



How to change front  
wheel bearing on **AUDI**  
**A3 Hatchback (8L1)** –  
replacement guide

## SIMILAR VIDEO TUTORIAL



This video shows the replacement procedure of a similar car part on another vehicle

### Important!

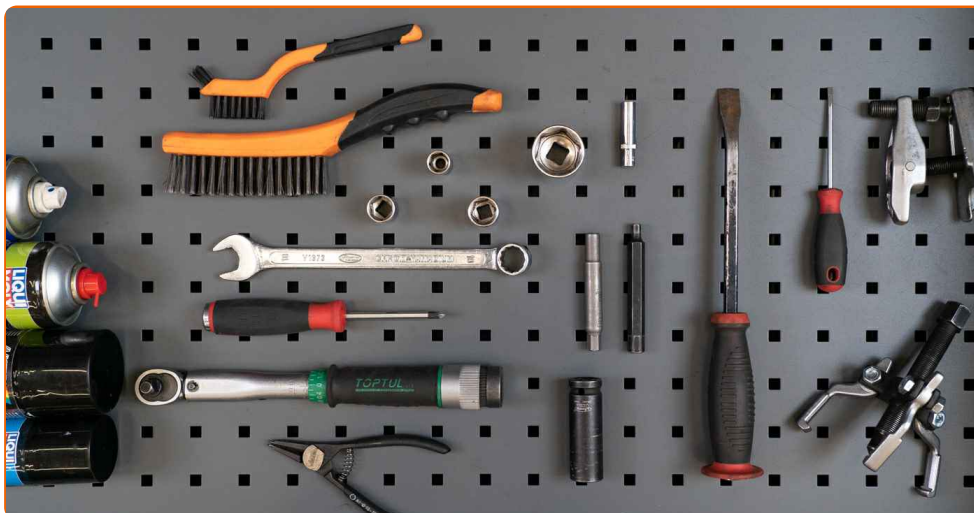
This replacement procedure can be used for:

AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1) 1.6, AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1) 1.8, AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1) 1.8 T, AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1) 1.9 TDI, AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1) 1.8 T quattro, AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1) S3 quattro, AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1) 1.9 TDI quattro

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

This tutorial was created based on the replacement procedure for a similar car part on: SEAT Leon Hatchback (1M1) 1.8 20V

REPLACEMENT: WHEEL BEARING – AUDI A3 HATCHBACK (8L1). LIST OF THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:



- Wire brush
- Nylon cleaning brush
- WD-40 spray
- All-purpose cleaning spray
- Brake cleaner
- Ceramic grease
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Drive socket # 8
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 18
- Drive socket # 19
- Drive socket # 30
- Shock absorber socket
- HEX bit No.H7
- Combination spanner #18
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Tap wrench
- Phillips screwdriver
- Flat screwdriver
- 3-Arm Gear Puller
- Bush and bearing driver set
- Circlip pliers
- Crow bar
- Ball joint puller
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

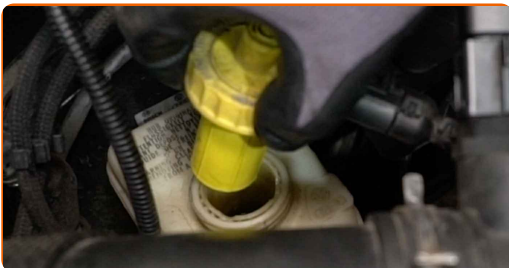
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Do not re-use the bearing assembly of your AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1) car.
- The wheel hub bearing replacement procedure is identical for both wheels on the same axle.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

**REPLACEMENT: WHEEL BEARING – AUDI A3 HATCHBACK (8L1).  
RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF STEPS:**

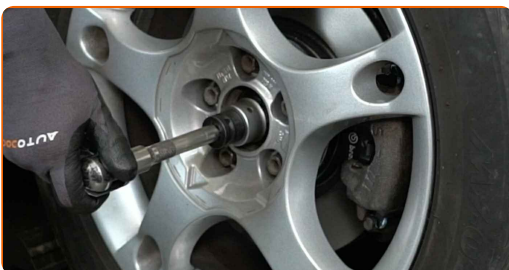
**1** Open the bonnet.

