



How to change front lower arm on **BMW E39** – replacement guide

VIDEO TUTORIAL



i Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:

BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 525tds 2.5, BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 523i 2.5, BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 528i 2.8, BMW 5 Touring (E39) 520i 2.0, BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 525td 2.5, BMW 5 Touring (E39) 528i 2.8, BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 530d 3.0, BMW 5 Touring (E39) 530d 3.0, BMW 5 Touring (E39) 525tds 2.5, BMW Z8 Roadster (E52) 4.9, BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 520i 2.0, BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 520d 2.0, BMW 5 Touring (E39) 520d 2.0, BMW 5 Saloon (E39) 525d 2.5, BMW 5 Touring (E39) 525d 2.5, (+ 7)

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

REPLACEMENT: FRONT LOWER ARM – BMW E39. TOOLS YOU MIGHT NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Combination spanner #18
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 18
- Drive socket # 22
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Ball joint puller
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

BUY TOOLS

Replacement: front lower arm – BMW E39. AUTODOC recommends:

- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right lower control arms.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: FRONT LOWER ARM – BMW E39. USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

1

Secure the wheels with chocks.



2

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



3

Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.



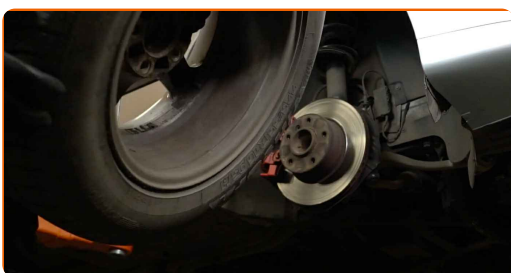
4 Unscrew the wheel bolts.



Replacement: front lower arm – BMW E39. Tip from AUTODOC:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when unscrewing the bolts.

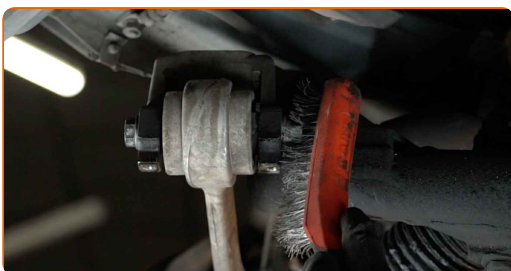
5 Remove the wheel.



6 Remove the control arm cover.

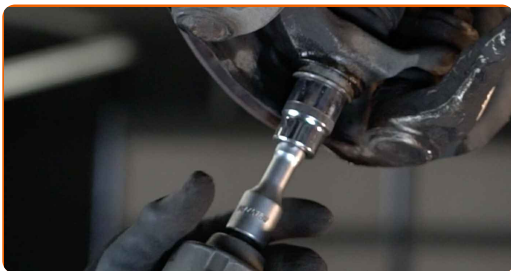


7 Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

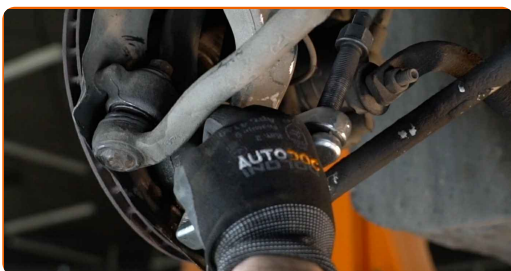


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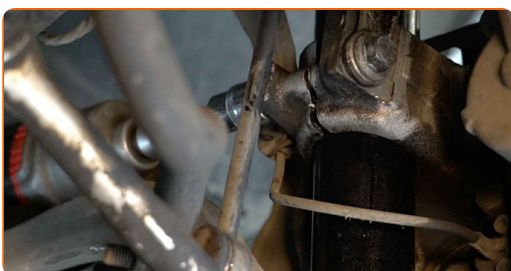
Unscrew the ball joint fastening to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #22. Use a ratchet wrench.


9

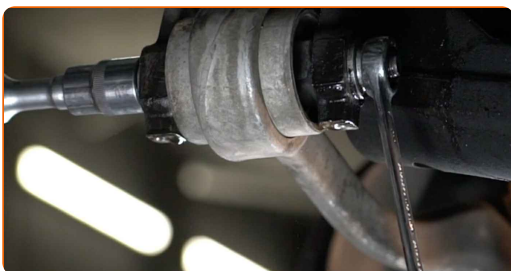
Disconnect the ball joint from the steering knuckle. Use a ball joint puller.


