof are being left open.



The system deactivates the tilt-alarm sensor and the interior motion sensor if closing is interrupted in the first 10 seconds and then restarted when the convenience closing feature is used to close the sunroof and windows. The alarm must then be disarmed and reactivated before it will resume operation. ◀



Open and close windows

From ignition key in position 1.

- ▷ Press the switch until you feel resistance: the windows retract as long as you maintain pressure on the switch
- ▷ Press the switch briefly past the pressure point: the windows move automatically. Pressing the switch again stops the opening cycle.

You can close the windows in the same manner by pulling the switch.

If your vehicle is equipped with optional electric power windows in the rear* separate switches will be located below the windows.

After the ignition has been switched off: You can still use the electric power windows for up to 15 minutes, as long as no one opens any of the front doors.



When leaving the vehicle, always remove the ignition key from the lock and remember to close the doors to prevent children from operating the power windows and injuring themselves, etc. ◀

For the convenience mode via the door lock, refer to page [31](#).

Safety feature

The front windows are each equipped with contact strips located in the upper window frames. If pressure is exerted against this contact strip while a window is being raised, the system will respond by stopping the window and then retracting it a small distance.



Despite this safety feature, be extremely careful to ensure that the closing path of the window is not obstructed. Some types of objects might fail to trigger the contact strip in some situations (very thin objects, for instance). You can override this safety feature by pressing the switch beyond the resistance point and holding it. ◀



 To prevent injuries, exercise care when closing the sliding/tilt sunroof and keep it in your field of vision until it is shut. When leaving the vehicle, always remove the ignition key from the lock and remember to close the doors to prevent children from operating the sliding/tilt sunroof and injuring themselves, etc. ◀

Safety switch

With the safety switch, you can prevent the rear windows from being opened or closed via the switches in the rear passenger area (by children, for example).

 Press the safety switch whenever children are riding in the rear of the vehicle. Careless use of the power windows can lead to injury. ◀



Raising – opening – closing

From ignition key in position 1.

After the ignition has been switched off, you can still operate the sliding/tilt sunroof for up to 15 minutes as long as neither of the doors has been opened.

Raising/Opening/Closing: press the switch or slide it in the desired direction until you feel resistance.

If you briefly press the switch in the "raise" direction while the sunroof is open, the sunroof will rise to its uppermost position.

Sliding/tilt sunroof*

The headliner insert slides back somewhat when you raise the sunroof. When the sunroof is opened, the headliner retracts with it.

 Do not use force to close the headliner insert with the sunroof in its raised position, as damage to the mechanism could result. ◀

For the convenience mode via the door lock, refer to page 31.

Automatic opening and closing

Press the switch briefly past the pressure point: the sunroof travels to either the fully-closed or fully-open position.

Pressing the switch again stops the motion immediately.

Safety feature

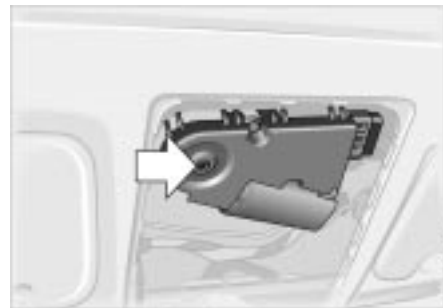
If the sliding/tilt sunroof encounters resistance

- ▷ when it is closing from the raised position
- ▷ when it is closing from a point roughly past the middle of its travel,

the closing cycle is interrupted and the sliding/tilt sunroof will open again slightly.

 Despite this safety feature, be extremely careful that the travel path of the sunroof is not obstructed whenever it is closed. Remember that the safety mechanism may not be able to detect obstructions under all circumstances (with very thin objects, for instance).

You can disable this safety feature by pressing the switch beyond the pressure point and holding it. ◀



Manual operation

In the event of an electrical malfunction, you can also operate the sliding/tilt sunroof manually:

1. Remove the interior lamp, then reach into the exposed opening and press out the cover
2. Use the Allen key from the onboard tool kit, refer to page 124 to turn the sliding/tilt sunroof in the desired direction.

For relaxed and fatigue-free driving you should select a sitting position that reflects your personal requirements. Correct posture combines with safety belts and airbags to enhance occupant safety in the event of an accident. To ensure that the vehicle's safety systems provide you with optimal protection, we request that you direct your careful attention to the following section.

For additional information on transporting children refer to page [51](#).

Sitting correctly with airbags

 Always maintain an adequate distance between yourself and the airbags. Always hold the steering wheel by the rim to keep any chance of injury to hands or arms to an absolute minimum should the airbag be deployed. Never allow any objects, individuals or animals to obstruct the areas between passengers and airbags. Never use the front airbag's cover as a storage tray or support for objects of any kind. Never allow front passengers to rest their feet or legs on the airbag cover. ◀

For airbag locations and additional information on airbags refer to page [48](#).

Safe with safety belts

 Never allow more than one person to wear a single safety belt. Never allow an infant or small child to ride in a passenger's lap. Avoid twisting the belt while routing it firmly across the hips and shoulder, wear it as snugly against your body as possible. Do not allow the belt to rest against hard or fragile objects. Do not route the belt across your neck, or run it across sharp edges. Be sure that the belt does not become caught or jammed. Avoid wearing loose or bulky clothing. You should remember to retension the lap belt periodically by pulling the shoulder strap to take up any slack in the mechanism. In the event of a frontal impact, a loose lap belt could slide over your hips, leading to abdominal injury. In addition, the safety belt's restraint effectiveness is reduced if the belt is worn loosely. Expectant mothers should always wear their safety belts, taking care to position the lap belt against the lower hips, where it will not exert pressure against the abdominal area. ◀

For information on using safety belts, refer to page [44](#).

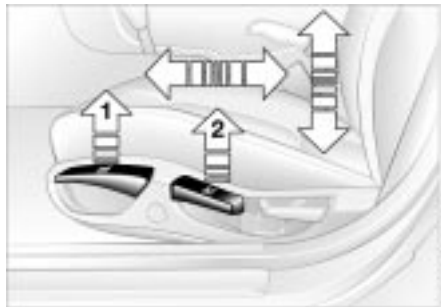
Seats

When adjusting your seat, always observe the following precautions

 Never try to adjust your seat while operating the vehicle. The seat could respond with unexpected movement, and the ensuing loss of vehicle control could lead to an accident. Never ride with the backrest reclined to an extreme horizontal angle (important for front passengers to remember). Keep the backrest relatively upright to minimize the risk of sliding under the safety belt and sustaining injury in an accident. ◀

Seat adjustment

- ▷ Manual seat adjustment, refer to page [41](#)
- ▷ Power seat adjustment, refer to page [42](#)
- ▷ Head restraint, refer to page [43](#)



To adjust the seat

- 1 Backward/forward adjustment
Pull the lever and slide the seat to the desired position.
After you release the lever, move the seat forward or backward slightly so that it engages fully
- 2 Cushion height
Pull the lever and apply weight to or remove weight from the seat as required

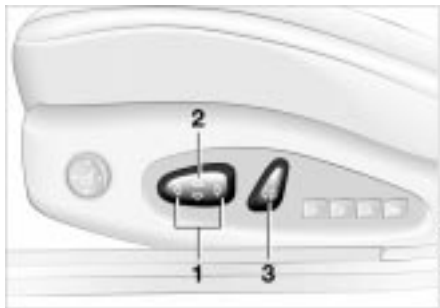
- 3 Backrest angle
Pull the lever and apply weight to or remove weight from the backrest as required

BMW sport seat* adjustment

This seat provides additional adjustment options for tilt angle and thigh support:

- 1 To raise:
Pull the lever repeatedly, continuing until the seat is at the desired tilt angle
- 2 To lower:
Push the lever repeatedly, continuing until the seat is at the desired tilt angle
- 3 Thigh support:
Pull the lever and adjust the position of the thigh support for your personal comfort.

42 Power seat adjustment*



To adjust seat

- 1 Backward/forward adjustment
- 2 Cushion height
- 3 Backrest angle

Adjust the head restraint manually, refer to page 43.



Please devote your careful attention to the adjustment instructions on page 40. Failure to observe these precautions can reduce your personal safety. ◀



BMW sport seat* adjustment

- 1 Tilt angle
- 2 Backward/forward adjustment
- 3 Cushion height
- 4 Backrest angle

The thigh support and the head restraint are adjusted manually, refer to pages 41, 43.



Please devote your careful attention to the adjustment instructions on page 40. Failure to observe these precautions can reduce your personal safety. ◀

Lumbar support*



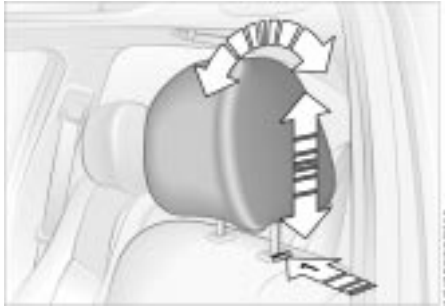
To adjust

You can adjust the backrest's contour for additional support in the curvature of your spine's lumbar region.

The upper hips and spinal column receive supplementary support to help you maintain a relaxed, upright posture.

- ▷ Press the front/rear of the switch:
Increase/decrease curvature
- ▷ Press the upper/lower end of the switch:
Increase the upper/lower curvature.

Head restraints



Removal – front

1. Pull the head restraint up to the end of its travel
2. Press button (arrow 1) and remove the head restraint.

Installation – front

Slide the head restraint into its guides.

To adjust

To adjust height: pull the head restraint up or push it down.



Press button (arrow 1) to move to the lowest position. ◀

To adjust tilt angle of front head restraints: tilt them to the desired angle.



To reduce the risk of neck and spinal injury in an accident you should always position the head restraint so that it is positioned roughly at ear height. ◀



 If the safety belt system has been subjected to the stresses involved in an accident or otherwise damaged: have the entire safety belt mechanism replaced by your BMW center, including the safety belt tensioner. In addition, have your BMW center inspect the safety belt anchors. If a child-restraint system was in the vehicle during an accident, consult the manufacturer's instructions regarding replacement. ◀

Drive with your safety belt on

Even though there is an airbag, wear a safety belt every time you get in the vehicle, because airbags enhance safety by providing added protection.

To close

Make sure you hear the lock engage in the belt buckle.

To open

1. Press the red button in the buckle
2. Hold the belt
3. Guide belt into its inertia reel.

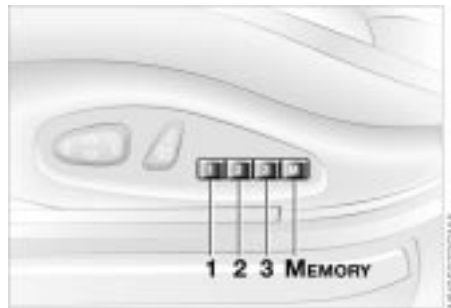
 The rear belt buckle with the word **CENTER** embossed on its surface is intended exclusively for the use of the center passenger. ◀

To adjust shoulder strap height

Use the height-adjustment feature to adjust the belt to the best position for your own body size:

- ▷ Slide the button up or down.

Please observe the instructions for adjusting your seat on page [40](#).



You can store as many as three different driver's seat and mirror adjustment settings into the system for later selection.

 The lumbar support adjustment is not stored in the memory. ◀

To store

1. In ignition key position 1 or 2
2. Adjust the seat and door mirrors to the desired position
3. Press the **MEMORY** button: indicator lamp in the button comes on
4. Press memory button 1, 2 or 3, as desired: indicator lamp goes out.

To select a stored setting

 You should never activate the memory feature while the vehicle is moving, as the seat could move in a way that you had not anticipated, posing an accident hazard. ◀

Ignition key in position 1:

- ▷ Briefly press memory button 1, 2 or 3, as desired.

Movement stops immediately when one of the seat-adjustment or memory buttons is activated during the adjustment process.

With the driver's door closed and the ignition key either removed or in position 0 or 2:

- ▷ Maintain pressure on the desired memory button (1, 2 or 3) until the adjustment process is completed.

 If you press the **MEMORY** button accidentally: press the button again; the indicator lamp goes out. ◀

 Your BMW center can adjust your vehicle's systems in such a manner that your personalized settings are automatically set for the seat and exterior mirror positions when you unlock the vehicle with your personal remote control. ◀

 Before activating the programmed adjustment feature ensure that the footwell behind the driver's seat is empty and unobstructed. If you fail to do so, any persons or objects behind the seat could be injured or damaged by a rearward movement of the seat. ◀



Passenger-side exterior mirror tilt function

(Automatic curb monitor*)

- 1 Set the mirror selection switch 1 to the "driver's door mirror" position
- 2 When the selector lever is placed in "Reverse", the passenger-side mirror tilts downward to help the driver monitor the area directly adjacent to the vehicle during parking (curbs, etc.).

You can deactivate this automatic feature by setting the mirror selection switch to the "passenger side" position.

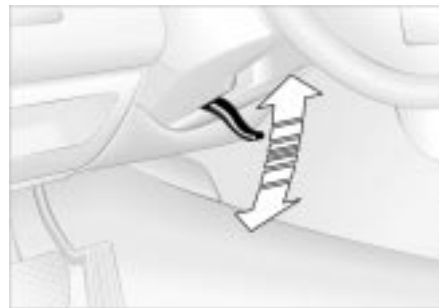


The seat cushion and backrest can be heated with the ignition key in position 2.

You can call up different heating modes by repeatedly pressing the button.

You can also switch the higher heating modes off directly:

Press the button and hold it slightly longer.

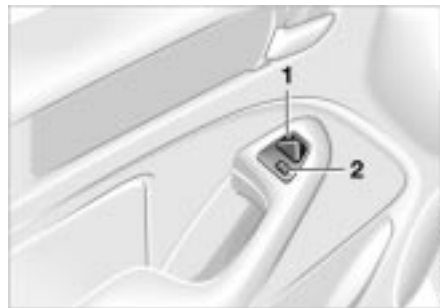


Adjustments

1. Fold down the detent lever
2. Adjust the steering column to obtain the best reach and rake angles for the current seat position
3. Fold the detent lever back up to engage the lock.



Never attempt to adjust the steering wheel while driving the vehicle – it could respond with unexpected movement, posing a potential accident hazard. ◀



To adjust exterior mirrors

- 1 Switch for 4-way adjustment
- 2 Selection switch for changing between mirrors

To adjust manually

You can also adjust the mirrors manually: press against the edges of the lens.

Storing mirror positions, refer to Seat and mirror memory on page 45.

 The mirror on the passenger's side features a lens with a more convex surface than the mirror installed on the driver's side. When estimating the distance between yourself and other traffic, bear in mind that the objects reflected in the mirror are closer than they appear. This means that estimations of the distance to following traffic should not be regarded as precise. This same precaution applies to the rectangular outside sections of both door mirrors. ◀

Electric heaters*

Both mirrors are heated automatically when the ignition key is in position 2.



Interior rearview mirror

To reduce glare from vehicles behind you when you are driving at night, tilt the mirror by turning the knob. Vehicles not equipped with an alarm system:

Fold the small lever forward.

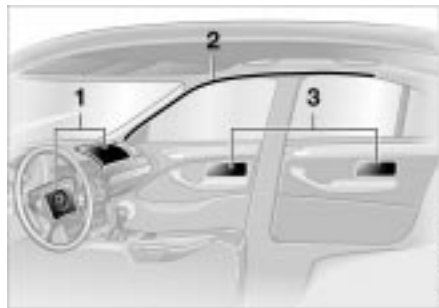


Interior rearview mirror with automatic dimming feature*

This mirror automatically responds to glare by dimming through an infinitely variable range. It automatically reverts to its clear, undimmed mode whenever you select reverse.

To ensure that the mirror continues to operate efficiently, ensure that the area adjacent to the photocells remains clean and unobstructed. One photocell is integrated within the mirror's lens (arrow), while the other is located at an offset position on the rear of the mirror. Refrain from attaching stickers or other objects to the windshield in the area immediately behind the rearview mirror.

Airbags



- 1 Front driver and passenger-side airbags
- 2 Head airbags for driver and front passenger
- 3 Side airbags on the driver and passenger sides (front and rear*)

Protective effect

The front airbags protect the vehicle's occupants during frontal impacts in which the protection provided by the safety belts alone might not be enough to prevent injury. The head airbags and side airbags help provide protection in the event of a collision from the side. Each of the side airbags is designed to help support the seat occupant's upper body. For information on correct sitting posture refer to page 40.

Indicator lamp



The indicator lamp displays the operational status of the airbag system from ignition key position 1.

System operational:

- ▷ The indicator lamp comes on briefly when you turn the ignition key to position 1 or higher.

System malfunction:

- ▷ The indicator lamp fails to go out after the engine is started, or comes on in the course of normal vehicle operation.

Because a system malfunction could prevent the airbags from deploying in the event of a severe impact within their normal activation range, you should always respond to any problems by having them corrected at your BMW center as soon as possible.



The side airbags in the rear passenger area* of your vehicle may already have been deactivated, either at the time of manufacture or by a BMW center. You may have them activated if you desire to do so. Please contact your BMW center for additional information. ◀

Airbags



The airbags do not respond to minor collisions, rear impacts, or to some kinds of vehicle rollovers. ◀



For your safety, comply with the following instructions for the airbags. If you do not, the airbags may not be able to provide their maximum protection. All passengers in the vehicle should be aware of and comply with this information:

The airbags are supplemental restraint devices designed to provide extra protection; they are not a substitute for safety belts. Wear your safety belt at all times. The airbags will not be triggered in the event of a minor accident, a vehicle rollover, or collisions from the rear. In these instances, the safety belt provides optimal protection.

Airbags are located under cover panels in the steering wheel, in the instrument panel, in the side trim panels in the front and rear*, in the roof panels, and in the sides of the inside roof lining.

