



How to change air filter  
on **BMW E46 touring** –  
replacement guide

## VIDEO TUTORIAL



### ⓘ Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:

BMW 7 (E38) 730d 2.9, BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 530d 3.0, BMW 5 Touring (E39) 530d 3.0, BMW X5 (E53) 3.0 d, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 330d 2.9, BMW 3 Touring (E46) 330d 2.9, BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 525d 2.5, BMW 5 Touring (E39) 525d 2.5, BMW 3 Touring (E46) 330xd 2.9, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 330xd 2.9, BMW 7 (E65, E66, E67) 730d 3.0, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 330Cd 3.0, BMW 5 Saloon (E60) 530d 3.0, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 330d 3.0, BMW 3 Saloon (E46) 330xd 3.0, (+ 32)

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

## REPLACEMENT: AIR FILTER – BMW E46 TOURING. TOOLS YOU NEED:



- Torx bit T20
- HEX bit No.H5
- Ratchet wrench
- Microfibre towel
- Fender cover

**BUY TOOLS**

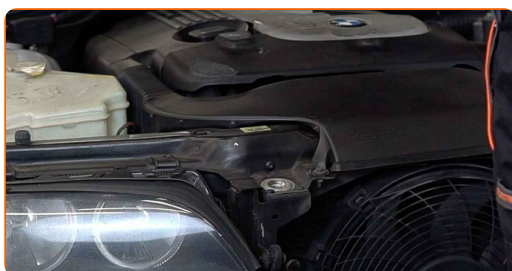
Replacement: air filter – BMW E46 touring. AUTODOC recommends:

- Follow the terms, recommendations and requirements of the part operation provided by the manufacturer.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

## REPLACEMENT: AIR FILTER – BMW E46 TOURING. TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

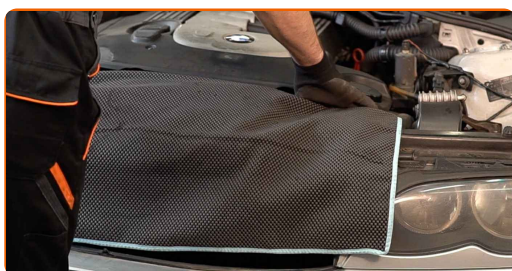
1

Open the bonnet.



2

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



3

Unscrew the fasteners of the cabin filter housing cover.



- 4 Remove the cabin filter housing cover.



- 5 Remove the cabin filter.



- 6 Remove the rubber strip.



- 7 Unscrew the filter housing fastening bolts. Use Torx T20. Use a ratchet wrench.

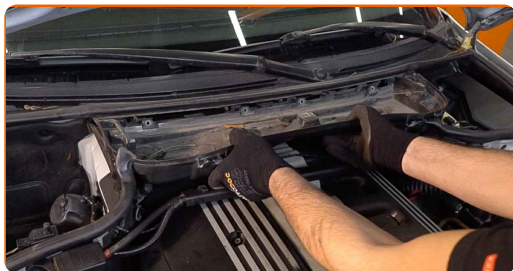


- 8 Disconnect the wiring harness from the cabin filter housing.





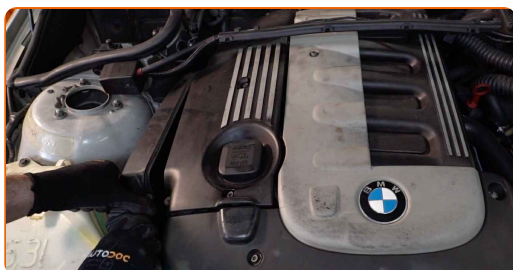
9 Remove the cabin air filter housing.



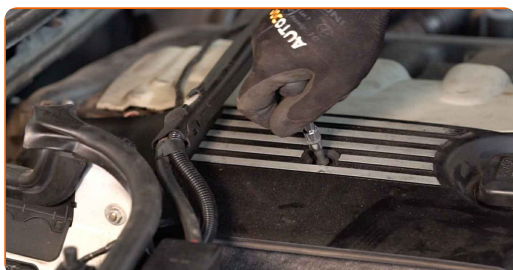
10 Loosen the air intake fastening. Use HEX No.H5. Use a ratchet wrench.