10

Unscrew the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.


11

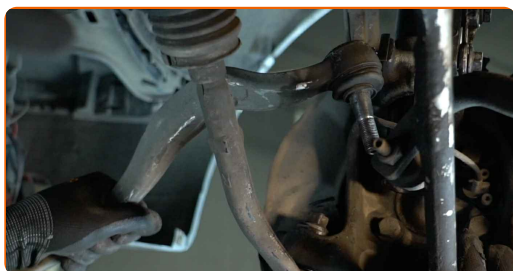
Unscrew the front arm fastener. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



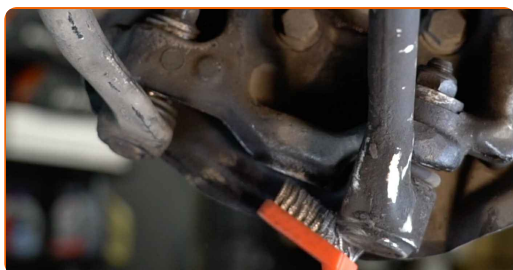
- 12 Remove the front fastener of the control arm.



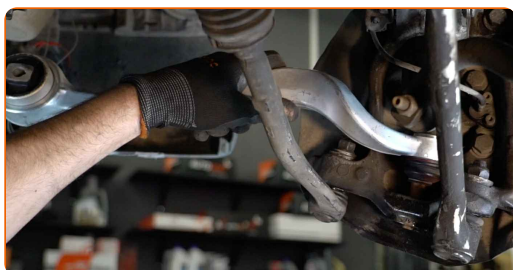
- 13 Remove the arm.



- 14 Clean the mounting seats and the thread of the suspension arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



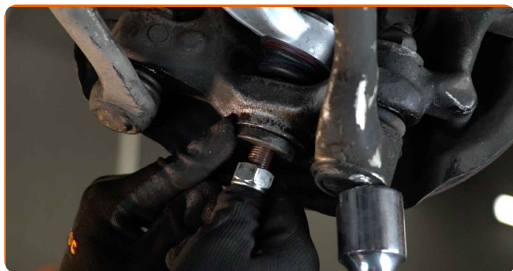
- 15 Install a new arm.



Replacement: front lower arm – BMW E39. Tip:

- During the installation process, use only new bolts and nuts.
- Do not damage the ball joint cover.

- 16 Connect the ball joint to the steering knuckle.



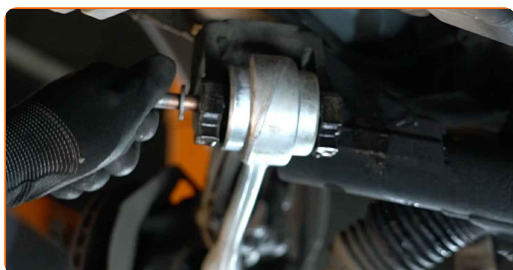
- 17 Screw the fasteners of the ball joint. Use a drive socket #22. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 18 Clean the mounting seats and the thread of the suspension arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



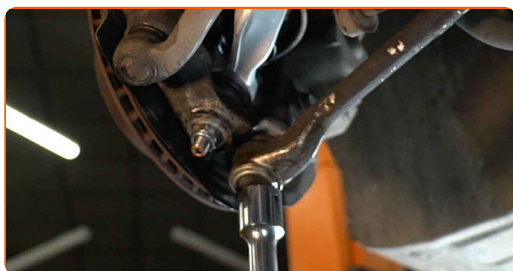
- 19 Install the front fastener of the arm.



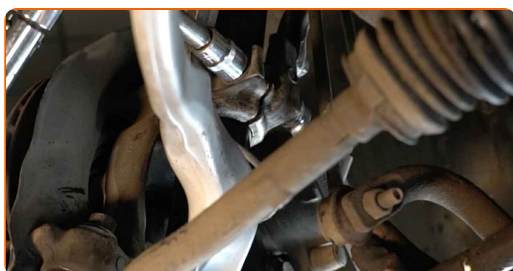
20 Screw the front arm fastener. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



21 Support the arm. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



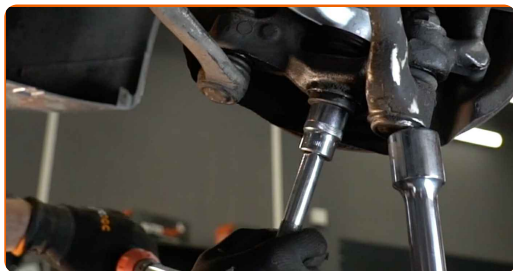
22 Tighten the lower fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 81 Nm torque.