**2** Unscrew the brake fluid reservoir cap.



**3** Secure the wheels with chocks.

**4** Loosen the fastener of the driveshaft. Use a drive socket #30. Use a tap wrench.



5

Loosen the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a tap wrench.



6

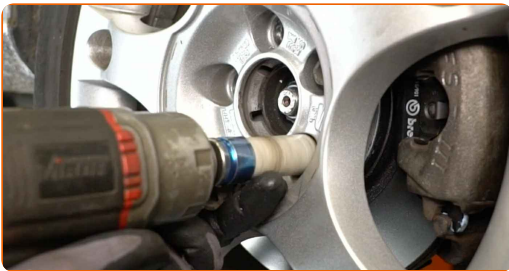
Raise the car.

Replacement: wheel bearing – AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1). AUTODOC recommends:

- If you are using a jack, make sure it rests on a flat surface without any unevenness.
- Be sure to additionally secure the car with jack stands.

7

Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts. AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1)

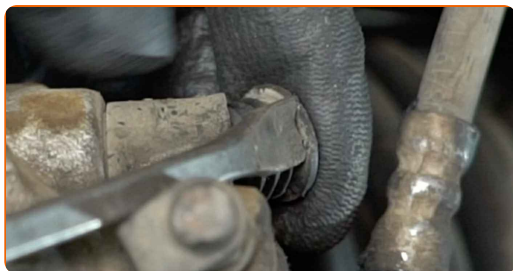
8 Remove the wheel.



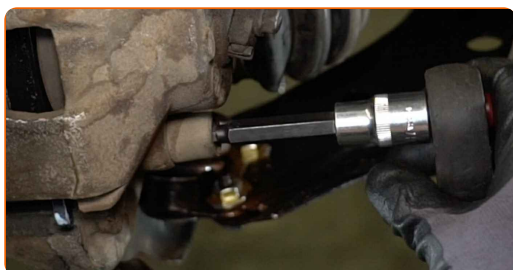
9 Spread the brake pads. Use a crowbar.



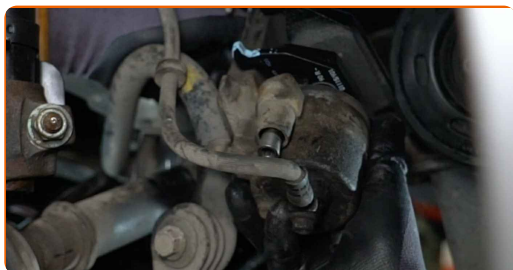
10 Remove the caps from the brake caliper guide pin boots. Use a crowbar.



11 Unscrew the brake caliper fasteners. Use HEX No.H7. Use a ratchet wrench.



12 Remove the brake caliper.

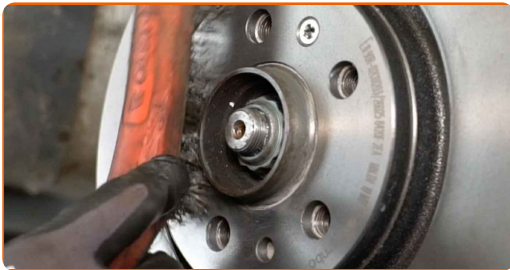


Replacement: wheel bearing – AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1). Professionals recommend:

- Tie the caliper to the suspension or to the body with a wire without disconnecting from the brake hose to prevent depressurization of the brake system.
- Make sure that the brake caliper is not hanging on the brake hose.
- Don't press the brake pedal after the brake caliper has been removed. As a result, the piston can fall out from the brake cylinder, and brake fluid leakage and depressurization of the system may occur.

13

Clean the brake disc fastener. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

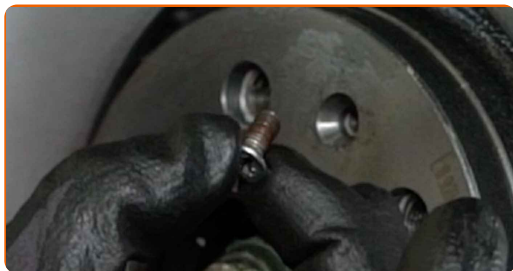


14

Unscrew the brake disc fasteners. Use a Phillips screwdriver.