11 Detach the air duct housing from the air filter housing.



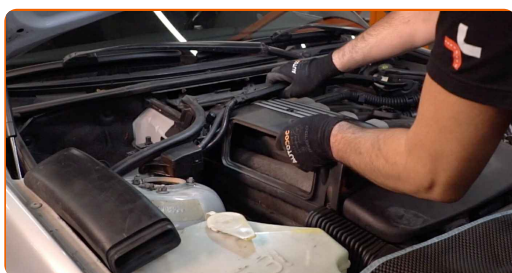
12 Undo the fastening screws of the air filter cover. Use HEX No.H5. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 13 Remove the oil filler cap.



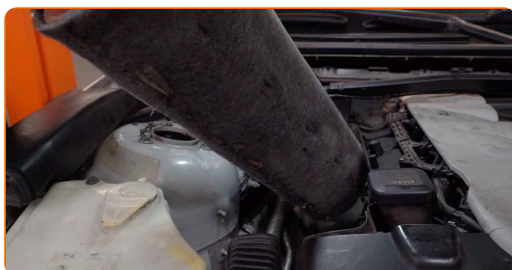
- 14 Take off the filter lid.



- 15 Tighten the oil filler cap.



- 16 Remove the filter element from the filter housing.



- 17 Clean the air filter cover and housing.

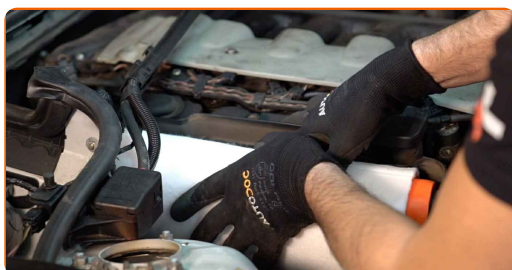


### Replacement: air filter – BMW E46 touring. Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- Before cleaning the air filter cover and housing, cover the air duct parts, mass airflow sensor (if available), throttle valve with a clean cloth.

18

Insert a new filter element into the filter housing. Make sure that the filter edge fits tight to the housing.

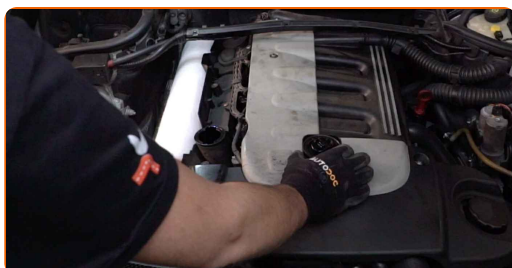


### AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: air filter – BMW E46 touring. Be sure to position the filtering element correctly. Avoid misalignment.
- Take care to only use quality filters.
- During installation, make sure to prevent dust and dirt from getting into the air filter housing.

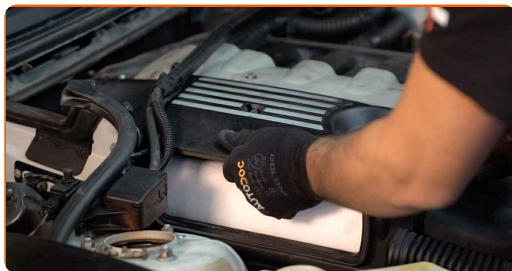
19

Remove the oil filler cap.





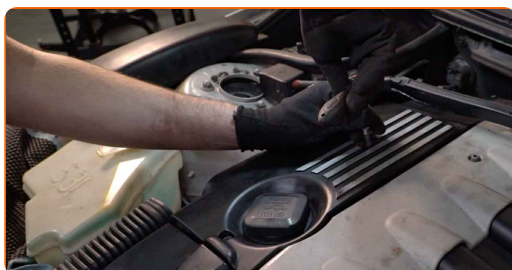
20 Reinstall the air filter housing.



21 Tighten the oil filler cap.



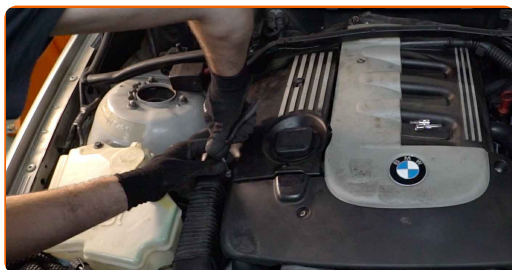
22 Screw in the fastening screws of the air filter cover. Use HEX No.H5. Use a ratchet wrench.