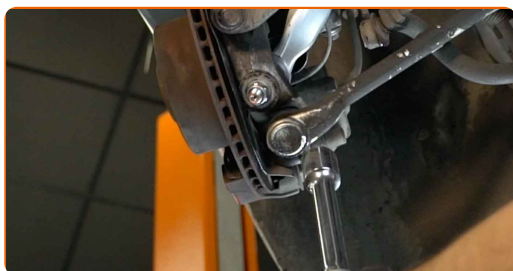
23 Tighten the front fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 110 Nm torque.



- 24 Tighten the fasteners of the ball joint. Use a drive socket #22. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 80 nm torque.



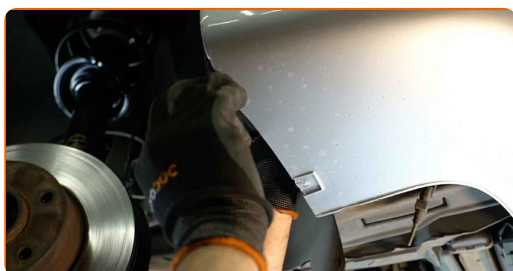
- 25 Remove the support from under the arm.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: front lower arm – BMW E39. Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

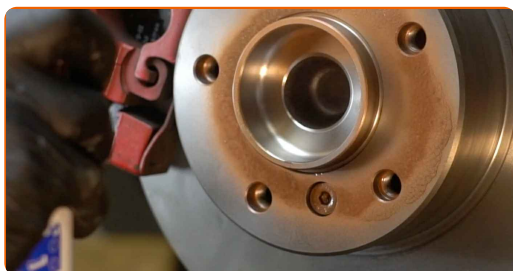
- 26 Install the control arm cover.



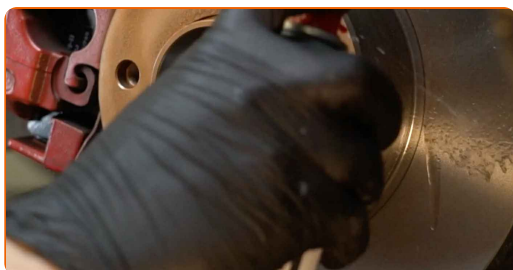
- 27 Treat all joints of the arm. Treat the shock strut fasteners. Use copper grease.



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



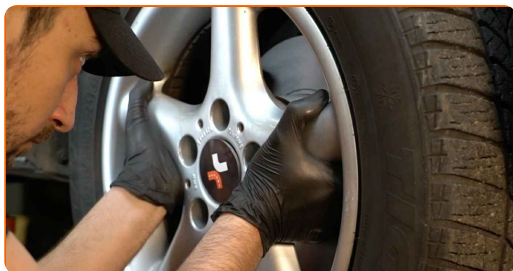
- 29 Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



Replacement: front lower arm – BMW E39. AUTODOC recommends:

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

- 30 Install the wheel.

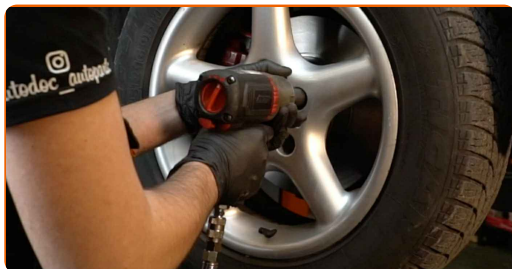


Replacement: front lower arm – BMW E39. Professionals recommend:

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

31

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



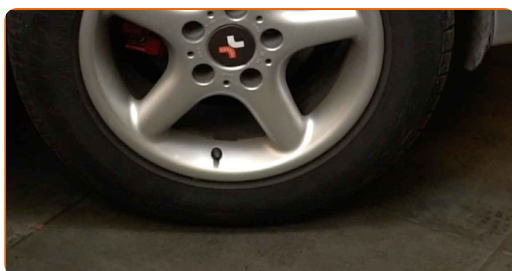
32

Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 Nm torque.



33

Remove the jacks and chocks.



WELL DONE! 👍

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