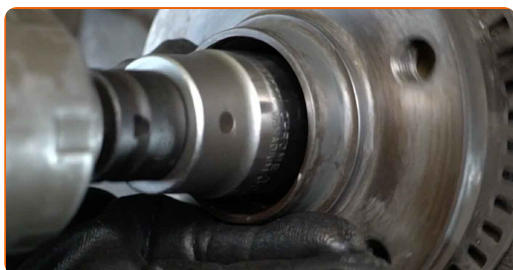
**15** Remove the fastening bolt.



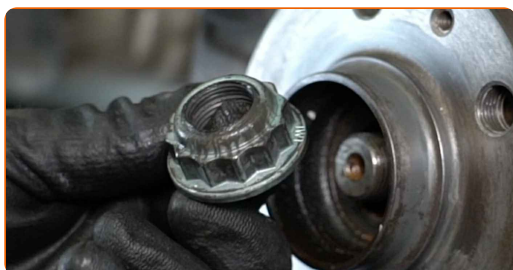
**16** Remove the brake disc.



**17** Unscrew the fastener connecting the drive shaft to the wheel hub. Use a drive socket #30. Use a ratchet wrench.



**18** Remove the fastening nut.



**19** Clean the fastener connecting the tie rod end to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.





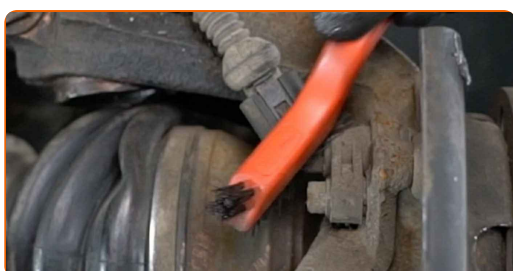
- 20 Unscrew the fastening nut connecting the tie rod end to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #19. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 21 Disconnect the tie rod end from the steering knuckle. Use a ball joint puller.



- 22 Clean the ABS sensor connector. Use a nylon cleaning brush. Use all-purpose cleaning spray.



- 23 Detach the ABS sensor connector. Use a flat screwdriver.



- 24** Clean the lower fastener connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



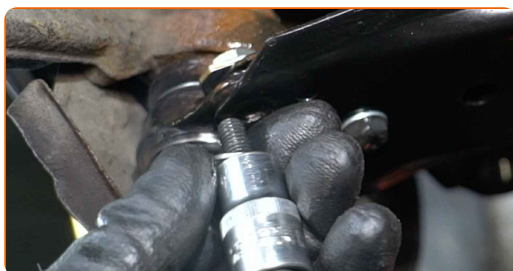
- 25** Unscrew the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #18. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 26** Clean the fasteners connecting the ball joint to the suspension control arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

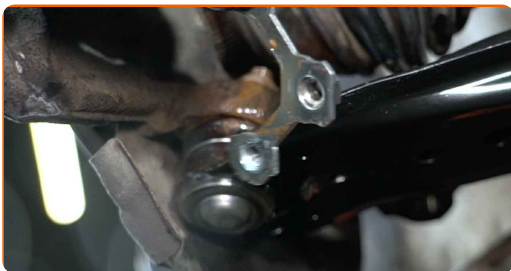


- 27** Unscrew the fasteners connecting the ball joint to the control arm. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.

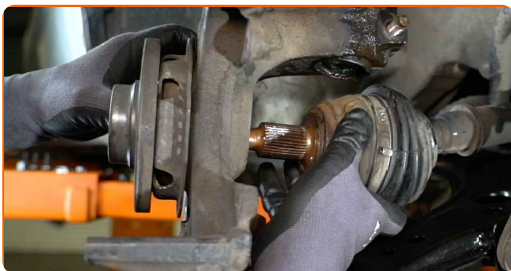


- 28** Remove the fastening bolts.