Adjust your seat to a position that provides maximum distance between you and the steering wheel, the instrument panel and the door while still allowing comfortable and safe access to all vehicle controls.

To avoid sustaining hand and arm injuries,

always grasp the steering wheel on the rim with the hands at the 9 and 3 o'clock positions. Do not place your hands on the center pad.

Never allow any objects to obstruct the area between the airbag and an occupant.

Do not use the cover panel above the passenger-side airbag as a storage area.

Do not apply adhesive materials to the cover panels of the airbags, cover them or modify them in any other way.

Do not install a rear-facing child-restraint system in the front passenger seat of this vehicle.

Children under 13 years of age and less than 5 ft (150 cm) tall should ride only in the rear seat.

Infants or small children should never be held on the lap of a passenger.

If your vehicle is equipped with side airbags in the rear passenger area*, be sure that child restraints are mounted correctly with the greatest-possible distance between them and the airbags in the side trim panels. Do not allow children to lean out of the child's seat in the direction of the side trim panels. If they do so, serious injuries can occur if the airbag is triggered. ◀



At all times, occupants should sit upright and be properly restrained (infants and small children in appropriate child-restraint systems; larger children and adults using the safety belts). Never let an occupant's head rest near or on a side airbag because the inflating airbag could cause a serious or fatal injury. Please note that the word Airbag imprinted on the door trim panel indicates the airbag's location.

Accident research shows that the safest place for children in an automobile is in the rear seat. However, a child sitting in the rear seat and not properly restrained may place his or her head on or near the airbag, if so equipped. For example, a child — even though belted — may fall asleep with his or her head against the side airbag. It may be difficult for a driver to ensure that children in the rear seat will remain properly positioned at all times and not place their heads on or near the side airbag.

Therefore, we recommend that the rear-seat side airbags, if installed in the vehicle, be deactivated if children will travel in the rear seat.

The rear side airbags may already have been deactivated, either at the time of

50 Airbags

manufacture or by a BMW center. Labels in the door opening should indicate the status of your rear side airbags. If you are uncertain of their status, or wish to have the airbags activated or deactivated, please contact your BMW center. ◀

Even when all these guidelines are followed, there is still a small residual risk of injuries to the face, hands and arms occurring from airbag deployment in isolated instances. The ignition and inflation noise may provoke a mild temporary hearing loss in extremely sensitive individuals.



This is the right way a child should sit in a child restraint when rear side airbags (arrow) are provided.



This is the right way a larger child should sit wearing the safety belt when rear side airbags (arrow) are provided.

Transporting children safely



LATCH child-restraint mounting system

The illustration shows the right rear seat as an example

The anchorages for the LATCH child-restraint system are located beneath the plastic covers (arrows), where they remain invisible when the child-restraint devices are not installed.



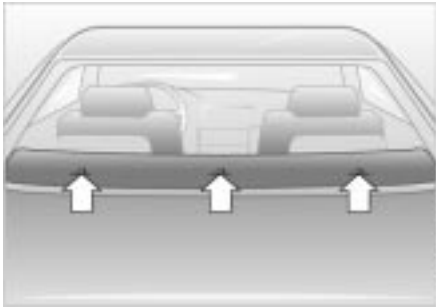
Always follow all manufacturer's instructions and observe all safety precautions when installing the LATCH child-restraint system. ◀

Child safety locks

Slide down the safety lever on the rear door:

The door can now be opened from the outside only.

52 Transporting children safely



Commercially available child seats complying with the legal standards are designed to be secured with a safety belt or with the safety belt portion of a combination lap/shoulder belt. Improperly or inadequately installed restraint systems can increase the risk of injury to children. Always read and follow the instructions that come with the system.

If you use a child-restraint system with a tether strap, three additional tether anchorage points (refer to the arrows in the illustration) have been provided. Depending on the location selected for seating in the rear passenger area, attach the tether strap to the corresponding anchorage point to secure the child-restraint system. Remove the cover first on the middle location.

If the respective seating position is fitted with a headrest lift the headrest and pass the tether strap between the headrest and the backrest.

Adjust the tether strap according to the child-restraint manufacturer's instructions.



Before installing any child-restraint device or child seat, please read the following:

Never install a rear-facing child-restraint system in the front passenger seat of this vehicle.

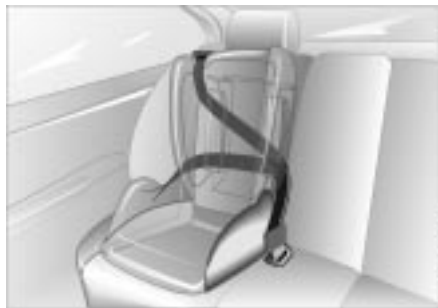
Your vehicle is equipped with an airbag supplemental restraint system for the front passenger. Because the backrest on any rear-facing child-restraint system (of the kind designed for infants under 1 year and 20 lbs/9 kg) would be within the airbag's deployment range, you should never mount such a device in the front passenger seat, as the impact of the airbag against the child restraint's backrest could lead to serious or fatal injuries. If it is necessary for a child (not an infant) to ride in the front seat, certain precautions should be taken. First, move the passenger seat as far away from the instrument panel as possible. This important precaution is intended to maximize the distance between the

airbag and the child. Older children should be tightly secured with the safety belt. Younger children should be secured in an appropriate forward-facing child-restraint system that has first been properly secured with a safety belt. Never install a rear-facing child-restraint system in the front passenger seat.

We strongly urge you to carefully read and observe the instructions for installation and use provided by the child restraint's manufacturer whenever you use such a device.

Always ensure that all occupants (of all ages) remain properly and securely restrained at all times. ◀

All rear seating positions in your vehicle meet the recommendations of SAE J1819, an industry standard recommended practice for securing child-restraint systems in motor vehicles.



To lock the safety belt

Extract the entire length of the belt from the inertia reel mechanism. Allow the reel to retract the belt somewhat and engage the buckle, then tighten the belt against the child-restraint system. The retraction mechanism is now locked. The belt cannot be extracted further. Always observe the installation instructions provided by the manufacturer of the child-restraint system.

To unlock the safety belt

Release the safety belt, remove the child's seat and retract the safety belt to its end position on the belt retractor.

Child seat security

All of the rear belt retractors and the front passenger's safety belt can be locked for mounting and securing child-restraint systems.

A label with the appropriate instructions for this is located in the immediate vicinity of the buckle latch of each safety belt.



How it works

No doubt you have often reflected on how great it would be if you could permanently configure your vehicle's various features and adjustments to mirror your own personal preferences. In engineering your vehicle, BMW has included a number of options for storing personal adjustment data. These can be programmed at your BMW center.

The available configuration data fall into two categories, according to whether their primary orientation is the vehicle (Vehicle Memory) or the individual (Key Memory). Provided that each person has a separate remote-control key, you can have your BMW center enter basic adjustment data for up to four individuals in the system.

The system relies on a bilateral data exchange to identify the individual user and dial in the selected settings whenever the remote control unit is used to disengage the locks.

Color-coded decals have been provided to help you distinguish the different keys with their individual settings.

What the system can do

You can learn about the entire array of features this system offers at your BMW center. Here are just a few examples:

Examples for Vehicle Memory:

- ▷ Various confirmation signals when you lock or unlock the vehicle, refer to pages [29](#), [31](#)
- ▷ Activation/deactivation of the "Follow me home" lamps, refer to page [82](#)
- ▷ Activation/deactivation of the daytime driving lamps, refer to page [82](#).

Examples for Key Memory:

- ▷ Engagement of the vehicle's door locks as soon as it starts to move, refer to page [32](#)
- ▷ Automatic seat adjustment according to the individual's personal settings when the vehicle is unlocked, refer to page [45](#)
- ▷ Option of unlocking the driver's door first, and then the rest of the vehicle, refer to page [32](#).



At various points in this Owner's Manual you will see this symbol indicating that the system or function described in the adjacent section can be adjusted to reflect your personal preferences. ◀



- 0 Steering locked
- 1 Steering unlocked
- 2 Ignition switched on
- 3 Starting engine

 Vehicles with automatic transmis-

sion:
Do not move the selector lever from position "P" until the engine is running (ignition key position 2). Your vehicle is equipped with an interlock. Therefore, the ignition key cannot be turned to position 0 and removed until the selector lever is in position "P". ◀

 Vehicles with manual transmis-

sion:
Step on the clutch when starting the vehicle. A lockout prevents the engine from starting if the clutch is not depressed. ◀

Steering locked

The key can only be inserted and removed in this position.

After removing the key, turn the steering wheel slightly to the left or right until you hear the lock engage.

The sound system remains operational for approx. 20 minutes after you switch off the ignition (ignition key in position 0 or key removed). Simply switch it back on.

Steering unlocked

You will find that it is often easier to turn the ignition key from position 0 to position 1 when you move the steering wheel slightly to help disengage the lock.

Individual electrical accessories are ready for operation.

Before starting

- ▷ Engage the parking brake
- ▷ Ensure that the gearshift lever is in neutral, or, with an automatic transmission, that the selector lever is in Park
- ▷ Depress the clutch pedal.

 Do not allow the engine to run in enclosed spaces. The exhaust gases contain carbon monoxide, an odorless and colorless, but highly toxic gas.

Breathing the exhaust gases poses an extreme health risk, and can lead to unconsciousness and death. Do not leave the vehicle unattended with the engine running. An unattended vehicle with a running engine represents a potential safety hazard. ◀

 When driving, standing at idle, and parking the vehicle, take care to avoid contact between the hot exhaust system and flammable materials (grass, hay, leaves, etc.). Such contact could lead to a fire, resulting in serious personal injury and property damage. ◀

- ▷ Start the engine. Do not press the accelerator pedal.



Do not actuate the starter for too short a time, but do not actuate it for more than approx. 20 seconds.

Release the ignition key immediately when the engine starts.

Do not allow the engine to warm up by leaving it running while the vehicle remains stationary. Instead, drive off immediately at a moderate engine speed. ◀

If the engine does not start on the first attempt (if it is very hot or cold, for instance):

- ▷ Press the accelerator pedal halfway down while engaging the starter.

Cold starts at extremely cold temperatures of approx. +5 °F (–15 °C) or below and at high altitude over 3,300 ft (1,000 m):

- ▷ On the first start attempt, engage the starter for a longer period (approx. 10 seconds)
- ▷ Press the accelerator pedal halfway down while engaging the starter.

The engine's idle speed is controlled by the engine-management system. A high idle after starting is normal and should decrease as the engine warms up. If the idle speed does not decrease, service is required.

To prevent the battery from discharging, always switch off electrical devices that are not in use. Switch the ignition off when the vehicle is not being driven.



Extended starting attempts, characterized by excessively frequent or long periods with the starter engaged, can lead to damage to the catalytic converter. ◀

Switching off the engine

Turn the ignition key to position 1 or 0.



You should never remove the ignition key when the vehicle is in motion, as the steering lock could engage.

When you leave the vehicle, always remove the ignition key and engage the steering lock.

Vehicles with manual transmission: Always engage the parking brake when parking on hills and slopes, as first gear or reverse may not provide adequate resistance to rolling.

Vehicles with automatic transmission: Place the selector lever in "Park". ◀

Parking brake



The parking brake is primarily designed to prevent the vehicle from rolling while parked. It operates on the rear wheels.

To engage

The detent engages automatically, the indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on when the ignition key is in position 2, refer to page 18.

To release

Pull up slightly on the lever, press the button (arrow) and lower the lever.



If exceptional circumstances make it necessary to engage the parking brake while the vehicle is in motion, do not pull it with excessive pressure. Keep your thumb pressed against the release button while carefully pulling the lever up to apply moderate pressure. Excessive pressure can lead to over-braking and loss of traction (fishtailing) at the rear.

The brake lamps do not come on when the parking brake is engaged.

Vehicles with manual transmission:

Always engage the parking brake when parking on hills and slopes, as first gear or reverse may not provide adequate resistance to rolling.

Vehicles with automatic transmission:

Place the selector lever in "Park". ◀

To avoid corrosion and one-sided braking, apply the parking brake lightly from time to time when coasting to a standstill (at a traffic signal, for instance), provided that it is safe to do so.

Manual transmission

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Reverse

Select only when the vehicle is stationary. Press the shift lever to the left to overcome the slight resistance.

As you do this, the backup lamps will turn on automatically when the ignition key is in position 2.



Do not hold the vehicle in place on slopes by slipping or "riding" the clutch. Use the parking brake instead. Riding the clutch leads to severe and premature clutch wear. ◀

You can drive as with a normal automatic transmission. In addition, you can also shift manually.

When you move the selector lever from the "D" position to the left into the M/S range, the performance-oriented shift programs of the automatic transmission are engaged. Steptronic enters the manual selection mode and executes the desired shift whenever you tap the selector lever in the direction indicated by "+" or "-". Whenever you want to use automatic again, just move the selector lever toward the right to position D.



Range selection

P R N D M/S + -

Starting the engine

The engine can only be started in selector lever positions P ("Park") or N ("Neutral").

Range selection

A detent prevents inadvertent shifts to the "Reverse" or "Park" selector lever positions. To disengage the detent, press the button on the front side of the selector lever button (arrow).

 While the vehicle is stationary and before shifting out of "Park" or "Neutral", depress the footbrake in order to disengage the selector lever's lock mechanism (Shiftlock). Hold the footbrake down until starting off. The vehicle will otherwise "creep" when a drive position is engaged. ◀

 To prevent the vehicle from starting off on its own, always move the selector lever to position P or N and engage the parking brake before leaving your vehicle with the engine running. Do not leave the vehicle unattended with the engine running. An unattended vehicle with a running engine represents a potential safety hazard. ◀

P Park

Select only when the vehicle is stationary. Transmission locks to prevent rear wheels from turning.

R Reverse

Select only when the vehicle is stationary.

N Neutral

Select only when stopping for an extended period.

D Drive (automatic shift program)

This position is designed for driving under all normal operating conditions. All forward gears are available.

Kickdown

In the kickdown mode, you achieve maximum acceleration and in position D top speed. Depress the accelerator pedal past the increased resistance point at the full-throttle position.



M/S Manual mode and Sport Program

Move the selector lever from D to M/S to activate the Sport Program; SD appears in the display panel. The M/S mode is recommended for performance-oriented driving.

Once in the M/S mode you can tap the selector lever to switch the automatic transmission from the Sport Program to its manual selection mode.

This mode allows you to execute upshifts manually by tapping the lever toward "+", while downshifts are selected by tapping in the "-" direction. The displays M1 through M5 appear in the display panel to indicate your current gear selection.

The Adaptive Transmission Control (ATC) executes upshifts and downshifts only when the new gear will provide a suitable combination of engine and road speed, for example ATC will not execute downshifts if the engine speed is too high. The desired, then the actual gear, briefly appear in the instrument cluster.

 To accelerate quickly in the manual mode (to pass another vehicle), shift down manually or employ the kickdown mode. ◀

Shifting from M/S to the selector lever positions P, R and N is possible only by going through D.



Possible displays

P R N D SD M1 M2 M3 M4 M5

Electronic transmission control module



If the indicator lamp comes on, there is a malfunction in the transmission system.

Bring the vehicle to a stop, select transmission position "P", engage the parking brake and switch the engine off (ignition key to position 0).

Wait a few seconds, then start the engine.

If the indicator lamp goes out after a few seconds, normal transmission performance has been restored. Drive off normally.

If the indicator lamp does not go out, all selector lever positions can still be selected; however in the forward positions the vehicle has limited performance as it drives only in 3rd and 4th gear.

If this happens, avoid extreme engine loads and consult the nearest BMW center.



Never work in the engine compartment when a drive gear (forward or reverse) is engaged. If you do this, the vehicle could move. ◀

For towing or jump-starting, refer to the information beginning on page [134](#).

Indicator/Headlamp flasher



- 1 High beams (blue indicator lamp)
- 2 Headlamp flasher (blue indicator lamp)
- 3 Turn signal indicator (green indicator lamps accompanied by a periodic clicking sound from the relay).

To signal briefly

Press the lever up to but not beyond the detent. It then returns to the center position when released.



If the flashing of the turn signal indicators and the clicking from the relay are both faster than normal, one of the turn signal indicators has failed. ◀

Washer/Wiper system



- 0 Wipers retracted
- 1 Intermittent mode or rain sensor
- 2 Normal wiper speed
- 3 Fast wiper speed
- 4 Brief wipe
- 5 Rotary dial for control of the wipe interval or the sensitivity of the rain sensor

Intermittent mode

(not on vehicles with rain sensor)

You can set the wipe interval at four stages with rotary dial 5.

In addition, the wipe interval is varied automatically depending on road speed.

Rain sensor*

The rain sensor is located on the wind-shield directly behind the rearview mirror.

To activate the rain sensor:

- ▷ From ignition key position 1, move the lever to position 1. The wipers will make at least one sweep across the windshield.

You can leave the lever in position 1 at all times. From ignition key position 1, all you then need to do to activate the rain sensor is

- ▷ briefly turn the rotary dial 5, or
- ▷ clean the windshield 1, refer to page 62.

To adjust the sensitivity of the rain sensor: turn rotary dial 5.

To deactivate the rain sensor: return lever to position 0.



Turn the rain sensor off in auto-matic car washes. Failure to do so could result in damage caused by undesired wiper activation. ◀

Normal wiper speed

When the vehicle is stationary, the wipers switch automatically to intermittent wipe (not on vehicles with rain sensor).

Fast wiper speed

When the vehicle is stationary, the wipers revert to operation at normal speed (not on vehicles with rain sensor).