23 Install the air duct housing.



24 Secure the fastener of the air intake duct. Use HEX No.H5. Use a ratchet wrench.



25

Clean the cabin filter housing and cover.



### Replacement: air filter – BMW E46 touring. Tip:

- Remove any debris from the cabin filter housing carefully to prevent contamination of the ventilation duct.

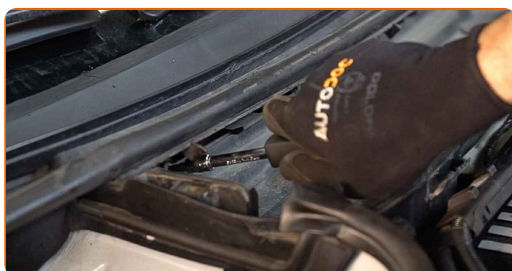
26

Install the cabin air filter housing.



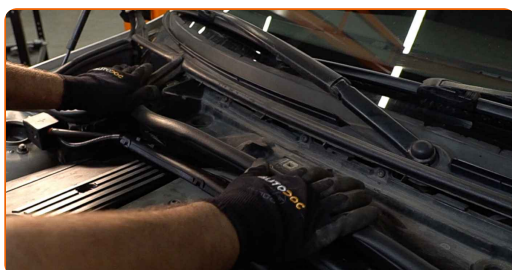
27

Screw the filter housing fastening bolts. Use Torx T20. Use a ratchet wrench.



28

Install the rubber strip.



29

Connect the wiring harness to the cabin filter housing.



30

Insert the filter cartridge into the filter housing. Make sure that the filter edge fits tight to the housing.

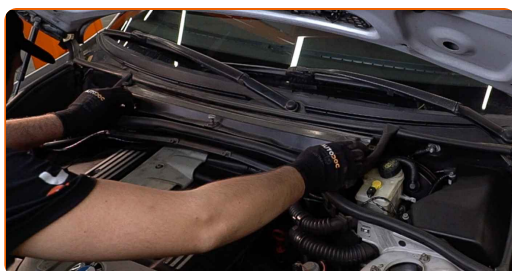


### AUTODOC recommends:

- Follow the air flow direction arrow on the filter.
- Replacement: air filter – BMW E46 touring. Be sure to position the filtering element correctly. Avoid misalignment.

31

Reinstall the cabin filter housing cover.



32

Screw in the fasteners of the cabin filter housing cover.



33

Remove the fender protection cover.



34

Close the hood.



**WELL DONE!** 

**VIEW MORE TUTORIALS**

## AUTODOC – TOP QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE CAR PARTS ONLINE

**AUTODOC MOBILE APP: GREAT DEALS AND CONVENIENT SHOPPING**



**AUTODOC**

GET IT ON  
**Google Play**

Download on the  
**App Store**

**Download**

**A GREAT SELECTION OF SPARE PARTS FOR YOUR CAR**

**BUY SPARE PARTS FOR BMW**

**AIR FILTER: A WIDE SELECTION**



[\*\*CHOOSE CAR PARTS FOR BMW E46 TOURING\*\*](#)[\*\*AIR FILTER FOR BMW: BUY NOW\*\*](#)[\*\*AIR FILTER FOR BMW E46 TOURING: THE BEST DEALS & OFFERS\*\*](#)

### **DISCLAIMER:**

The document contains only general recommendations that may be useful for you when you perform repair or replacement work. AUTODOC shall not be liable for any loss, injury, damage of property occurring in the repair or replacement process due to incorrect use or misinterpretation of the provided information.

AUTODOC shall not be liable for any possible mistakes and uncertainties in this guide. The information provided is for information purposes only and cannot replace advice from specialists.

AUTODOC shall not be liable for incorrect or hazardous usage of equipment, tools and car parts. AUTODOC strongly recommends to be careful and observe the safety rules when performing repair or replacement works. Remember: usage of low quality auto parts does not guarantee you the appropriate level of road safety.

© Copyright 2021 – All the contents of this website, in particular texts, photographs and graphics, are protected by copyright. All rights, including reproduction, publication, editing and translation rights, are reserved by AUTODOC GmbH.