**29** Disconnect the ball joint from the control arm.

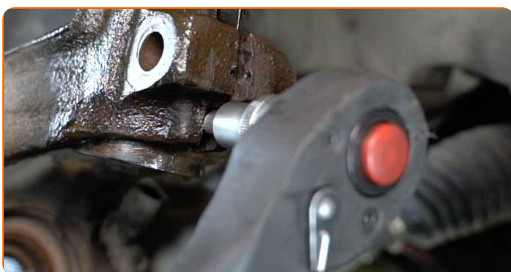


**30** Detach the driveshaft from the steering knuckle.

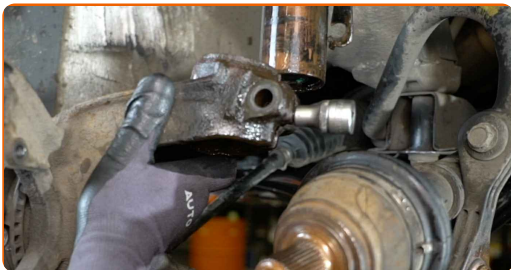


**31** Remove the fastening bolt.

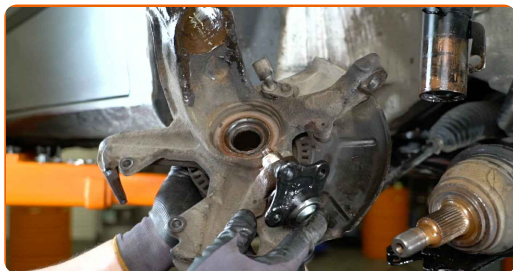
**32** Release the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a special drive socket to remove the shock absorber.



**33** Disconnect the steering knuckle from the suspension strut.



**34** Remove the steering knuckle together with the wheel hub.



**35** Clean the fasteners of the brake disc cover. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



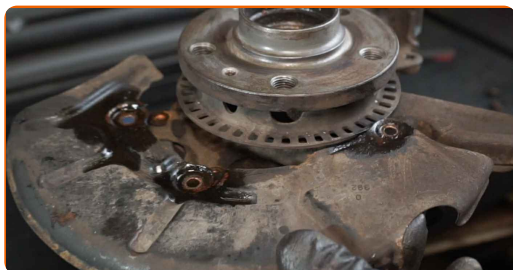
**36** Unscrew the fasteners of the brake disc cover. Use a drive socket #8. Use a ratchet wrench.



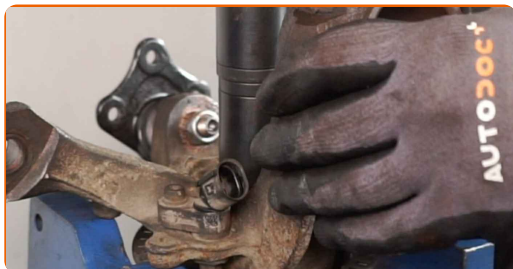
**37** Remove the fastening bolts.



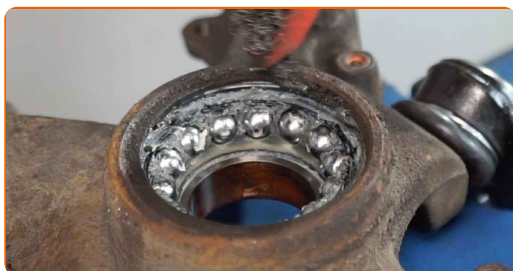
**38** Remove the brake disc cover.



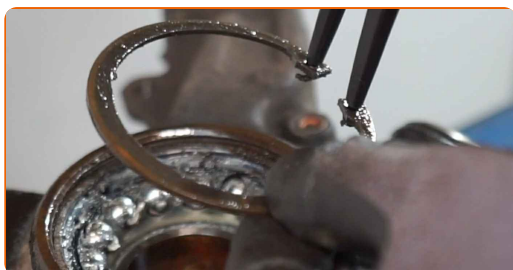
**39** Remove the wheel hub from the steering knuckle. Use a bush and bearing driver set.



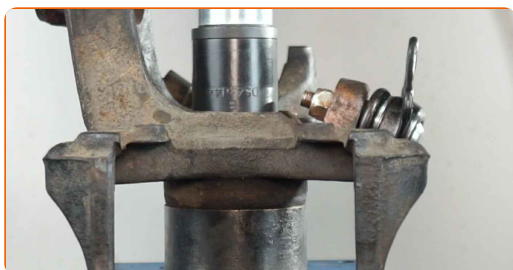
**40** Clean the wheel hub bearing retaining ring. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**41** Remove the wheel hub bearing retaining ring. Use circlip pliers.



**42** Press out the wheel hub bearing. Use a bush and bearing driver set.



**43**

Clean the hub bearing mounting seat. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**44**

Press-fit the new bearing into the steering knuckle. Use a bush and bearing driver set.