0 Wipers retracted

1 Clean the windshield

2 Rear window wiper intermittent mode

3 Clean the rear window

Clean the windshield



Do not use the washers if there is any danger that the fluid will freeze on the windshield, as your vision could be obscured. Always use a windshield washer antifreeze, refer to page [114](#).

Do not use the washers when the reservoir is empty. This could cause damage to the washer pump. ◀

The system sprays washer fluid against the windshield and activates the wipers for a brief period.

Rear window wiper

Rear window wiper in intermittent mode. When reverse gear is engaged, continuous operation is switched on automatically.

You can also program the interval:

- ▷ Briefly move the wiper lever from position 0 to position 2
- ▷ The period that elapses until the wipers again start to move (from position 0 to 2) is the programmed interval for intermittent operation (max. 30 seconds).

Clean the rear window

The system sprays washer fluid onto the rear window.

To change the wiper blades refer to page [124](#).

Cleaning headlamps*

When the vehicle's lighting system is switched on, the headlamps will also be cleaned every fifth time the automatic windshield washer is activated.

Windshield washer nozzles

The windshield washer nozzles are heated automatically* when the ignition key is in position 2.

You can store and automatically maintain any desired vehicle speed above approx. 20 mph (30 km/h).

The cruise control is available whenever the engine is running and the system has been activated.

To activate the system



From ignition key position 2: Press the button and the indicator lamp in the instrument cluster will come on, refer to page 20. You can now use the cruise control.

 Do not use cruise control on twisting roads, when high traffic density prevents driving at a constant speed, or when the road surface is slick (snow, rain, ice) or loose (rocks or gravel, sand). ◀

To deactivate the system



Press the button as often as needed until the indicator lamp in the instrument cluster goes out.

Cruise control is also deactivated when the ignition key is in position 0.

The speed stored in memory is deleted.

To maintain and store speed or to accelerate



Press button (+) briefly: The system maintains and stores the current vehicle speed. Every time you tap the button, the speed increases by approx. 0.6 mph (1 km/h).

Press and hold button (+): The vehicle accelerates without pressure on the accelerator pedal. When you release the button, the system maintains and stores the current speed.

 If, on a downhill gradient, the engine braking effect is not sufficient, the preset speed can be exceeded. Speed can drop on uphill grades if the engine output is insufficient. ◀

To decelerate

Press button (–) briefly:

If you are already driving with active cruise control, the speed is decreased by approx. 0.6 mph (1 km/h) every time you tap the button.

Press and hold button (–):

With the cruise control active, the system automatically reduces the throttle opening to slow the vehicle. When you release the button, the system maintains and stores the current speed.

To interrupt the cruise control

When the system is activated, press the button. The indicator lamp stays on. You can use the cruise control again whenever you want by calling up the speed that was stored last.

In addition, cruise control is interrupted automatically:

- ▷ When the brakes are applied
- ▷ When you apply pressure to the clutch pedal, or when you move the automatic transmission selector lever from D to N
- ▷ If you exceed or fall below the preset speed for an extended period (by depressing the accelerator, for example).

To call up the stored speed

Press button:

The vehicle accelerates to and maintains the last speed stored.

Odometer



- 1 Odometer
- 2 Trip odometer

Odometer

You can activate the displays shown in the illustration with the ignition key in position 0 by pressing the button in the instrument cluster.

Trip odometer

To reset the trip odometer to zero, press the button with the ignition key in position 1 or higher.

Tachometer



Never allow the engine to operate with the needle in the red overspeed zone of the gauge.

To protect the engine, the fuel supply is interrupted when you approach this sector.

Energy control



Indicates the current fuel consumption in mpg (in liters/100 km on Canadian models). You can check your current driving style to see whether it is conducive to economy and minimum exhaust emissions.

When the vehicle is stationary, the display goes to "Maximum" (zero on Canadian models).



Once the indicator lamp stays on continuously, there are still approx. 2 gallons (8 liters) of fuel in the fuel tank.

For fuel tank capacity, refer to page [143](#).

Certain operating conditions (such as those encountered in mountainous areas) may cause the needle to fluctuate slightly.



Please refuel early, since driving to the last drop of fuel can result in damage to the engine and/or catalytic converter. ◀

When you switch on the ignition, the indicator lamp lights up briefly as an operation check.

**Blue**

The engine is still cold. Drive at moderate engine and vehicle speeds.

Red

When you switch on the ignition, the warning lamp comes on briefly to confirm that the system is operational. If the lamp comes on during normal vehicle operation: the engine has overheated. Switch off the engine immediately and allow it to cool down.

Checking coolant level, refer to page [117](#).

Between the blue and red zones

Normal operating temperature. The needle may rise as far as the edge of the red sector in normal operation.

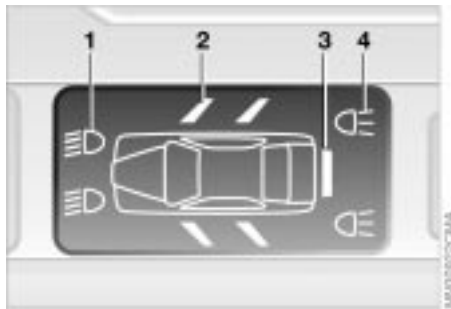
**Remaining distance to service**

The displays shown in the illustration appear for a few seconds when the ignition key is in position 1 or after the engine is started.

The next service due appears with the message OIL SERVICE or INSPECTION, together with the distance remaining in miles (kilometers) before the next scheduled service. The computer bases its calculations of the remaining distance on the preceding driving style.

A flashing message and a "-" in front of the number mean that the service interval has already been exceeded by the distance shown on the display. Please contact your BMW center for an appointment.

Check Control



The following information and/or conditions are indicated using symbols, starting with the ignition key in position 2, until the condition has been corrected.

- 1 Check the low beams and high beams, as well as the parking lamps
- 2 Door open
- 3 Tailgate open
- 4 Check brake and tail lamps

When you open the driver's door after parking, a signal sounds to remind you if the headlamps have not been switched off.

Clock

If you wish to have a permanent time display, you can make this setting in the radio display (refer to the Radio Owner's Manual).

You can set the clock and the time display in the car radio as follows.



Setting

With ignition key position 1 or 2 and time displayed in the instrument cluster.

To set ahead: turn the button to the right.

To set back: turn the button to the left.

The adjustment speed will increase the longer you continue to hold the button.

To change the display mode: press the button briefly.

Every time you press the button, the clock display alternates between the 12-hour or 24-hour mode.

In ignition key position 0: the time is displayed for a few seconds after you press the left button, refer to Odometer on page [65](#).



Mode selection

From ignition key position 1, you can call up information from the computer using the button in the turn signal lever. By pressing the button briefly toward the steering column, you can call up a new function for display.

The displays appear in the following order:

Time of day, outside temperature, average fuel consumption, cruising range, average vehicle speed.

Starting with ignition key position 1, the last active setting is displayed.



Outside temperature

You can change the units of measure (°C/°F) for the outside temperature display by pressing the right-hand reset button in the instrument cluster while the temperature display is active.

Ice warning

If the outside temperature drops to about 37.5 °F (+3 °C), then the computer will automatically switch to a display of the outside temperature. In addition, a signal sounds as a warning and the display flashes for a brief period.



The ice warning does not alter the fact that surface ice can form at temperatures above 37.5 °F (+3 °C), on bridges or shaded road surfaces, for instance. ◀



Average fuel consumption

If you continue to hold the button on the turn signal lever, the average fuel consumption last displayed is recalculated from that point in time.

Range

The computer bases its calculations for the cruising range on operating conditions in the preceding period and on the remaining fuel in the tank.

Average speed

If you continue to hold the button on the turn signal lever, the average speed last displayed is recalculated from that point in time.

Any time spent when the vehicle is stationary and the engine is switched off is ignored for the calculation.

The concept

PDC provides extra safety and convenience during parking maneuvers by providing an acoustic signal to indicate the distance between your front and rear bumpers and the nearest object. The system features four ultrasonic sensors mounted in your rear bumper. The monitoring range for the two corner sensors extends outward roughly 2 ft (60 cm), while two centrally located sensors detect objects at distances of up to approx. 5 ft (1.5 m).

The system starts to operate automatically approx. one second after you select reverse or move the selector lever into the "R" position with the ignition key in position 2. PDC is deactivated when you shift back out of reverse.

Acoustic signals

The distance to the nearest object is indicated by a tone sounding at various intervals. As the distance between vehicle and object decreases, the intervals between the tones become shorter. A continuous tone indicates the presence of an object less than 1 ft (30 cm) away.

The warning signal is canceled after approx. three seconds if the distance to the obstacle remains constant during this time (if you are moving parallel to a wall, for instance).

System malfunctions will be indicated by a continuous high-pitched tone when the system is activated the first time. Please refer the problem to your BMW center.



The PDC does not remove the driver's personal responsibility for evaluating the distance between the vehicle and any obstacles. Even when sensors are involved, there is a blind spot in which objects cannot be detected. This applies especially in those cases where the system approaches the physical limits of ultrasonic measurement, as occurs with tow bars and trailer couplings, and in the vicinity of thin or wedge-shaped objects. Certain sources of sound, such as a loud radio, could drown the PDC signal tone. ◀



Keep the sensors clean and free of ice or snow in order to ensure that they will continue to operate effectively.

Do not apply high pressure spray to the sensors for a prolonged period of time. Always maintain a distance of more than 4 in (10 cm). ◀

The concept

This system optimizes vehicle stability and traction, especially when just starting off, when accelerating or when going through curves.

ASC+T recognizes the danger present in traction loss and will increase driving stability and traction by reducing the engine's output, and if necessary, by applying the brakes to the rear wheels.

ASC+T is ready each time you start the engine.

Indicator lamp



The indicator lamp in the instrument cluster will go out shortly after the ignition has been switched on, refer to pages [18](#), [19](#).

The indicator lamp flashes: ASC+T controls the drive and braking forces.



The indicator lamp fails to go out after the engine is started, or it comes on during normal driving and stays on:

There is a system malfunction or the system was switched off with the button. Consequently, interventions to increase driving stability (as described in the preceding column) are no longer available. You can still drive the vehicle perfectly well without ASC+T.

In the event of a fault, please consult your BMW center, refer to pages [18](#), [19](#). ◀



To switch off ASC+T

Press the button; the indicator lamp comes on and stays on.

The illustration depicts the arrangement of the buttons if the vehicle is fully equipped. This may vary, depending on the equipment actually installed.

In the following rare situations, it may be effective to switch off the ASC+T for a brief period:

- ▷ When rocking the vehicle or starting off in deep snow or on loose surfaces
- ▷ When driving with snow chains.



To maintain vehicle stability, always drive with the ASC+T activated whenever possible. ◀

72 **Automatic Stability Control plus Traction (ASC+T)**

To switch ASC+T back on

Press the button again; the indicator lamp goes out.



The laws of physics cannot be repealed, even with ASC+T. It will always be the driver's responsibility to drive in a manner that matches road conditions. This is why you should not use the additional safety margin the system provides as an excuse to take risks.◀

The concept

The Dynamic Stability Control (DSC) maintains vehicle stability, even in critical driving situations.

The system optimizes vehicle stability during acceleration and when starting from a full stop, as well as optimizing traction. In addition, it recognizes unstable vehicle conditions, such as under- or oversteering, and, as far as is possible within the laws of physics, helps keeping the vehicle on a steady course by reducing engine speed and brake applications to the individual wheels.

DSC is operational every time you start the engine. DSC incorporates the functionality of the Automatic Differential Brake (ADB) and the Cornering Brake Control (CBC).

ADB (Automatic Differential Brake) relies on selective braking applications at the drive wheels to furnish the functionality of a conventional limited-slip differential for enhanced traction in critical driving conditions such as those encountered on snow-covered road surfaces, etc.

The ADB is in standby mode when DSC is switched off.

Indicator lamp



The indicator lamp in the instrument cluster will go out shortly after the ignition has been switched on, refer to pages [18](#), [19](#).

The indicator lamp flashes: DSC controls the drive and braking forces.

The indicator lamp stays lit: DSC has been switched off via the button; ADB is operational. ADB control intervention is not indicated.



The indicator lamp and the brake warning lamps remain on continuously:



The DSC, ADB and DBC have been switched off via the button or are defective.

The vehicle will remain completely operational, however, without DSC. In the event of a fault, please see your BMW center, refer to pages [18](#), [19](#).



Indicator and warning lamps for Canadian models.



To switch DSC off/activate ADB

Press the DSC button briefly; the indicator lamp comes on and stays on. DSC is switched off; ADB is operational.

In the following rare situations, it may be effective to activate the ADB for a brief period:

- ▷ When rocking the vehicle or starting off in deep snow or on loose surfaces
- ▷ When driving on snow-covered grades, in deep snow, or on a snow-covered surface that has been packed down from being driven on
- ▷ When driving with snow chains.

Traction is increased by deactivating the control systems that enhance traction under normal conditions.

Switch the DSC and ADB off

Hold the DSC button down for at least 3 seconds. The indicator and the yellow brake warning lamps will remain on continuously.

The systems for enhancing stability and traction are deactivated, and there is no active braking intervention or torque control.



To maintain vehicle stability, always drive with the DSC switched on whenever possible. ◀

Switch DSC and ADB back on

Press the button again; the indicator lamps will go out



The laws of physics cannot be repealed, even with DSC. It will always be the driver's responsibility to drive in a manner that matches road conditions. This is why you should not use the additional safety margin the system provides as an excuse to take risks.

When ADB is in its standby mode, DSC is deactivated; DSC does not intervene to enhance vehicle stability under these conditions.

Do not make any modifications to the DSC system. Allow only authorized technicians to perform service procedures on the DSC. ◀

Dynamic Brake Control (DBC)

DBC is an integral component of the DSC system.

The system responds to sudden, high-intensity applications of force to the brake pedal by automatically braking the vehicle with maximum boost to achieve the shortest-possible braking distances during "panic stops". This system exploits all the benefits of ABS.

Do not reduce the pressure exerted against the brake pedal until the braking maneuver has been completed. DBC is deactivated when you release the brake pedal.

The concept

DSC maintains vehicle stability, even in critical driving situations.

The system optimizes vehicle stability during acceleration and when starting from a full stop, as well as optimizing traction. In addition, it recognizes unstable vehicle conditions, such as under- or oversteering, and, as far as is possible within the laws of physics, helps keeping the vehicle on a steady course by reducing the engine speed and brake applications to the individual wheels.

DSC is operational every time you start the engine. DSC includes the functions of ADB-X and CBC.

The Automatic Differential Brake (ADB-X) enhances traction in critical situations (such as those encountered on snow-covered roads) by using selective braking intervention to replace the limited-slip functions executed by the differential and transfer case in conventional drivetrains.

Indicator lamp



The indicator lamp in the instrument cluster will go out shortly after the ignition has been switched on, refer to pages [18](#), [19](#).

The indicator lamp flashes: DSC controls the drive and braking forces.

The indicator lamp stays lit: DSC has been switched off via the button; ADB-X is operational. ADB-X control intervention is not indicated.



If the indicator lamp fails to go out when you press the DSC button, this indicates a malfunction in the DSC and ADB-X systems; the stability enhancement functions described on the left are no longer available. ◀

The vehicle will remain completely operational, however, without DSC. In the event of a malfunction, please consult your BMW center, refer to pages [18](#), [19](#).



To deactivate DSC

Press the DSC button briefly, the indicator lamp comes on and remains lit.

DSC is switched off, and ADB-X reverts to its maximum torque-transfer mode.

In the following exceptional circumstances, it may be effective to deactivate the DSC for a short period:

- ▷ When rocking the vehicle or starting off in deep snow or on loose surfaces
- ▷ When driving with snow chains.



To maintain vehicle stability, always drive with the DSC switched on whenever possible. ◀

To switch DSC back on

Press the button again; the indicator lamp goes out.



The laws of physics cannot be repealed, even with DSC. It will always be the driver's responsibility to drive in a manner that matches road conditions. This is why you should not use the additional safety margin the system provides as an excuse to take risks.

The system does not intervene to enhance vehicle stability when switched off. Do not make any modifications to the DSC system. Allow only authorized technicians to perform service procedures on the DSC. ◀

Hill Descent Control (HDC) – BMW 325xi

The concept

By reducing the vehicle's speed on steep downhill stretches, HDC maintains predictable vehicle handling response to provide you with control of your BMW during extreme descents. The vehicle slows to a pace just slightly faster than walking speed.

HDC is available for activation at vehicle speeds below approx. 22 mph (35 km/h). When driving down steep hills, the vehicle reduces speed automatically down to slightly more than double walking speed (approx. 8 mph/ 12 km/h) and then maintains this speed at a constant.

You can use the accelerator or brakes to vary this automatically controlled speed within a range extending from approx. 3 mph (5 km/h) to 15 mph (25 km/h).

In conjunction with the multifunction steering wheel, you can use the +/- button to set the cruise control to a target speed in the range from approx. 3 mph (5 km/h) to 15 mph (25 km/h).

HDC is automatically deactivated once vehicle speed again exceeds approx. 35 mph (60 km/h).



To activate the system

Press the HDC button; the green indicator lamp integrated within the button comes on.

The indicator lamp flashes whenever the system is actively intervening to control your speed with automatic brake applications.

To deactivate the system

Press the button again, the indicator lamp goes out.

HDC is automatically deactivated once the vehicle accelerates to more than 35 mph (60 km/h) as well as whenever you switch off the ignition.

To use HDC

With manual transmission:

You should always ensure that either reverse or first gear is engaged before using HDC, as the engine's braking effect is most pronounced in these gears, and only reduced engine braking is available in higher gears.

With automatic transmission:

HDC is available for use in all ranges.

System malfunctions

Signalled by the indicator lamp, which responds to problems by going out while HDC is in operation or by failing to come on when you activate the system:

HDC is temporarily not available if brake temperature is too high.



If the DSC indicator lamp comes on at the same time:

There is a fault in the HDC and DSC systems. Have your BMW center inspect this system as soon as possible.

The concept

RDC monitors the tire pressures at all four wheels while the vehicle is moving. The system provides an alert whenever the inflation pressure drops significantly below the specified pressure in one or more tires.

In order for the system to learn the correct tire inflation pressure, check the inflation pressure in all tires according to the inflation pressure table on page 25 and make corrections as necessary. Then activate the system.



This indicator lamp in the instrument cluster will inform you if the tire pressure is not correct.

**To activate the system**

1. Turn ignition key to position 2 (do not start the engine)
2. Press the button long enough for the yellow indicator lamp in the instrument cluster to light up for a few seconds
3. After a few minutes driving time, the RDC adopts the current pressure levels as the reference, and from that point on, can detect and report a flat tire.

You will only have to repeat this procedure following a correction of the tire inflation pressure. Otherwise, RDC functions automatically when the ignition key is in position 2, and thus operates whenever the vehicle is driven.

In the event of loss in inflation pressure

If the inflation pressure has dropped significantly over a long period of time (which is normal for any tire), the yellow indicator lamp will come on.

This alerts you to have the tires inflated to the specified pressures as soon as possible.



If you are prompted to check the tire pressure shortly after a correction has been made, this indicates that the corrected values were not accurate. Please check the inflation pressure again and make corrections according to the inflation pressure table. Then activate the system once again. ◀

Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC)*

In the event of a flat tire

If there is a tire failure with loss of pressure, the indicator lamp comes on with a red lamp. In addition, an acoustic signal is sounded.

If this occurs, reduce vehicle speed immediately and stop the vehicle in a safe location. Avoid hard brake applications. Do not oversteer. Replace the wheel and flat tire.



The space-saver spare tire is provided for temporary use only in the case of a tire failure. It does not have RDC electronics and is not monitored. The spare tire that has the same dimensions as the tires already mounted on the vehicle is equipped with the necessary RDC electronics and will be also monitored once the tires have been mounted and the system activated. ◀



RDC cannot alert you to severe and sudden tire damage caused by external factors. ◀



Have the tires changed by your BMW center.

Your BMW center has the information needed for working with RDC and is equipped with the necessary special tools. ◀

System interference

Local devices using the same radio frequency can interfere with RDC.

The yellow indicator lamp will come on during the malfunction.

The indicator lamp also comes on

- ▷ in the event of a system fault
- ▷ if a wheel is mounted without the appropriate electronics
- ▷ if, in addition to the spare tire, additional wheels with RDC electronics are on board.

Please contact your BMW center for additional information.

The concept

As you drive, the Flat Tire Monitor keeps track of pressure levels in all four tires in order to detect and warn of any substantial pressure loss.

The system actually detects pressure loss by monitoring differences in the relative speeds of the four wheels. It interprets variations outside specified limits as severe pressure loss, and then responds by generating a warning.



3. Press button as long as you need to until the indicator lamp in the instrument cluster lights up. After a little while, the indicator lamp will go out by itself
4. After a few minutes driving time, the Flat Tire Monitor adopts the current pressure levels as the reference, and from that point on, can detect and report a flat tire.

To initialize the system

Initializing is necessary to familiarize the system with the correct inflation pressure.

Repeat this process after any changes in tire inflation pressure, tire rotation or replacement. Do not carry out further system initialization after adjusting the inflation pressure and letting the system "learn" the correct pressures.

1. Check the tire inflation pressure in all the tires, comparing them with the inflation pressure table on page 25, and correct their pressure if necessary
2. Turn the ignition key to position 2



Activate/deactivate the system

The Flat Tire Monitor automatically assumes operation whenever you turn the ignition key to position 2. Unless manually deactivated, it is always on during normal vehicle operation.

To deactivate the system: press the button, the yellow indicator lamp comes on.

To activate the system: press the button again, the indicator lamp goes out.

You should deactivate the system before driving with snow chains, as the chains can generate spurious warnings and/or prevent the system from detecting actual pressure loss.

In the event of a flat tire



The red warning lamp in the instrument cluster lights up to warn of pressure loss and tire failure. This visual alert is accompanied by an acoustic warning signal. Reduce your speed immediately, and steer and brake gently as you bring the vehicle to a stop.

To reset the warning lamp: after replacing the flat tire you will need to reset the red warning lamp manually: maintain pressure on the Flat Tire Monitor button until the warning lamp goes out. Then reinitialize the system.



The Flat Tire Monitor cannot provide you with advance warning of sudden and severe tire damage caused by external factors. The system also does not detect the gradual and minor loss of pressure that all tires display over extended periods of time. ◀

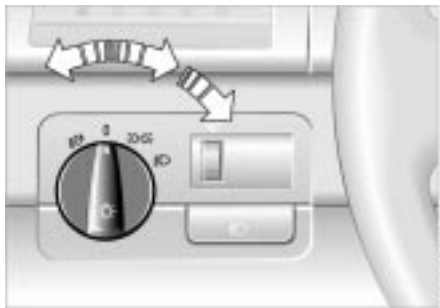


Check the tire inflation pressures on a regular basis, correcting them as necessary, refer to page 24. The system may respond to operation on slippery or snow-covered road surfaces with false warnings or delays in detecting actual pressure loss. Performance-oriented driving (slip at the drive wheels, high rates of lateral acceleration) can also increase the time that the Flat Tire Monitor requires to detect a flat tire. ◀

System malfunctions

The yellow indicator lamp in the instrument cluster lights up and remains on until the problem is corrected.

Please refer the problem to your BMW center.



Parking lamps



The front, rear and side vehicle lighting is switched on. You can use the parking lamps for parking. For lighting on one side for parking as an additional feature, refer to page 83.

Low beams



When the ignition is switched off while the low beams are on, the headlamps go out and only the parking lamps remain on.



Follow me home lamps

When you activate the headlamp flasher after parking the vehicle with the lamps turned off, the low-beam headlamps will come on for a short time. You can also have this function deactivated. ◀

LIGHTS ON warning

When you open the driver's door after having turned the ignition key to position 0, you will hear an acoustic signal for a few seconds to remind you if the lamps have not been switched off.

Daytime driving lamps*

If you desire, the lamp switch can be left in the second position: When the ignition is switched off, the external lighting is also switched off.



You can have the activation settings for the daytime driving lamps programmed on your vehicle. ◀

Automatic headlight control*



When the switch is set to this position the system automatically activates and cancels the low beams in response to changes in ambient light (in tunnels, at dusk, etc.) as well as rain and snow.



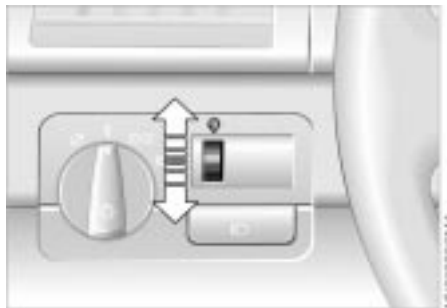
The vehicle's external lights remain on constantly when you switch on the front fog lamps after the headlights have come on automatically. ◀



Automatic headlight control cannot serve as a substitute for the driver's judgement in determining when the vehicle lights should be switched on. For example, the sensors are not able to detect fog. To avoid safety risks, you should respond to these kinds of low-visibility situations by switching the headlights on manually. ◀



You can have the sensitivity of your vehicle's automatic headlight control adjusted. ◀



Turn the rotary dial to adjust the illumination intensity.



- 1 High beams
(blue indicator lamp)
- 2 Headlamp flasher
(blue indicator lamp)
- 3 Standing lamps

Standing lamps, left or right

As an additional feature, you can illuminate your vehicle on either side for parking:

With the ignition key in position 0, engage the lever in the appropriate turn-signal position.



Front fog lamps



The green indicator lamp in the instrument cluster lights up to indicate that the front fog lamps are on.



If the automatic headlight control is on, the low beams will come on automatically whenever you switch on the front fog lamps. ◀



Rear reading lamps

Switch on and off with the button 2 adjacent to each lamp.

 In order to prevent battery discharge, all of the lamps in the vehicle are automatically switched off approx. 15 minutes after you turn the ignition key to position 0. ◀

The interior lamps operate automatically.

Switching the interior lamps on and off manually

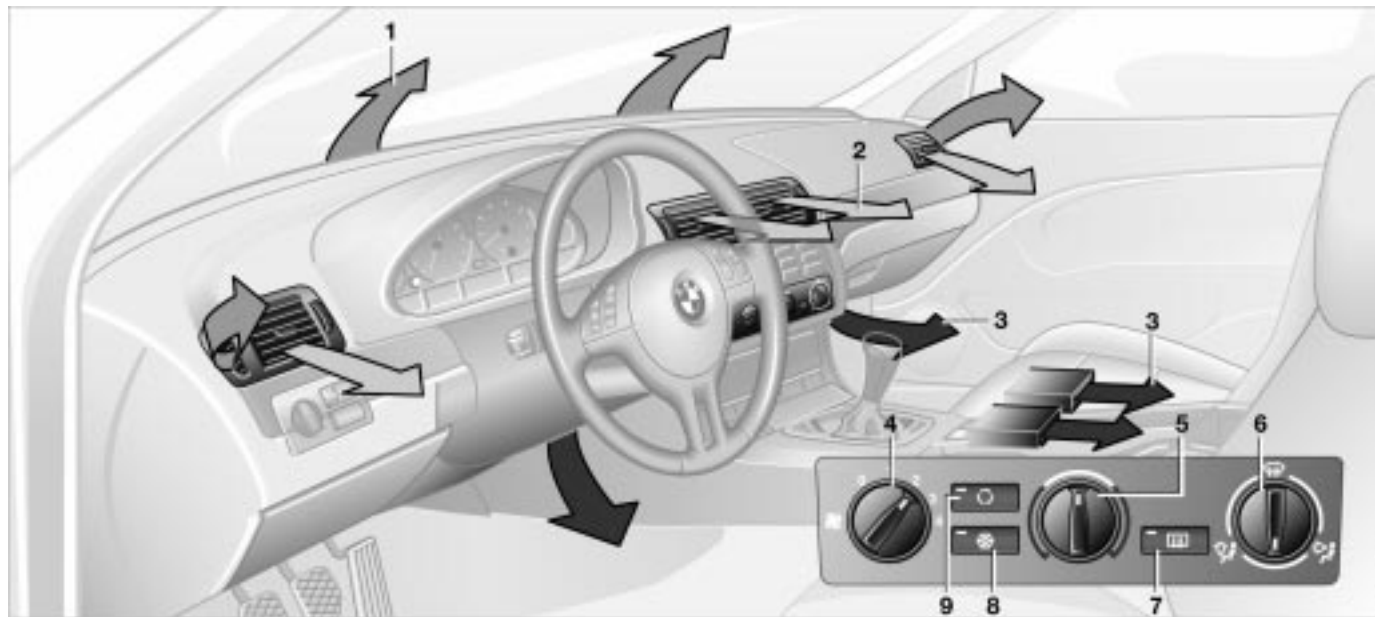
Press button 1 briefly:

If you want the interior lamps to remain off all the times, press and hold the button for approx. 3 seconds.

Press the button briefly to revert to normal operation.

Front reading lamps*

Switch on and off with the button 2 adjacent to each lamp.



- 1 Air onto the windshield and onto the side windows
- 2 Air for the upper body area [87](#)
- 3 Air for the footwell

- 4 Air supply [86](#)
- 5 Temperature [86](#)
- 6 Air distribution [86](#)

- 7 Rear window defroster [86](#)
- 8 Air conditioning [86](#)
- 9 Recirculated-air mode [86](#)

Air supply

You can select blower speeds from 1 to 4. The heating and ventilation become more and more effective as the air supply settings are increased. In position 0, the blower and the heater are switched off. The outside air supply is blocked in position 0.

Temperature

In order to increase the temperature of the passenger compartment, turn it to the right (red). The temperature of the incoming air is kept constant.

Air distribution

You can direct air to flow onto the windows , toward the upper body  and into the footwell . All intermediate settings are possible. In the  setting, there is a low flow of air onto the windows to keep them free of condensation.

Rear window defroster

When the rear window defroster is activated, the indicator lamp comes on. The rear window defroster switches off automatically.



At outside temperatures colder than approx. 39 °F (+4 °C) the rear window defroster automatically assumes operation within 5 minutes after the engine is started. ◀

Air conditioning

The air is cooled and dehumidified and – depending on the temperature setting – rewarmd when the air conditioning is switched on. Depending on the weather, the windshield may fog over briefly when the engine is started. Switching on the air conditioning will reduce condensation forming on the windows.



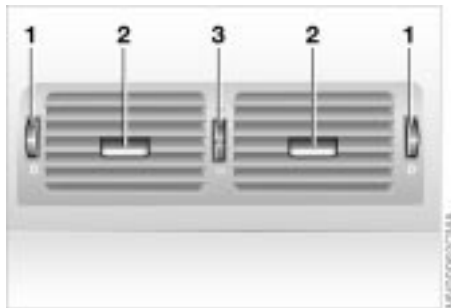
As the air-conditioning system operates, condensation forms within the system. This moisture is conducted to an outlet beneath the vehicle; it is thus not unusual for a small puddle to form under the car while the system is running. ◀

Recirculated-air mode

You can respond to unpleasant external odors by temporarily excluding the supply of outside air. The system then recirculates the air currently within the vehicle.



If the windows fog over in the recirculated-air mode, switch it off and increase the air supply as required. ◀



Microfilter

The built-in microfilter removes dust and pollen from the incoming air. Your BMW center will replace it during regularly scheduled maintenance. A substantial reduction in airflow indicates that the filter needs to be replaced before scheduled maintenance.

Draft-free ventilation

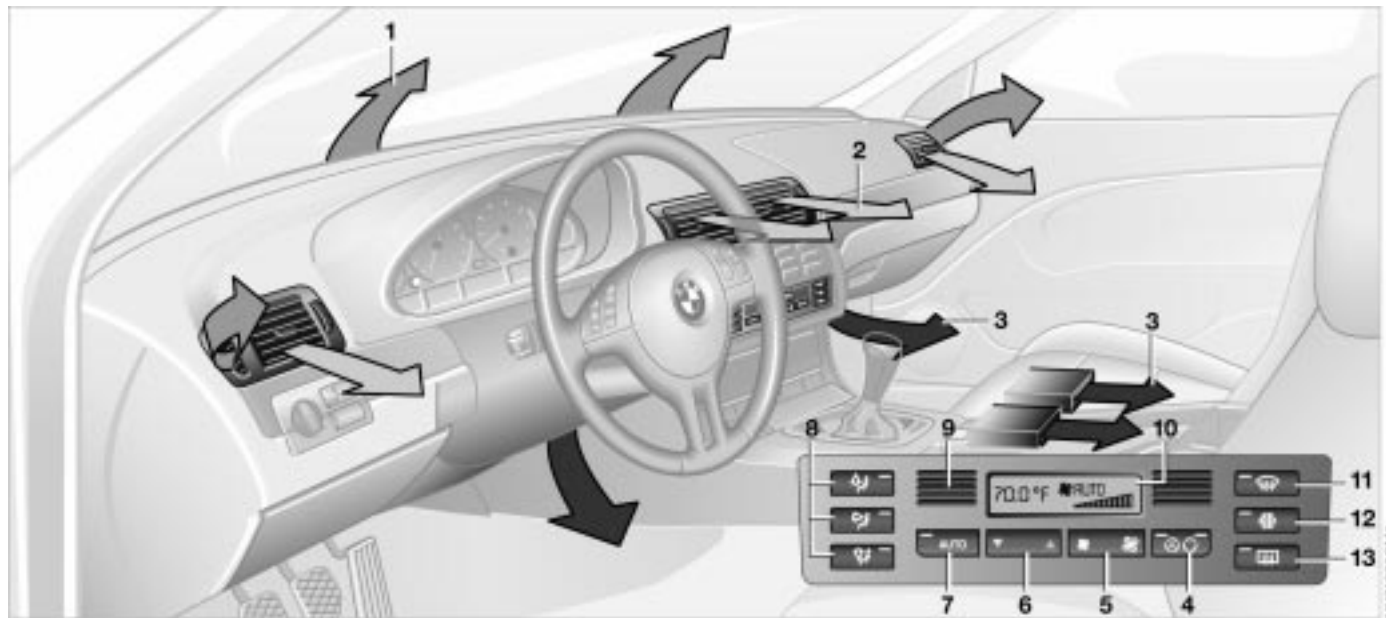
You can adjust the blower controls for the upper body area to obtain the optimum airflow rates and directions for your personal requirements:

- 1 Rotary dials for infinitely-variable opening and closing of the vent outlets
- 2 Selector levers for airflow direction
- 3 Rotary dial 3 allows you to control the temperature of the airflow from these outlets as desired.



To defrost windows and remove condensation

1. Set the blower speed control for the air supply to position 4
2. Turn the rotary temperature control completely to the right (red)
3. Rotary control for air distribution in position
4. Switch on the rear window defroster to defrost the rear window.



1 Air onto the windshield and onto the side windows

2 Air for the upper body area 90

3 Air for the footwell

4 Recirculated-air mode/Automatic recirculated-air control (AUC) 90

5 Air supply 89

6 Temperature 89

7 Automatic air distribution 89

8 Individual air distribution 89

9 Interior temperature sensor – please keep clear and unobstructed

10 Display for temperature and air supply 89

11 Defrost windows and remove condensation 89

12 Air conditioning 89

13 Rear window defroster 90

Automatic climate control*

Tips for pleasant driving

Use the automatic system – switch on with AUTO button 7. Select the desired interior temperature.