**Replacement: wheel bearing – AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1). AUTODOC experts recommend:**

- Check to make sure the wheel hub bearing is positioned correctly. Avoid its misalignment.
- Stop pressing on the surface of the bearing immediately after it has been fitted into its mounting seat.

**45**

Install the wheel hub bearing retaining ring. Use circlip pliers.



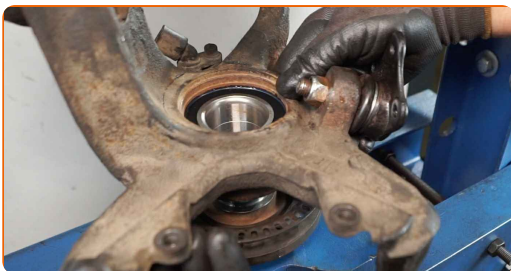
**46** Dismantle the inner bearing race that is remaining on the hub. Use 3-Arm Gear Puller.



**47** Clean the wheel hub mounting seat. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**48** Install the wheel hub on the steering knuckle. Use a bush and bearing driver set.

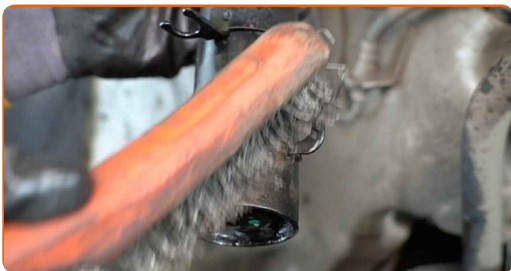


**AUTODOC recommends:**

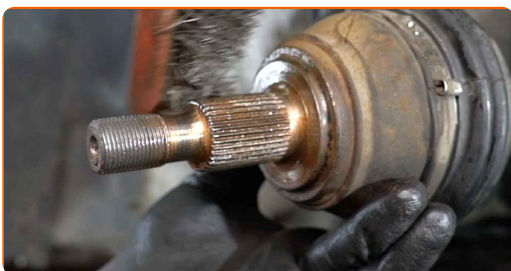
- Make sure that the wheel hub is positioned correctly. Avoid any misalignment.

**49**

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

**50**

Clean the splines of the drive shaft CV joint. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

**51**

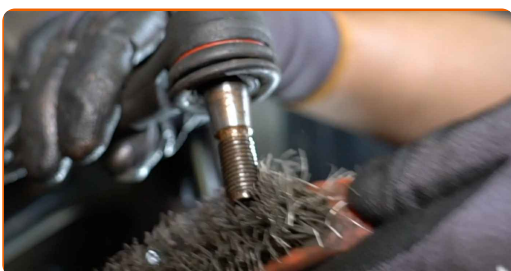
Treat the splines of the driveshaft CV joint. Use copper grease.

**52**

Clean the ball joint mounting seat. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

**53**

Clean the tie rod end fastener. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.





**54** Install the steering knuckle assembled with the wheel hub.

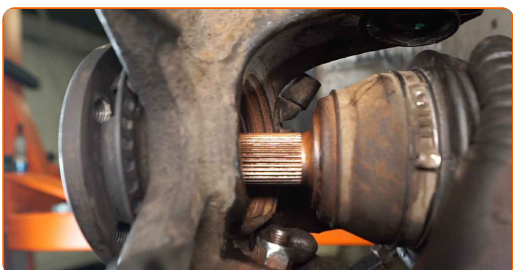
**55** Fasten the suspension strut on the steering knuckle.



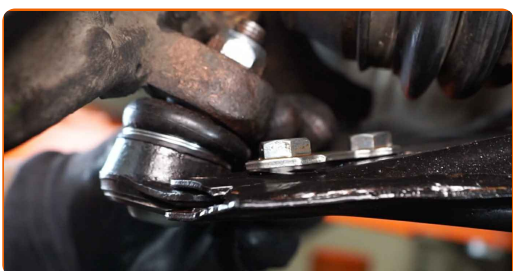
**56** Install the fastening bolt.



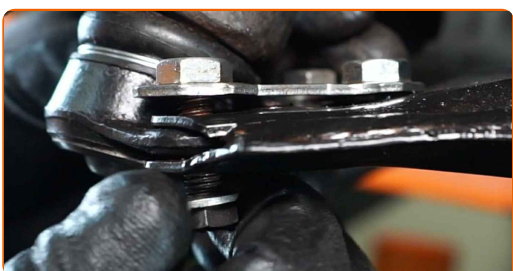
**57** Install the drive shaft.