Detailed setting options are described for you in the following section.

Automatic air distribution



The AUTO program adjusts the air distribution and the air supply for you and in addition adapts the temperature to external influences (summer, winter) to meet preferences you can specify.

Individual air distribution



You can cancel the AUTO program by selecting specific distribution patterns to suit your own individual requirements.

While the AUTO program is then deactivated, the automatic airflow control remains in operation. The system directs air to the windows , the upper body  and into the footwells . You can reactivate the automatic air distribution mode by selecting the AUTO button.

Temperature



The interior temperature that appears in the display panel is a general figure intended for reference purposes. We recommend 72 °F (+22 °C) as a comfortable setting, even if the air conditioning is on. When you start the vehicle, the system ensures that the selected temperature is achieved as quickly as possible regardless of the season. It then maintains this temperature.

Air supply



By pressing the left or right half of the button, you can vary the air supply. This deactivates the automatic control of the air supply, AUTO disappears from the display panel. Nevertheless, the automatic air distribution remains unchanged. You can reactivate the automatic air distribution mode by selecting the AUTO button.

When you select the lowest blower speed by pressing the left half of the button, all of the displays are canceled: the blower, heating and air conditioning are switched off. The outside air supply is blocked. You can reactivate the system by pressing any button for the automatic climate control.

To defrost windows and remove condensation



This program quickly removes ice and condensation from the windshield and the side windows.

Air conditioning



The air is cooled and dehumidified and – depending on the temperature setting – rewarmed. Depending on the weather, the windshield may fog over briefly when the engine is started. Switching on the air conditioning will reduce condensation forming on the windows.



As the air-conditioning system operates, condensation forms within the system. This moisture is conducted to an outlet beneath the vehicle; it is thus not unusual for a small puddle to form under the car while the system is running. ◀

Automatic recirculated-air control (AUC)

You can respond to unpleasant external odors or pollutants by temporarily stopping the flow of outside air. The system then recirculates the air currently within the vehicle.

Press the button repeatedly to select one of three different operating modes.

- ▷ Indicator lamps off: outside air supply is on
- ▷ Left indicator lamp on – AUC mode: the system recognizes pollutants in the outside air and blocks the flow of air when necessary. The system then recirculates the air currently within the vehicle.
Depending on the air quality, the automatic system then switches back and forth between outside air supply and recirculation of the air within the vehicle
- ▷ Right indicator lamp on: the flow of external air into the vehicle is permanently blocked. The system then recirculates the air currently within the vehicle.



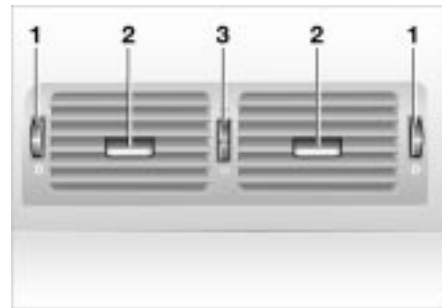
If the windows fog over in the recirculated-air mode, switch the recirculated-air mode off and increase the air supply as required. ◀

Rear window defroster

When the rear window defroster is activated, the indicator lamp comes on. The rear window defroster switches off automatically.



At outside temperatures colder than approx. 39 °F (+4 °C) the rear window defroster automatically assumes operation within 5 minutes after the engine is started. ◀

**Draft-free ventilation**

You can adjust the blower controls for the upper body area to obtain the optimum airflow rates and directions for your personal requirements:

- 1 Rotary dials for infinitely-variable opening and closing of the vent outlets
- 2 Selector levers for airflow direction
- 3 Rotary dial 3 allows you to control the temperature of the airflow from these outlets as desired

Automatic climate control* Sound system*

Microfilter/activated-charcoal filter

The built-in microfilter removes dust and pollen from the incoming air. The activated-charcoal filter provides additional protection by filtering gaseous pollutants from the outside air. Your BMW center replaces this combined filter as a standard part of your scheduled maintenance. A substantial reduction in airflow indicates that the filter needs to be replaced before scheduled maintenance.



Harman Kardon premium sound system

Press the button to activate and deactivate the acoustic enhancement.

The system creates the acoustic impression of a much larger passenger compartment accompanied by improved stereophonic sound at all seating positions.

The system responds to poor reception conditions by repeatedly alternating between the stereo and monophonic modes. You should then switch the system off.

**To open**

Pull the handle. The lamp in the glove compartment will come on.

To close

Fold the cover up.



To prevent injury in the event of an accident, close the glove compartment immediately after use. ◀

To lock

Lock with one of the master keys. A master key will also be required to unlock the glove compartment.



If you turn over only your door and ignition key for valet parking, for example, access to the glove compartment is not possible, refer to page 28. ◀

Rechargeable flashlight

The flashlight is located on the left side of the glove compartment.

It features integral overload protection, so it can be left in its holder continuously.



To avoid completely discharging and possibly damaging the lamp, always ensure that it is switched off before inserting it in the socket. ◀

**Front center armrest**

To open: press the button (arrow) and lift upward.

Additional compartments and nets*

You will find additional storage compartments in the front doors and in the center console. Storage nets are on the front seat backrests.



Beverage holder, coin box

A coin box and two beverage holders are provided in the center console.



Rear center armrest

The rear center armrest includes a storage compartment, a beverage holder (for two beverage containers) and a litter bag holder.

- 1 Storage compartment: pull up
- 2 Beverage holder: press.



Storage package*

For your convenience, there are:

- ▷ Two flip-out sockets on the rear center console
- ▷ A glasses tray* (not shown) in the front center console.



Hands-free system

On vehicles with telephone preparation* or communications package* the cover for the hands-free microphone is located in the headliner near the interior lamp.

For further information on using your cellular phone, refer to the separate "Owner's Manual".

Ashtray, front*



To empty

Press on the edge of the open cover (arrow): the ashtray moves up and can be removed.

Cigarette lighter

Press the lighter 1 in. You can remove the lighter from its socket for use as soon as it snaps back out.



Hold or touch the hot cigarette lighter by the knob only. Holding or touching it in other areas could result in burns.

The cigarette lighter remains operational when the ignition key has been removed. For this reason, children should never be left in the vehicle unattended. ◀

Cigarette lighter socket

Suitable for attaching power supplies for flashlights, car vacuum cleaners, etc., up to a rating of approx. 200 watts at 12 volts. Avoid damage to the socket caused by inserting plugs of different shapes or sizes.

Ashtray, rear*



To empty

Press on the edge of the raised cover in the opening direction (arrow): the ashtray moves up and can be removed.

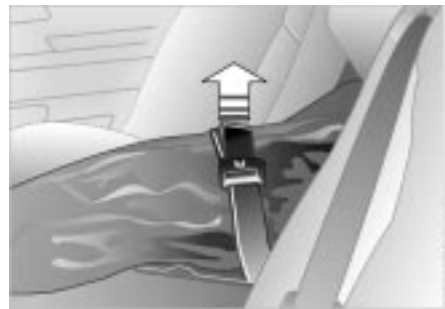
Electrical power socket



A fold-out power socket (12 volts) is located in the cargo area.

The ski bag allows the safe and clean transport of up to 4 pairs of standard skis or up to two snowboards.

The length of the ski bag and the additional space provided in the cargo area make it possible to carry skis up to 6.8 ft (2.1 m) long. Because of the tapered shape of the bag, the ski bag can only accommodate two pairs of skis up to 6.8 ft (2.1 m) long.



Loading

1. Fold the center armrest outward. Loosen the trim from the upper Velcro® fastener and place it on the armrest
2. Press the button (arrow 1, access from the passenger compartment): the cargo hatch drops onto the floor of the cargo area
3. Press down the detent lever (arrow 2) and fold the cover forward
4. Extend the ski bag between the front seats. The zipper provides convenient access to the inside of the bag, and can also be left open to promote drying.

To store the ski bag, perform the above steps in reverse sequence.

Securing cargo



Secure skis and any other objects stored in the bag by tightening the retaining strap at the buckle. ◀



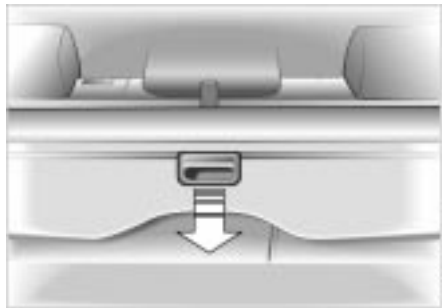
Make sure that your skis are clean before loading them into the bag. Avoid damage from sharp edges during loading. ◀



Folding rear backrest

Reach into the recess and pull forward (arrow).

 When you fold back the backrest, be sure that the catch engages securely. The red warning indicator disappears in the recess when the retainer is locked. ◀



Cargo area cover

Pull out the cover and suspend it by attaching to the retainers.

You can carry light objects such as articles of clothing on the cover.

 Never use the cover to carry heavy or hard objects, as such objects could pose a hazard to the vehicle's occupants during sudden braking maneuvers. Guide the cover back into place; do not allow it to snap back, as it could sustain damage. ◀

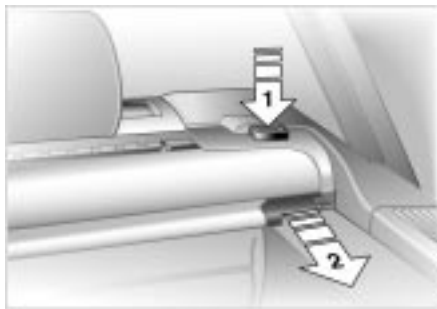


Partition net*

Use the loop to pull out the partition net, then grasp both sides of the rod and insert it in its holder. It is easiest to do this from the back seat.

 Do not allow the partition net to snap back. Doing so could pose a risk of injury and the partition net could be damaged. ◀

If the backrests are folded forward, the case can be stored on the backrests; you can then extract the partition net and hold it in place by inserting the retainers in the front holders (refer to next page).



To remove cargo cover and partition net

1. Press the buttons on the sides (arrow 1)
2. Extract the case by pulling to the rear (arrow 2).

Installation

Simply slide the case forward in the two side holders until it engages.



Storing with backrests folded forward

Supports for the case are also provided on the rear sides of the backrests (arrow 1).

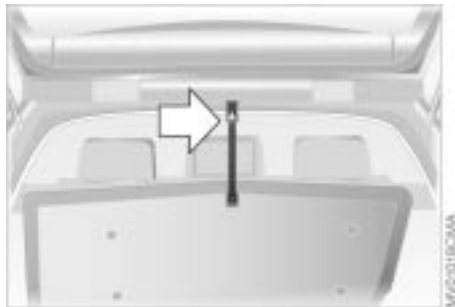
Slide the case into the supports as shown in the illustration, continuing until the detent engages (arrow 2).

Ensure that the cargo cover is toward the front of the vehicle, with the partition net's loop on the top.

You can pull the partition net out and insert it in the holders above it in the upper roof area.

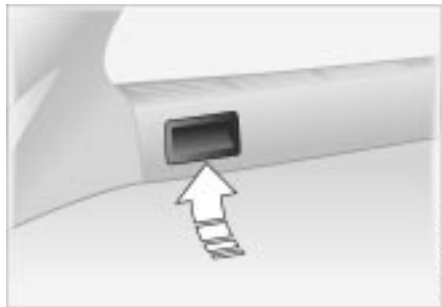


To ensure that the case centers correctly, remember to insert it from the right side, always continuing until the detents snap into place. Failure to observe the prescribed insertion procedure could also result in damage to the door's upholstery. ◀



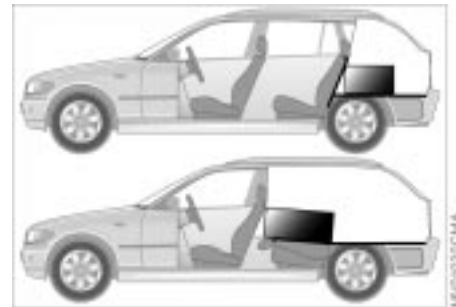
Floor panel

Grasp the ring to lift into its raised position, then use the tab to suspend the panel from the rubber weatherstripping on the drip channel (arrow).



Side covers

Open the side covers by pressing the button.



Stowing cargo

When transporting cargo in your BMW:

- ▷ Always load heavy and bulky objects as far forward and as low as possible, stowing them directly behind the backrests or the cargo area's partition
- ▷ Cover sharp edges and corners
- ▷ Do not pile objects higher than the top edge of the backrest
- ▷ Pull out the partition net* (refer to previous page), taking care to ensure that there is no danger that any of the objects stored in the cargo area will protrude through the net*
- ▷ For very heavy loads when the rear seat is not occupied, secure each safety belt in the opposite buckle.



Securing cargo

- ▷ Small and light luggage and cargo can be secured with the aid of flexible straps or a cargo area net*, refer to page 35
- ▷ For large, heavy pieces, see your BMW center for load-securing devices*. Anchorages for securing cargo straps have been provided on the inner corners of the cargo area (arrow).

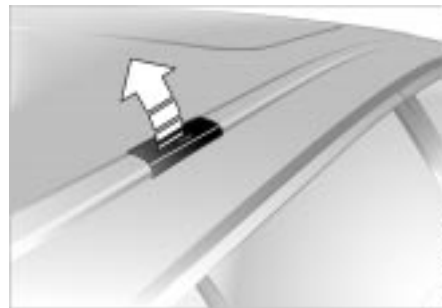
Read and comply with the instructions enclosed with the load-securing devices.



Always position and secure the load correctly. If you do not, it can endanger the passengers during braking or evasive maneuvers. Do not exceed the approved gross vehicle weight or the maximum axle loads, refer to page 142, otherwise the vehicle's operating safety is no longer assured and you are in violation of the law.

Do not stow heavy or hard objects in the passenger compartment without securing them. Otherwise they would be thrown around during braking and evasive maneuvers and endanger the passengers. ◀

Roof-mounted luggage rack*



A special roof-rack system is available as an optional extra for your BMW. Please observe the precautions included with the installation instructions.

Anchorages

Access to the anchorages: To fold up the covers (arrow), please use the tool provided with the roof-rack system.

Loading and driving notes

Roof-mounted luggage racks raise the center of gravity of the vehicle when they are loaded. For this reason, they exercise a major effect on the vehicle's handling and steering response.

Roof-mounted luggage rack*

You should therefore always remember not to exceed the approved roof load capacity, the approved gross vehicle weight or the axle weights when loading the rack. These weights are listed under Technical Data on page [142](#).

Make sure that the load is not too bulky, and attempt to distribute it evenly. Always load the heaviest pieces first (on the bottom). Be sure that adequate clearance is maintained for raising the sliding/tilt sunroof, and that objects do not project into the opening path of the tailgate.

Secure the roof luggage correctly and securely to prevent it from shifting or being lost during driving (danger to following traffic).

Drive smoothly and avoid sudden acceleration and braking. Do not corner at high speeds.

The roof-mounted luggage rack and the roof load increase the aerodynamic resistance: increased fuel consumption and additional stress on the vehicle's body are the result.



Overview**Controls in detail****Operation, maintenance****Owner service procedures****Technical data****Index**

To ensure that your vehicle provides maximum economy throughout a long service life, we request that you observe the following information.

Engine and differential

Up to 1,200 miles (2,000 km):
Constantly vary both engine and vehicle speed, remembering not to exceed 4,500 rpm or 100 mph (160 km/h) during this period.

Always obey all official speed limits.

Do not use full throttle, and avoid pressing the accelerator beyond the kickdown point during these initial miles.

You can then proceed to increase both engine and vehicle speed once the initial 1,200 miles (2,000 km) have elapsed.

You should also observe the same break-in procedures if the engine or differential is replaced later in the course of the vehicle's life.

Tires

Due to technical factors associated with their manufacture, tires do not achieve their full traction potential until after an initial break-in period. We thus ask you to drive with extra care during the first 200 miles (300 km).

Always obey all official speed limits.



When the vehicle is operated on wet or slushy roads, a wedge of water may form between the tire and the road surface. This phenomenon is referred to as aquaplaning, or hydroplaning, and can lead to partial or complete loss of traction, vehicle control and braking effectiveness. Reduce your speed on wet roads. ◀

Brake system

Approx. 300 miles (500 km) must elapse before the brake pads and rotors achieve the optimal pad-surface and wear patterns required for trouble-free operation and an extended service life later on.

To break-in the separate parking brake drums, apply the parking brake lightly when coasting to a standstill (at a traffic signal, for instance), provided that traffic conditions allow you to do so.

To avoid corrosion, repeat this procedure from time to time.



The brake lamps do not come on when the parking brake is engaged.

Vacuum for the brake system servo unit on your BMW is available only when the engine is running. When you move the vehicle with the engine switched off – when towing, for example – substantially higher levels of pedal force will be required to brake the vehicle. ◀

Clutch

Approx. 300 miles (500 km) must elapse before the clutch starts to operate at optimum efficiency. Remember to engage the clutch carefully during this initial period.



Brakes: do not drive with your foot resting on the brake pedal. Even light but consistent pressure on the brake pedal can lead to high temperatures, accelerated brake wear and possibly even brake failure.

Aquaplaning: when driving on wet or slushy roads, reduce your speed. If you do not, a wedge of water may form between tires and road surface. This phenomenon can lead to partial or complete loss of contact between the tires and road surface, vehicle control and braking ability.

Driving through water: do not drive through water on the road if it is deeper than 1 ft (30 cm), and then only at walking speed. Otherwise, the vehicle's engine, the electrical systems and the transmission may be damaged.

Cargo area cover: never use it to store heavy or hard objects, as otherwise occupants could be injured during braking maneuvers.