**58** Attach the ball joint to the control arm.



**59** Install the fastening bolts.



**60** Tighten the fasteners that connect the ball joint to the suspension arm. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



**61** Clean the mounting seat of the brake disc cover. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

**62** Install the brake disc cover.



**63** Install the fastening bolts.

**64** Tighten the fasteners of the brake disc back plate. Use a drive socket #8. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 10 Nm torque.



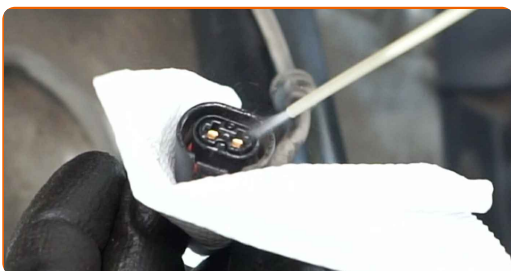
**65** Install the fastening nut.



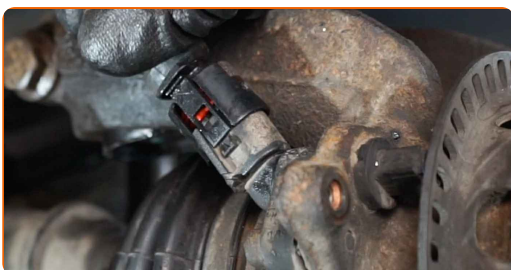
**66** Screw in the fastener of the CV axle. Use a drive socket #30. Use a ratchet wrench.



**67** Treat the ABS sensor connector. Use dielectric grease.



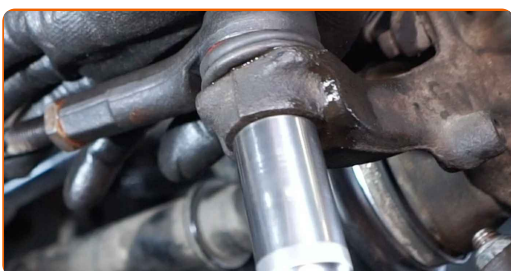
**68** Attach the ABS sensor connector.



**69** Connect the tie rod end to the steering knuckle.



**70** Screw on the fastening nut that connects the tie rod end to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #19. Use a ratchet wrench.



**71** Clean the wheel hub. Use a wire brush.



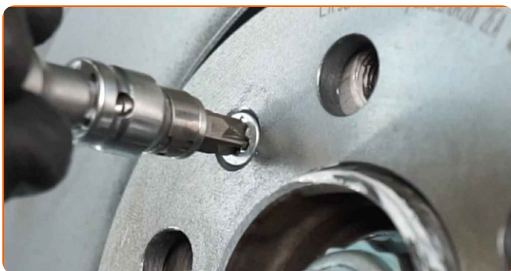
**72** Treat the contacting surface. Use ceramic grease.



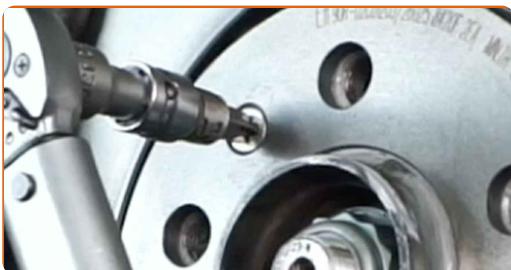
**73** Install the brake disc.



**74** Install the fastening bolt.



**75** Tighten the brake disc fasteners. Use a Phillips screwdriver. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 4 Nm torque.



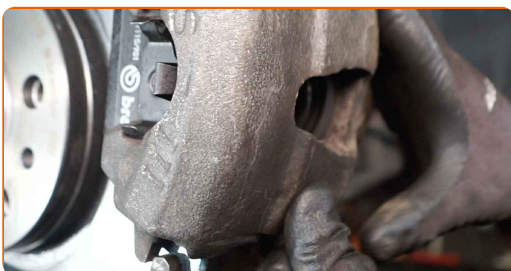
76

Clean the brake caliper bracket of dirt and dust. Use a wire brush. Use a brake cleaner.