Clothes hooks: when hanging clothing from the hooks, be sure that they will not obstruct the driver's vision. Do not hang heavy objects on the hooks. If you do so, they could cause personal injury during braking or evasive maneuvers. ◀

The concept

The Antilock Brake System (ABS) keeps the wheels from locking during braking, thereby enhancing active driving safety.

Braking with ABS

If you are in a situation that requires full braking, you will exploit the full benefits of the ABS system if you apply maximum pedal pressure ("panic stop"). Since the vehicle maintains steering responsiveness, you can avoid possible obstacles with a minimum of steering effort, despite the full brake application.

Pulsation at the brake pedal combined with sounds from the hydraulic circuits indicates to the driver that ABS is in its active mode.

Brake fluid level

If the brake fluid level is too low and brake pedal travel has become longer, there may be a defect in one of the two brake system's hydraulic circuits.



Proceed to the nearest BMW center. It may be necessary to apply higher levels of pressure to the pedal when stopping and braking distances may also be longer. Please remember to adapt your driving style accordingly. ◀

Disc brakes

Limited vehicle use, extended periods with the vehicle parked or in storage, and operating conditions in which braking is restricted to gentle, low-pressure applications will all increase the tendency for corrosion to form on the rotors; this is often accompanied by a simultaneous accumulation of contamination on the brake pads. The pads must exert a certain minimal level of pressure against the rotors for the disc brakes' inherent self-cleaning effect to remain effective; the pressure available under the above conditions may not provide adequate cleansing.

If the brake rotors are corroded, they will tend to respond to braking with a pulsating effect that even extended brake applications will fail to cure.

When driving in heavy rain and on wet roads it is useful to apply light pressure to the brake pedal every few miles. Monitor traffic conditions to ensure that this maneuver does not pose a hazard to you or to other road users. The heat generated in this process helps dry the pads and rotors to ensure that your brake system will respond with undiminished efficiency when you need it.

When descending steep hills and extended grades, downshift to a gear that will allow you to continue safely with only a minimal amount of braking. By minimizing the loads placed on the brake system, this strategy helps ensure that optimal brake system response will remain available at all times. Use care to avoid exceeding the approved engine-speed range, refer to page 65.



Do not coast with the clutch depressed or with the transmission or selector lever in neutral. Do not coast with the engine switched off. The engine provides no braking effect when the clutch is depressed and there is no power-assist for braking or steering when the engine is not running. BMW 325xi: always refer all brake inspection and service work to your BMW center, as failure to observe the special procedures could result in damage to brake system components. Never allow floor mats, carpets or any other objects to protrude into the area around the accelerator, clutch and brake pedals and obstruct their movement. ◀

Brake pads

For your own safety: use only brake pads that the manufacturer has released for your particular vehicle model. The manufacturer cannot evaluate non-approved brake pads to determine if they are suited for use, and therefore cannot ensure the operating safety of the vehicle if they are installed. ◀

Tire inflation pressure

Information for your safety

The factory-approved radial tires are matched to the vehicle and have been selected to provide optimum safety and driving comfort.

It is not merely the tire's service life, but also driving comfort and – above all else – driving safety that depend on the condition of the tires and the maintenance of the specified tire inflation pressure.

 Incorrect tire inflation pressure is a frequent cause of tire damage. It also significantly influences the road-holding ability of your BMW. Be sure to check the tire inflation pressure, including the space-saver spare tire or the spare tire, on a regular basis, at least twice a month and before every extended journey, refer to page 24. If this is not done, incorrect tire pressures can cause driving instability and tire damage, ultimately resulting in an accident. ◀

Tire condition



Tire tread – tire damage

Inspect your tires frequently for tread wear, signs of damage and for foreign objects lodged in the tread. Check the tread depth.

Tread depth should not be allowed to go below 0.12 in (3 mm), even though the legally specified minimum tread depth is 0.063 in (1.6 mm). Tread wear indicators (arrow) are embedded in the base of the tire's tread. Their locations are indicated by the legend TWI – Tread Wear Indicator – at various points on the tire's shoulder. When the tread reaches a depth of 0.063 in (1.6 mm), these indicators appear to signal that the tires have worn to the minimum legal level. Below 0.12 in (3 mm) tread depth, there is an increased risk of

aquaplaning, even at relatively moderate speeds and with only small amounts of water on the road.

 Do not drive on a deflated (flat) tire. A flat tire greatly impairs steering and braking response, and can lead to complete loss of control over the vehicle.

Avoid overloading the vehicle so that the permitted load on the tires is not exceeded. Overloading leads to overheating and causes damage inside the tires. The ultimate result can assume the form of a sudden air loss. Unusual vibrations encountered during normal vehicle operation can indicate a flat tire or some other vehicle malfunction. The type of problem can be caused by contact with curbs, etc. This is also true for irregularities in the vehicle's handling characteristics, such as a pronounced tendency to pull to the left or right. Should this occur, respond by immediately reducing your speed. Proceed carefully to the nearest BMW center or professional tire center, or have the vehicle towed in to have it, its wheels and tires inspected.

Tire damage (up to and including sudden and complete air loss) can endanger the lives of both the vehicle occupants and other road users. ◀

Tire replacement

To maintain good handling and vehicle response, use only tires of a single tread configuration from a single manufacturer.

DOT Quality Grades

Tread wear

Traction AA A B C

Temperature A B C



All passenger vehicle tires must conform to Federal Safety Requirements in addition to these grades. ◀

Tread wear

The tread wear grade is a comparative rating based on the wear rate of the tire when tested under controlled conditions on a specified government test course.

For example, a tire graded 150 would wear one and one-half (1 ½) times as well on the government course as a tire graded 100. The relative performance of tires depends upon the actual conditions of their use, however, and may depart significantly from the norm due to variations in driving habits, service practices and differences in road characteristics and climate.

Traction

The traction grades, from highest to lowest, are AA, A, B, and C.

Those grades represent the tire's ability to stop on wet pavement as measured under controlled conditions on specified government test surfaces of asphalt and concrete. A tire marked C may have poor traction performance.



The traction grade assigned to this tire is based on straight-ahead braking traction tests, and does not include acceleration, cornering, hydroplaning, or peak traction characteristics. ◀

Temperature

The temperature grades are A (the highest), B, and C, representing the tire's resistance to the generation of heat and its ability to dissipate heat when tested under controlled conditions on a specified indoor laboratory test wheel.

Sustained high temperature can cause the material of the tire to degenerate and reduce tire life, and excessive temperature can lead to sudden tire failure. The grade C corresponds to a level of performance which all passenger vehicle tires must meet

Tire replacement

under the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 109. Grades B and A represent higher levels of performance on the laboratory test wheel than the minimum required by law.



The temperature grade for this tire is established for a tire that is properly inflated and not overloaded. Excessive speed, underinflation, or excessive loading, either separately or in combination, can cause heat buildup and possible tire failure. ◀

Uniform Tire Quality Grading

Quality grades can be found where applicable on the tire sidewall between tread shoulder and maximum section width. For example:

Tread wear 200

Traction AA

Temperature A



Do not use retreaded tires, since driving safety may be impaired. This is due to the possible variations in casing structures and, in some cases, to their extreme age, which can lead to a decrease in their durability. ◀

Tire age

The date on which the tire was manufactured is indicated by the code on the sidewall:

DOT ... 4101 indicates that the tire was manufactured in Week 41 of the year 2001.

Although tires may have a theoretical service life of up to 10 years, BMW strongly recommends that you replace all tires after an absolute maximum of 6 years.

Safety tires*

Safety tires consist of self-supporting tires and special rims. The tire reinforcement ensures that the tire retains some residual safety in the event of pressure drop and driving remains possible to a restricted degree. The vehicle is equipped with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor, which indicate a flat tire. For additional information on Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor refer to page 78 or 80.



Safety tires are only possible in conjunction with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor. ◀

The right choice

Never mount wheels and tires that have not been specifically approved by BMW for use on your particular model. Although other wheels and tires may theoretically have the same dimensions, variations in factors such as manufacturing tolerances can result in contact between tire and body-work, ultimately leading to serious accidents. BMW can not evaluate all tires and wheels on the market, and is thus unable to guarantee that the vehicle will continue to perform safely if unapproved tires and/or wheels are mounted.



The correct wheel and tire combination affects various systems that would otherwise be impaired, for example ABS, ATC, ASC+T/DSC and ADB/ADB-X/DBC.

For this reason, use only tires of the same manufacture and tread configuration. In the event of a flat tire, for example, remount the approved wheel and tire combination as soon as possible. ◀

Winter tires

Choosing the right tire

BMW recommends winter tires (M+S radial tires) for operation under inclement winter driving conditions. While all-season tires (M+S designation) provide better winter traction than summer tires with the load ratings H, V, W, Y and ZR, they generally do not achieve the performance of winter tires. In the interest of safe tracking and steering response, install winter tires made by the same manufacturer having the same tread configuration on all four wheels.



Never exceed the maximum speed for which the winter tires are rated.

Unprofessional attempts by laymen to service tires can lead to damage and accidents.

Have this work performed by trained professionals only. Any BMW center has the required technical knowledge and the proper equipment and will be happy to assist you. ◀

Tire condition, tire pressure

Once the tire wears to below 0.16 in (4 mm), winter tires display a perceptible decrease in their ability to cope with winter driving conditions, and should be replaced in the interest of safety.

Comply with the specified tire inflation pressures – and be sure to have the wheel and tire assemblies balanced every time you change the tires.

Storage

Always store tires in a cool, dry place. Store them away from light whenever possible. Protect the tires against contact with oil, grease and fuel.

Snow chains*

Use BMW narrow-link snow chains on summer or winter tires in pairs only and only on the rear wheels.

BMW 325xi: in an extreme emergency – for instance, with the vehicle stuck on one side, or when obstructions make it impossible to reach one tire – a chain may also be mounted on just one tire for the limited period needed to resolve the problem.

Comply with all manufacturer's safety precautions when mounting the chains. You cannot mount snow chains on the following tires:

225/50 R 16 92
225/45 R 17 91
245/40 ZR 17

**To release**

Pull the lever located under the left-hand side of the instrument panel.

 Do not attempt to service your vehicle if you do not have the required technical background. Failure to work in an informed, professional manner when servicing components and materials constitutes a safety hazard for vehicle occupants and other road users. If you are not familiar with the guidelines, please have the operations performed by your BMW center. ◀

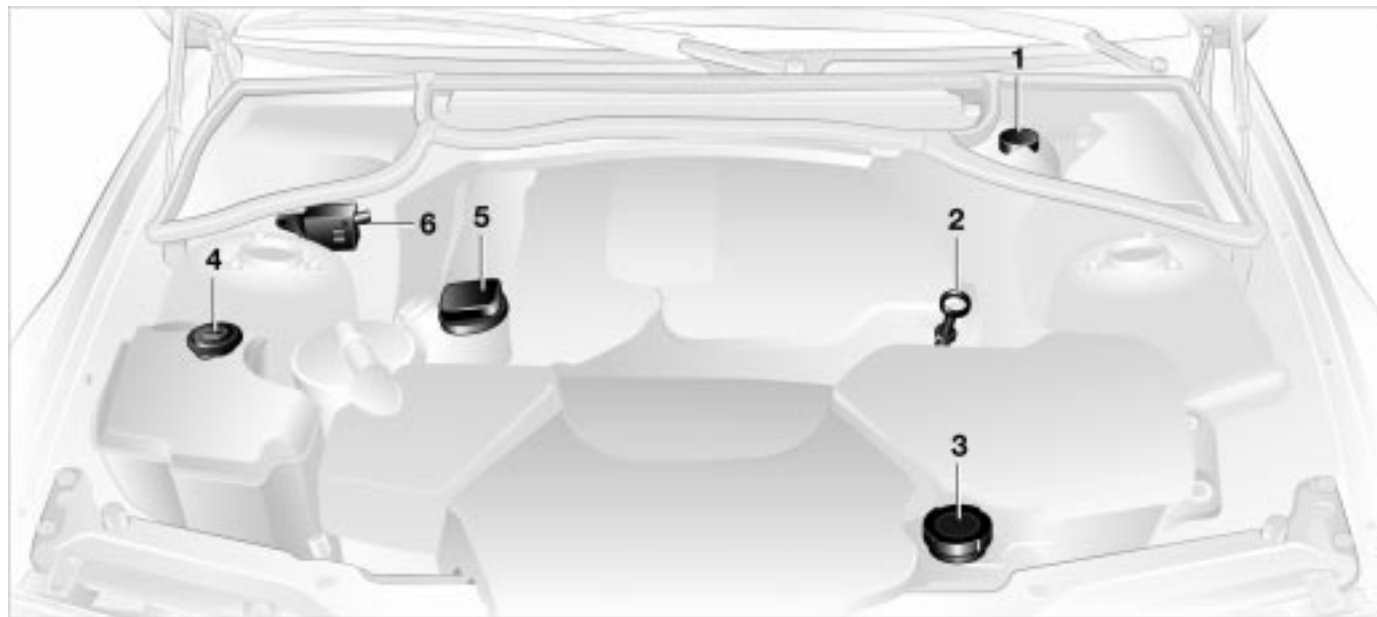
**To open**

Pull the release handle and open the hood.

**To close**

Allow the hood to fall from a height of about 12 in (30 cm) so that it audibly engages.

 To avoid injuries, be sure that the travel path of the hood is clear when it is closed, observing the same precautions as with all closing procedures. If you determine that the hood is not completely closed while driving, stop immediately and close it securely. ◀



1 Brake fluid reservoir [118](#)

2 Engine oil dipstick [115](#)

3 Coolant expansion tank [117](#)

4 Reservoir for the headlamp and
windshield washer system [114](#)

5 Engine oil filler neck [115](#)

6 Auxiliary terminal for
jump-starting [134](#)



Headlamp* and windshield washer system

Capacity approx. 5.6 US quarts (5.3 liters).

Fill with water and – if required – with a washer antifreeze, according to manufacturer's recommendations.



We recommend that you mix the washer fluid before adding it to the reservoir. ◀



Rear window washer reservoir

Capacity approx. 2.4 US quarts (2.3 liters)

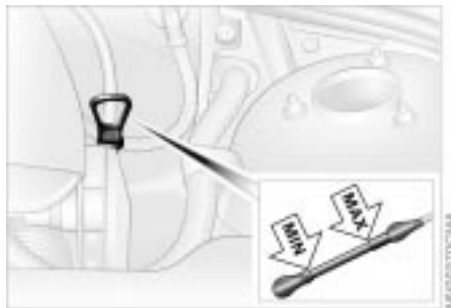
Fill with water and – if required – with a washer antifreeze, according to manufacturer's recommendations.



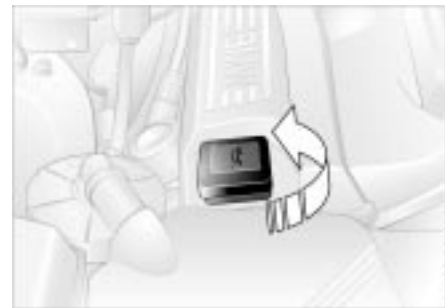
We recommend that you mix the washer fluid before adding it to the reservoir. ◀



Antifreeze agents for the washer systems are highly flammable. For this reason, keep them away from sources of flame and store them only in their original containers. Store it inaccessible to children. Comply with the instructions on the containers. ◀



The oil volume between the two marks on the dipstick corresponds to approx. 1.1 US quarts (1 liter). Do not fill beyond the upper mark on the dipstick. Excess oil will damage the engine.



Checking oil level

1. Park the vehicle on a level surface
2. Switch the engine off after it has reached normal operating temperature
3. After approx. 5 minutes, pull the dipstick out and wipe it off with a clean lint-free cloth, paper towel, or similar material
4. Carefully push the dipstick all the way into the guide tube and pull it out again
5. The oil level should be between the two marks on the dipstick.

As with fuel economy, oil consumption is directly influenced by your driving style and vehicle operating conditions.

Adding engine oil

Wait until the level has dropped to just above the lower mark before adding oil. However, you should never let the oil drop below the lower mark.

 BMW engines are designed to operate without oil additives; the use of additives could lead to damage in some cases. This is also true for the manual transmission, the automatic transmission, the differential, and the power steering system. ◀

Recommendation: have the oil changed by your BMW center.



Continuous exposure to used oil has caused cancer in laboratory testing. For this reason, any skin areas that come into contact with oil should be thoroughly washed with soap and water.

Always store oil, grease, etc., out of reach of children. Comply with all warning labels and information on containers. ◀



Comply with the applicable environmental laws regulating the disposal of used oil. ◀

Specified engine oils

The quality of the engine oil is extremely important for the function and service life of an engine. Based on extensive testing, BMW has approved only certain grades of engine oil.

Use only approved "BMW High Performance Synthetic Oil".

If you are unable to obtain an approved "BMW High Performance Synthetic Oil", you may use small volumes of other synthetic oils for topping up between oil changes. Use only oils with the specification API SH or higher.



Ask your BMW center for details concerning the specific "BMW High Performance Synthetic Oil" or synthetic oils that have been approved. ◀

You can also call BMW of North America at 1-800-831-1117 or visit this website: www.bmwusa.com to obtain this information.

Viscosity ratings

Viscosity is the oilflow rating as established in SAE classes.

The selection of the correct SAE class depends on the climatic conditions in the area you drive your BMW.



Approved oils are in SAE classes 5W-40 and 5W-30. ◀

These kinds of oil may be used for driving in all ambient temperatures.

 Do not add coolant to the cooling system when the engine is hot. If you attempt to do so, escaping coolant can cause burns.

To avoid the possibility of damage later on, never use anything other than factory-approved, nitrite and amino-free extended-duty antifreeze with corrosion inhibitor. Your BMW center is familiar with the official specifications. Antifreeze and anti-corrosion agents are hazardous to health. You should always store them in their original container and in a location which is out of reach of children.