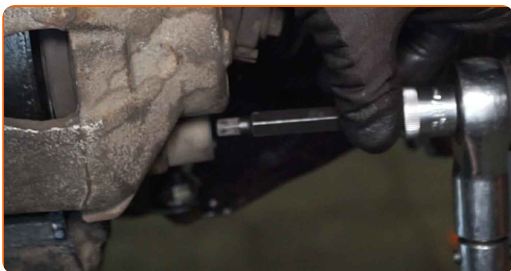
77

Install the brake caliper and fasten it.



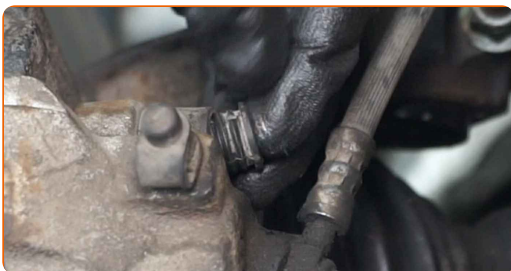
78

Tighten the brake caliper fasteners. Use HEX No.H7. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 28 Nm torque.



79

Install the caps on the brake caliper guide pin boots.



**80**

Tighten the fasteners connecting the ball joint to the control arm. Use a drive socket #13. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 20 Nm torque.+90°



Replacement: wheel bearing – AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1). Tip from AUTODOC:

- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

**81**

Tighten the fastening nut connecting the tie rod end to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 45 Nm torque.



**82**

Tighten the lower fasteners of the suspension strut. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 50 Nm torque.+90°



**AUTODOC recommends:**

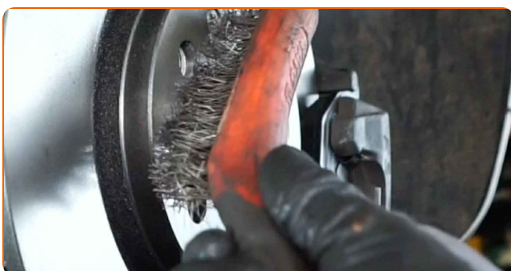
- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

**83** Treat the fastener that connects the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use copper grease.

**84** Treat the fastener connecting the tie rod end to the steering knuckle. Use copper grease.

**85** Treat the fasteners of the ball joint. Use copper grease.

**86** Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush.



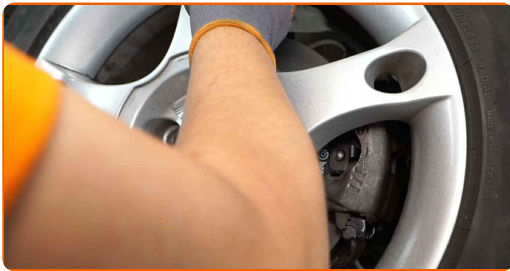
**87** Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use ceramic grease.



**88** Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



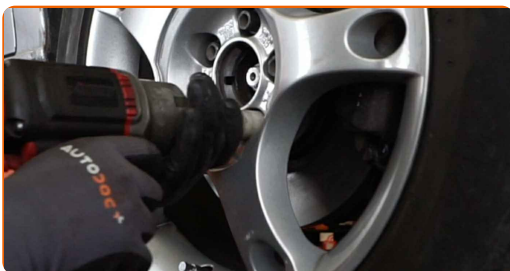
**89** Install the wheel.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1)

**90** Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a ratchet wrench.



**91** Lower the car.

**92** Tighten the drive shaft nut. Use a drive socket #30. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 200 Nm torque.





- 93 Tighten the wheel bolts using a criss-cross pattern. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 Nm torque.



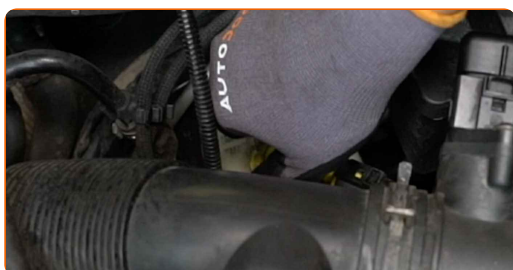
- 94 Remove the jacks and chocks.



Replacement: wheel bearing – AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- Without starting the engine, press the brake pedal several times until you feel significant resistance.
- Check the brake fluid level in the expansion tank and top up if necessary.

- 95 Tighten the brake fluid reservoir cap.



96

Close the bonnet.

**WELL DONE!** 

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