Extended-duty antifreeze with corrosion inhibitor contains the flammable substance ethylene glycol. For this reason, do not spill extended-duty antifreeze with corrosion inhibitor on hot engine parts. It could ignite and cause serious burns. ◀



Checking coolant level

Correct coolant level when the engine is cold (approx. 68 °F or +20 °C):

1. Open the cap for the expansion tank by turning it slightly counterclockwise to allow accumulated pressure to escape, then open
2. The coolant level is correct when the upper end of the red float is at least even with the upper edge of the filler neck, but no more than 0.8 in (2 cm) above it – that is, up to the second mark on the float (refer also to the schematic diagram next to the filler neck)
3. If necessary, add coolant. If the coolant is low, slowly add coolant until the correct level is reached – do not overfill.

 Comply with the applicable environmental laws regulating the disposal of extended-duty antifreeze with corrosion inhibitor. ◀



Brake fluid loss results in extended brake pedal travel. Refer to the information on page [106](#).



Brake fluid is hygroscopic, that is, it absorbs moisture from the air over time.

In order to ensure the brake system's safety and reliability, have the brake fluid changed every two years by a BMW center, refer to page [66](#) or to the Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models) or the Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models).

Brake fluid is toxic and damages the vehicle's paint. You should always store it in its original container and in a location which is out of reach of children. Do not spill the fluid and do not fill the brake fluid reservoir beyond the MAX mark. The brake fluid could ignite upon contact with hot engine parts and cause serious burns. ◀



Comply with the applicable environmental laws regulating the disposal of brake fluid. ◀

Indicator lamp



The brake warning lamp comes on when the parking brake is not engaged: the brake fluid level is too low, refer to page [17](#).



Brake warning lamp for Canadian models.

Adding brake fluid

For adding brake fluid or for determining and correcting the cause of brake fluid loss, consult your BMW center. Your BMW center is familiar with the specifications for factory-approved brake fluids (DOT 4).



The BMW Maintenance System has been designed as a reliable means of providing maximum driving and operating safety – and as cost-effectively as possible for you.

Please keep in mind that regular maintenance is not only necessary for the safety of your vehicle, but also plays a significant role in maintaining the resale value of the vehicle.

Service Interval Display

While conventional systems rely on distance traveled alone to determine when service is due, the BMW Maintenance System has for years considered the actual conditions under which the vehicle operates, because miles can be traveled in many different ways:

From a maintenance point of view, 62,000 miles (100,000 km) of short-distance urban driving cannot be compared with 62,000 miles (100,000km) of long-distance highway travel.

The BMW Maintenance System includes the Engine Oil Service and Inspections I and II.

Determining the maintenance intervals according to the actual use of the vehicle covers every kind of operating situation. However, drivers who cover only extremely short distances – substantially less than 6,200 miles (10,000 km) annually – should still have the engine oil changed at least every 2 years, as it continues to age regardless of whether the vehicle is used on a regular basis.

Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models)/Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models)

For additional information on required maintenance intervals and procedures, please refer to the Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models), or the Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models).

As a precaution against corrosion, it is advisable to have the body checked for damage from rocks or gravel at the same time, depending upon operating conditions.



We recommend that you refer all maintenance and repair operations to your BMW center.

Be sure that all maintenance work is confirmed in the Service and Warranty Information Booklet (US models), or in the Warranty and Service Guide Booklet (Canadian models). These entries confirm that your vehicle has benefitted from regular maintenance, and are also required for warranty claims. ◀

Light-emitting diodes (LEDs)

Light-emitting diodes installed behind translucent lenses serve as the light source for many of the controls and displays in your vehicle. These LEDs use a concept related to that of conventional lasers.



Do not remove the protective lens and avoid staring directly at the unfiltered beam for extended periods (several hours), as inflammation of the iris could result. ◀

California laws require us to state the following warning:



Engine exhaust, some of its constituents, and certain vehicle components contain or emit chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. ◀



The interface socket for onboard diagnostics is located on the left-hand side of the driver's side, on the underside of the instrument panel and under a cover panel. The cover has the letters OBD on it.

This interface makes it possible to access data on emissions-related components using special equipment.



An illuminated indicator informs you of the need for service, not that you need to stop the vehicle. Your system should be checked, however, at the earliest opportunity.

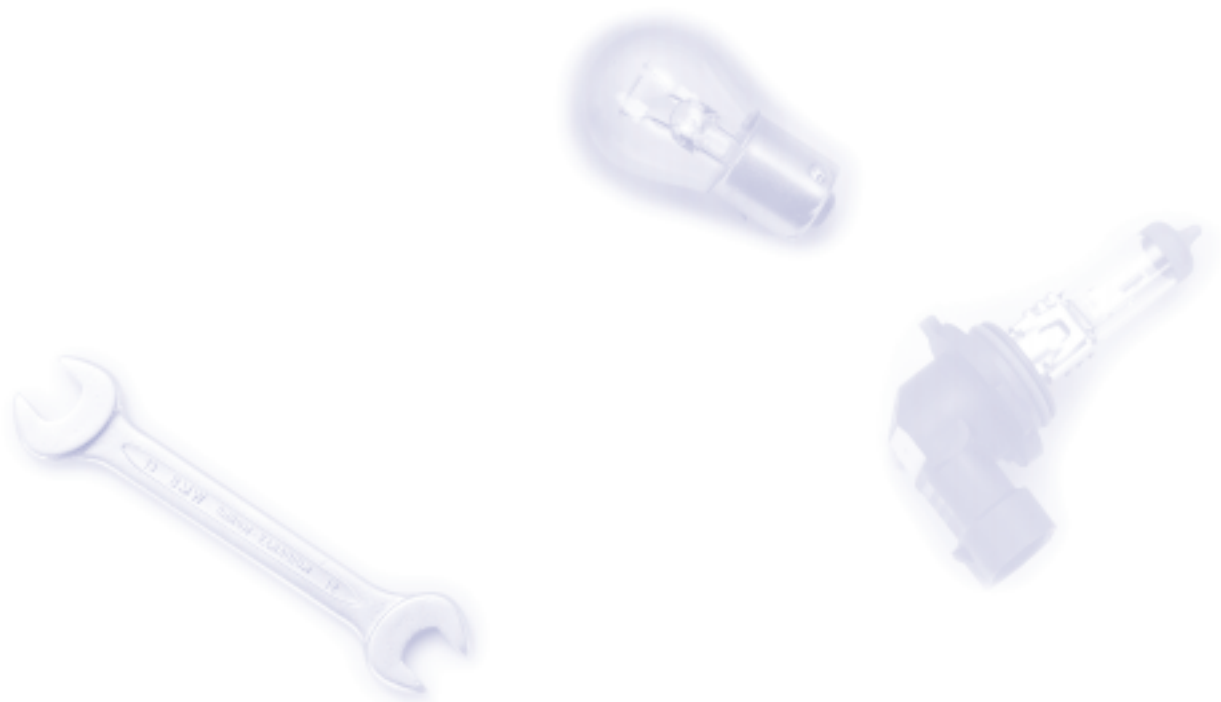
If the indicator blinks or flashes, this indicates a high level of engine misfire. Reduce speed and contact the nearest BMW center immediately. Severe engine misfiring over even a short period of time can seriously damage emission control system components, especially the catalytic converter.



SERVICE ENGINE SOON warning lamp for Canadian models.



If the fuel filler cap is not on tight enough, the OBD system can detect leaking vapor and the indicator will light up. If the fuel filler cap is then tightened, the indicator will usually go out after a short period of time. ◀



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The onboard tool kit is located beneath the floor panel in the cargo area.

Raising the floor panel, refer to page [99](#).

Windshield wiper blades

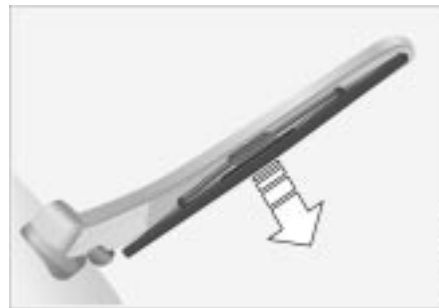


Windshield

1. Fold the wiper arm completely out from the windshield
2. Position the wiper blade at an angle and pull the release spring (arrow)
3. Fold the wiper blade down and unhook it toward the windshield
4. Pull the wiper blade past the wiper arm toward the top
5. Insert a new wiper blade and apply pressure until you hear it engage.



Use only wiper blades approved by BMW. ◀



Rear window

1. Fold the wiper arm completely out from the windshield
2. Pull out the wiper blade (arrow)
3. Guide the new wiper blade into place, continue to apply pressure until you hear the detent engage.

Lamps and bulbs

The lamps and bulbs make essential contributions to the safety of your vehicle. Therefore, comply fully with the following instructions during bulb replacement. If you are not familiar with any of the procedures, consult your BMW center.

 Do not touch the glass portion of a new bulb with your bare hands since even small amounts of impurities burn in to the surface and reduce the service life of the bulb. Use a clean cloth, paper napkin, or a similar material, or hold the bulb by its metallic base. ◀

A replacement bulb set is available from your BMW center.

 Before working on the electrical system, switch off the electrical accessory you are working on or disconnect the cable from the negative terminal of the battery. Failure to observe this precaution could result in short circuits.

To prevent injuries and damage, comply with any instructions provided by the bulb manufacturer. ◀



Low and high beams

Engine compartment, left side:

- 1 Low beams
 - 2 High beams
- H7 bulb, 55 watts

 The H7 bulb is pressurized. Therefore, wear safety glasses and protective gloves. Failure to comply with this precaution could lead to injury if the bulb is accidentally damaged during replacement. ◀

- 1. Press the two release catches at the front while simultaneously turning them to the left to remove the bulb holder
- 2. Remove and replace the bulb.

-  When cleaning the headlamps, please observe the following:
- ▷ Do not clean by wiping with a dry cloth (scratches). Never use abrasives or strong solvents to clean the covers
 - ▷ Remove dirt and contamination (such as insects) by soaking with BMW Car Shampoo and then rinsing with plenty of water
 - ▷ Always use a deicer spray to remove accumulated ice and snow – never use a scraper. ◀

Xenon lamps

The service life of these bulbs is very long and the probability of a failure is very low, provided that they are not switched on and off an unusual number of times. If one of these bulbs should nevertheless fail, it is possible to continue driving with great caution using the fog lamps, provided local traffic laws do not prohibit this.

 Because of the extremely high voltages involved, any work on the xenon lighting system should be carried out by technically-qualified personnel only. Otherwise, there is a risk of fatal injury. ◀

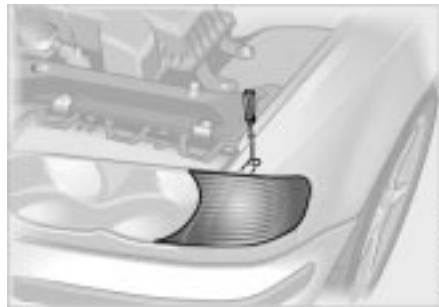


Parking lamps

Engine compartment, left side:

1. Turn the bulb holder to the left (arrow) and remove it
2. Remove and replace the bulb.

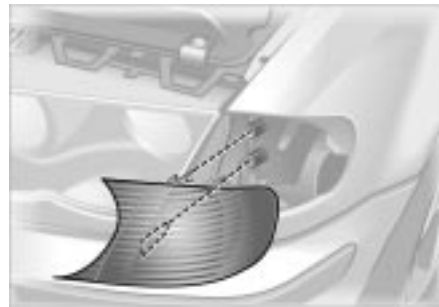
5 watt bulb



Turn signal, front

21 watt bulb

- 1 Extend a screwdriver through the upper opening and loosen the screw, continuing until you can extract the bulb by removing it from the front
- 2 Disconnect the plug
- 3 Apply gentle pressure and turn the bulb toward the word "AUF" (refer to the marking on the housing), then remove it for replacement
- 4 Connect the plug



- 5 Align the lamp assembly's two ridges and the centering pin with the guides on the vehicle when installing
- 6 Slide in the lamp, applying gentle pressure to seat it firmly
7. Tighten the screw.



Side turn signals

5 watt bulb

1. Use finger pressure against the rear end of the lens (arrow) to press it forward for removal
2. Apply gentle pressure to the bulb while turning it to the left to remove.



Tail lamps

Tail lamp (4): 21/4 watt bulb

Other bulbs: 21 watts

- 1 Turn signal
- 2 Backup lamps
- 3 Tail lamp
- 4 Tail lamp/brake lamp

yellow
white
red
red



Section of the left cargo area:

Bulbs in the fender:

All of the bulbs are integrated in a central bulb holder.

1. Release and remove the cargo area cover panel
2. Release and remove the bulb holder (arrow)
3. Remove the power plug and lay the bulb holder to one side, for instance, on the floor of the cargo area
4. Applying light pressure, turn the bulb to the left. Remove and replace the bulb
5. Plug in the power supply fitting
6. Press the bulb holder into position until you hear it engage.



Bulbs in tailgate:

1. Insert a screwdriver in the recess (arrow) and press down to release the assembly

2. Fold the trim panel down, release the bulb holder and remove
3. Applying light pressure, turn the bulb to the left. Remove and replace the bulb
4. Press the bulb holder into position until you hear it engage
5. Press the trim panel back in, continuing until you hear it snap into place.

Center (high-mount) brake lamp

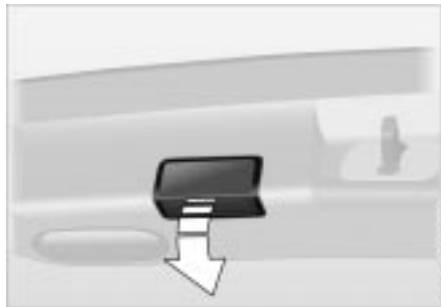
LED strip on the rear window.

Please contact your BMW center in case of a malfunction.

License plate lamps

5 watt bulb

1. Place a screwdriver in the slot and press toward the left (arrow) to release the lens
2. Replace the bulb.



Tailgate lamp

5 watt bulb

1. Pull out the bulb holder (arrow)
2. Replace the bulb.



Safety measures in the event of a flat tire or wheel change:

Stop the vehicle as far as possible from passing traffic. Park on a firm, flat, surface. Switch on the hazard warning flashers. Turn the steering wheel to the straight-ahead position and engage the steering lock. Shift into 1st or reverse (selector lever in Park with automatic transmission) and engage the parking brake.

All passengers should be outside the vehicle and well away from your immediate working area (behind a guardrail, for instance).

If a warning triangle or portable hazard warning lamp is available, set it up on the roadside at an appropriate distance from the rear of the vehicle. Comply with all local safety guidelines and regulations.

Change the wheel only on a level, firm surface which is not slippery. Avoid jacking the vehicle on a soft or slippery support surface (snow, ice, loose gravel, etc.), as either the vehicle or the jack could slip sideways.

Position the jack on a firm support surface.

Do not place wooden blocks or similar objects under the jack. They could prevent the jack from extending to its full height and reduce its support capacity.

Do not lie under the vehicle or start the engine when the vehicle is supported by the jack – risk of fatal injury. ◀

Your BMW is equipped with a spare tire or a space-saver spare tire designed for temporary use in maintaining the vehicle's mobility in an emergency.



To remove the spare tire, lift the floor panel in the cargo area completely out, refer to page [99](#). ◀



What you will need

In order to avoid rattling noises later, note the position of the tools when you remove them and return them to their original position when you are done using them.

▷ Jack 1

Fold up the floor panel, lift away the spare tire cover, and screw off the red wingnut (arrow).

When you have completed work, screw the jack all the way back down. Fold the handle back and insert it in its holder

▷ Chock 2

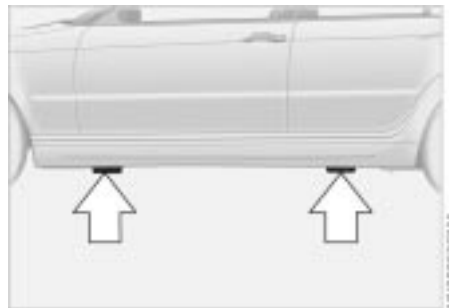
Behind the vehicle jack. Loosen the wingnut to remove it

▷ Lug wrench 3

- ▷ Spare tire or space-saver spare tire
Located next to the jack.
Loosen the wingnut (arrow) by hand, remove the storage shelf and take the wheel out.

Procedure

1. Read and comply with the safety precautions provided on the previous page
2. Secure the vehicle to prevent it from rolling:
Place the chock against the rear surface of the front tire on the side opposite the side being raised. If the vehicle is parked on a downward slope, place the chock securely in front of the tire. If the wheel must be changed on a surface with a more severe slope, take additional precautions to secure the vehicle from rolling
3. Wheels with full wheel covers*:
Reach into the ventilation openings and pull the cover off



4. Loosen the lug bolts by rotating half a turn
5. Position the jack at the jacking point (arrows) closest to the flat tire so that the jack base is vertically below the jacking point and the entire surface of the head of the jack will move into the square recess of the jacking point (refer to the detail in the next illustration) when the jack is cranked
6. Jack the vehicle up until the wheel you are changing is raised from the ground
7. Unscrew the lug bolts and remove the wheel
8. Remove accumulations of mud or dirt from the mounting surfaces of the wheel and hub. Clean the lug bolts
9. Position the new wheel or the space-saver spare tire on the hub and screw at least two lug bolts finger-tight into opposite bolt holes
10. Screw in the remaining lug bolts. Screw in all the bolts in a diagonal pattern
11. Lower the jack and remove it from beneath the vehicle
12. Tighten the lug bolts securely in a diagonal pattern
13. Wheels with full wheel covers*: Place the wheel cover with the valve opening (arrow) over the valve. Use both hands to press the cover securely onto the rim
14. Check and correct the tire inflation pressure at the earliest opportunity. Vehicles with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC): After mounting the spare tire or correcting the inflation pressure, reactivate the system, refer to page [78](#) or [80](#).

Protect valve stems and valves from dirt using screw-on valve stem caps. Dirty valve stems frequently lead to slow pressure loss.



Only use original BMW full wheel covers, otherwise, the trim piece may not fit securely. The full wheel cover may not be installed on the space-saver spare tire, since this could damage the cover. ◀



The vehicle jack is designed for changing wheels only. Do not attempt to raise another vehicle model with it or to raise any load of any kind. To do so could cause accidents and personal injury.

To ensure continued safety, have the tightness of the lug bolts checked with a calibrated torque wrench [torque specification: 72 lb ft (100 Nm)] at the earliest opportunity. ◀

When storing a wheel in the spare tire recess take care to avoid bending the threaded rod.

If the original BMW light-alloy wheels have been replaced with other light-alloy wheels, different lug bolts may be required.

Replace the defective tire as soon as possible and have the new wheel/tire balanced.

Driving with the space-saver spare tire

Drive cautiously. Do not exceed a speed of 50 mph (80 km/h).

You can anticipate changes in vehicle handling such as delayed braking response, longer braking distances and sacrifices in roadholding.

The changes in handling characteristics will be even more pronounced if winter tires are mounted.



Only one space-saver spare tire may be mounted at a time. Reinstall wheels and tires of the same size and specification as soon as possible. Maintain correct tire pressures, refer to page 24. ◀

Safety tires*

Safety tires consist of self-supporting tires and special rims. The tire reinforcement ensures that the tire retains some residual safety in the event of pressure drop and driving remains possible to a restricted degree. The vehicle is equipped with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor, which indicate a flat tire.

Flat tire

If there is a tire failure, the red warning lamp symbol lights up. A supplementary gong is also heard.

For additional information on Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor refer to page 78 or 80.

Reduce vehicle speed carefully to under 50 mph (80 km/h), avoiding hard brake applications and steering maneuvers.

With the safety tires, you can drive another approx. 155 miles (250 km) to reach a safe parking location, a service station or the nearest BMW center. With a low vehicle load, this can also be considerably more than 155 miles (250 km).

Changing a wheel

 Safety tires are only possible in conjunction with Tire Pressure Monitor (RDC) or Flat Tire Monitor. ◀

If the defective wheel cannot be seen as such immediately from the outside, check the tire inflation pressure at all four wheels.

 Have the tires changed by your BMW center. For safety reasons, do not have a safety tire repaired. Your BMW center has the information needed for working with safety tires and is equipped with the necessary special tools. ◀

 If appropriate, please consult your BMW center to reequip your vehicle from summer to winter tires – or vice versa. ◀

Battery

Battery care

The battery is absolutely maintenance-free, that is, the original electrolyte will normally last for the service life of the battery under moderate climatic conditions.

 Please consult your BMW center whenever you have any questions concerning the battery. Since the battery is absolutely maintenance-free, the following is for your information only. ◀

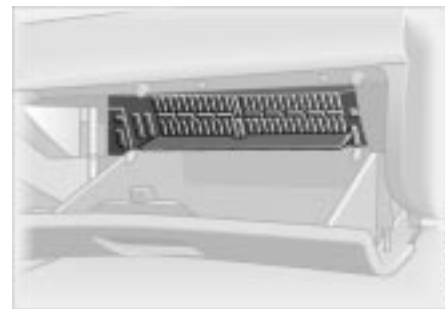
 Never disconnect the battery when the engine is running; the ensuing voltage surge would seriously damage the vehicle's onboard electronic systems. ◀

Charging the battery

When charging the battery in the vehicle, leave the engine off at all times. Connect the charge cables to the terminals in the engine compartment. Terminal locations, refer to Jump-starting on page [134](#).

 Return used batteries to a recycling point or your BMW center. Maintain the battery in an upright position for transport and storage. Secure the battery against tilting during transport. ◀

Fuses



The fuses are located in the glove compartment behind a cover secured by two snap clips.

 Do not attempt to repair a blown fuse or replace it with a fuse having a different color or amperage rating. To do this could cause a fire in the vehicle resulting from a circuit overload. ◀

Do not use spray starter fluids to start the engine.

When your battery is discharged you can use two jumper cables to start your vehicle with power from the battery in a second vehicle. You can also use the same method to help start another vehicle. Always use jumper cables with fully insulated handles on the terminal clamps.

 Do not touch high-voltage wiring and cables on a running engine. Contact with components carrying high voltage can be harmful or fatal. Carefully observe the following instructions to avoid personal injury and/or damage to one or both vehicles. ◀

1. Ensure that the battery in the support vehicle is also rated at 12 volts. This information is provided on the top of the battery casing
2. Do not disconnect your battery from your vehicle's electrical system. Switch off all electrical accessories in both vehicles
3. Make absolutely certain that there is no contact between the bodywork of the two vehicles – short circuit hazard



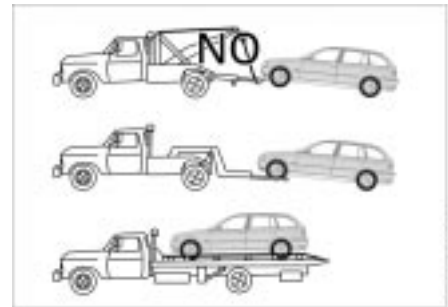
4. Start the engine on the support vehicle and allow it to run
5. Use one jumper cable (+) to connect the positive terminal of the battery in the support vehicle with the auxiliary positive terminal provided in the engine compartment of your BMW (arrow 1). The cover on this auxiliary terminal is identified by a "+" symbol. Remove by pulling the tab
6. Next, connect one end of the other jumper cable (-) to either the support vehicle's negative battery terminal or a suitable ground on its engine or bodywork. Connect the other end to the negative battery terminal or a suitable ground on the vehicle being started. There is a special nut on your BMW (2)

 Always adhere to this sequence when connecting jumper cables; failure to observe this procedure can lead to sparks at the battery terminals and pose an injury hazard. ◀

7. Start the support vehicle's engine and let it run at an increased idling speed for a few minutes. Start the engine on the vehicle needing the jump-start, and allow it to run as usual. If the first start attempt is not successful, wait a few minutes before another attempt in order to allow the discharged battery to recharge
8. Before disconnecting the jumper cables let the engines run for a few minutes
9. Then disconnect the jumper cables in reverse sequence.

Depending on the cause of the fault, have the battery recharged by your BMW center.

Towing the vehicle



Tow fitting

The screw-in tow fitting is stored in the onboard tool kit; be sure that it remains in the vehicle at all times. This fitting is designed for installation in the tow sockets located at the front and rear of the vehicle, and is intended for towing on paved road surfaces only. This fitting should not be used to pull a vehicle out of deep snow, mud, sand, etc. Always comply with all applicable towing laws and regulations.

Access to tow sockets

Front:

Press out the cover panel with a screwdriver inserted in the recess at the top.

Rear:

Press out the cover panel with a screwdriver inserted in the recess at the top.



Screw the tow fitting all the way in. Failure to screw the fitting all the way in can cause thread damage. Never attach tie-down hooks, chains, straps, or tow hooks to tie rods, control arms, or any other part of the vehicle suspension, as severe damage to these components will occur, leading to possible accidents. ◀

Towing with a commercial tow truck

- ▷ Do not tow with sling-type equipment
- ▷ Use wheel-lift or flatbed equipment
- ▷ Please comply with applicable state towing laws.



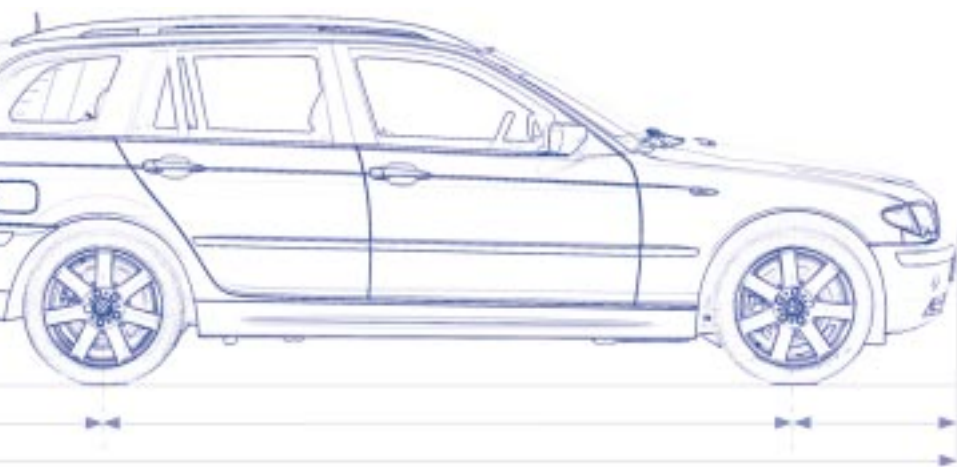
Never allow passengers to ride in a towed vehicle for any reason. Never attach tie-down hooks, chains, straps, or tow hooks to tie rods, control arms, or any other part of the vehicle suspension, as severe damage to these components will occur, leading to possible accidents. ◀

**BMW 325xi, 330xi, 330xd:
Towing with a raised axle**

- 1 Place the transmission in neutral
- 2 Switch off the engine
- 3 Towing speed:
30 mph (50 km/h)
- 4 Towing distance:
max. 95 miles (150 km).



Remove the rear driveshaft for longer towing distances with the front axle lifted; remove the front driveshaft for towing over longer distances with the rear axle lifted. Failure to comply with this will result in damage to the transfer box. ◀



Overview

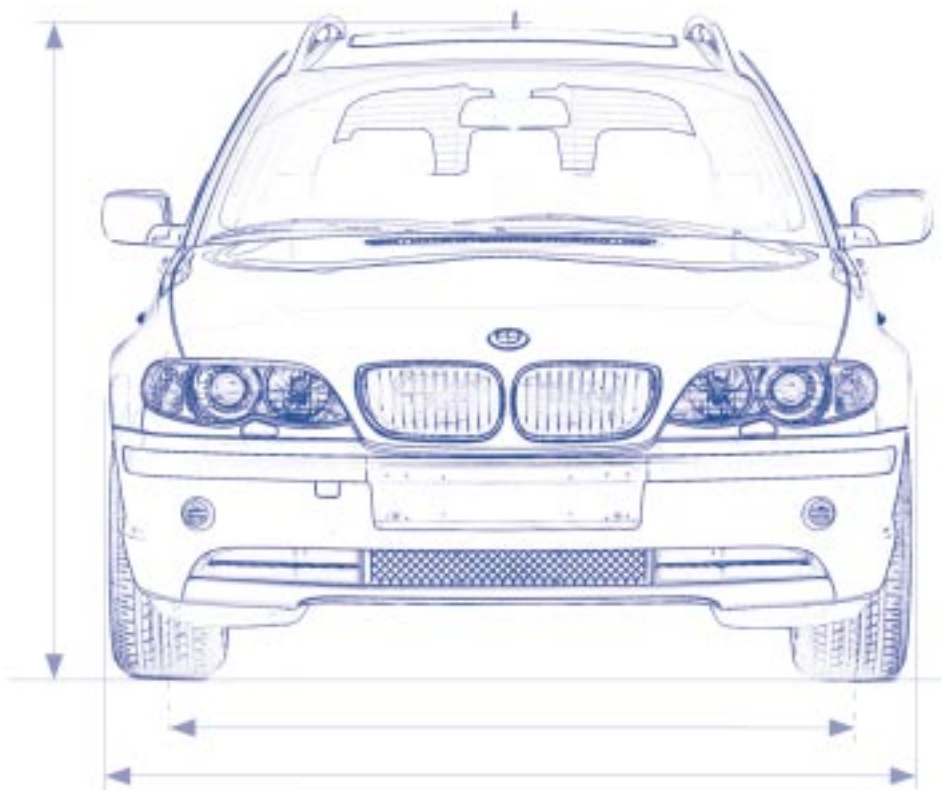
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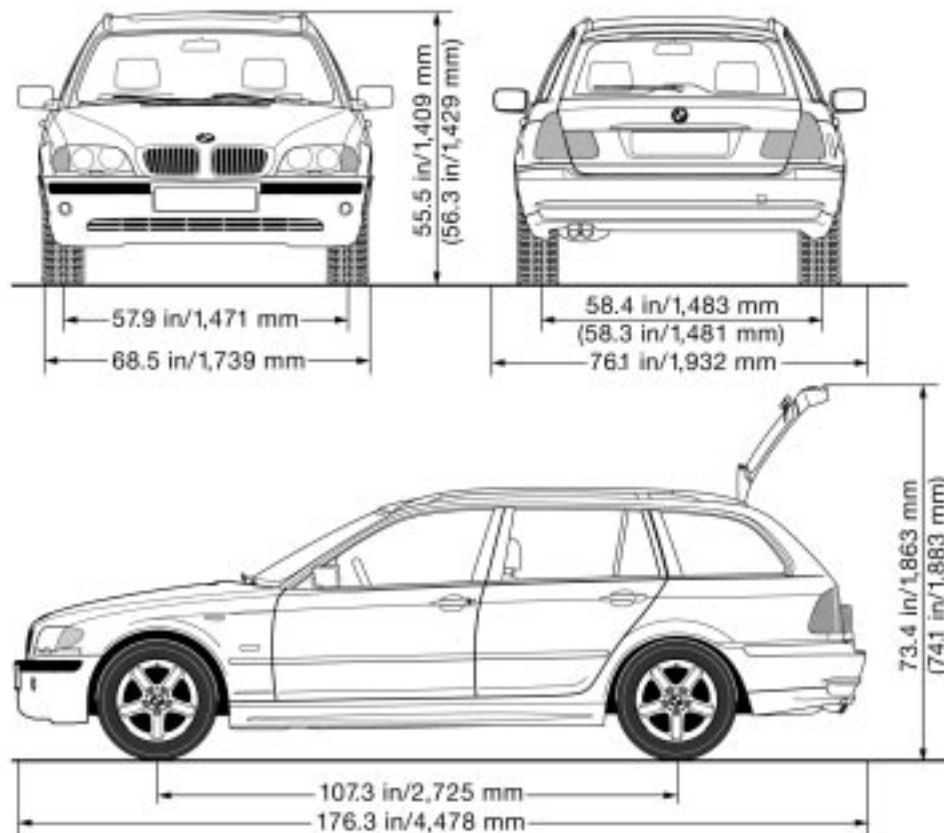
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140 **Engine data**

		BMW 325i/325xi
Displacement	cu. in (cm³)	152.2 (2,494)
Number of cylinders		6
Maximum output at engine speed	hp (kW) rpm	184 (135) 6,000
Maximum torque at engine speed	lb ft (Nm) rpm	175 (237) 3,500
Compression ratio	ε	10.5
Stroke	in (mm)	2.95 (75)
Bore	in (mm)	3.31 (84)
Fuel-injection system	Digital electronic engine-management system (DME)	



Dimensions in () apply to BMW 325xi.

Height with roof rail 56.8 in/1444 mm (57.6 in/1464 mm). Turning circle dia.: 34.4 feet/10.5 m (35.8 feet/10.9 m).

		BMW 325i	BMW 325xi
Curb weight (with one person, ready for operation, full tank of fuel, options not included)			
with manual transmission	lbs (kg)	3,362 (1,525)	3,594 (1,630)
with automatic transmission	lbs (kg)	3,450 (1,565)	3,627 (1,645)
Approved gross vehicle weight			
with manual transmission	lbs (kg)	4,509 (2,045)	4,696 (2,130)
with automatic transmission	lbs (kg)	4,597 (2,085)	4,729 (2,145)
Approved front axle load	lbs (kg)	1,984 (900)	2,139 (970)
Approved rear axle load	lbs (kg)	2,668 (1,210)	2,657 (1,205)
Approved roof load capacity	lbs (kg)	165 (75)	165 (75)
Cargo area capacity	cu.ft (l)	15.4 - 57.1 (435 - 1,617)	15.4 - 57.1 (435 - 1,617)

Approved axle loads and approved gross vehicle weight may not be exceeded.

			Notes
Fuel tank	gal. (liters)	approx. 16.6 (approx. 63)	Fuel specification, refer to
Reserve	gal. (liters)	approx. 2.1 (approx. 8)	page 23
Windshield /			Specifications, refer to page 114
Headlamp washer reservoir (front)	quarts (liters)	approx. 5.6 (approx. 5.3)	
Cooling system including heating circuit	quarts (liters)	approx. 8.9 (approx. 8.4)	Specifications, refer to page 117
Engine oil and filter change		325i:	BMW High Performance
	quarts (liters)	approx. 6.9 (approx. 6.5)	synthetic oil
		325xi:	Oil specifications, refer to
	quarts (liters)	approx. 7.9 (approx. 7.5)	page 115
Manual and automatic transmission, transfer box and differential		–	Lifetime lubricant, no oil change required

A B C

P Q R

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Refueling

BMW recommends 

To ensure that you always have convenient access to all essential information when you stop for fuel, we recommend that you fill out the adjoining chart by entering the data that apply to your vehicle.
Consult the index for individual specifications.

Fuel

Designation	
-------------	--

Please enter your preferred fuel here.

Engine oil

Quality	
---------	--

The oil volume between the two marks on the dipstick corresponds to approx. 1.1 US quarts (1 liter).

Tire inflation pressures	Summer tires		Winter tires	
	Front	Rear	Front	Rear
Up to 4 persons				
5 persons or 4 plus luggage				

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Driving Machine**

3 sport wagon US-En