



How to change front  
wheel bearing on **BMW 3  
Coupe (E36)** –  
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:

BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 318is 1.8, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 320i 2.0, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 325i 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 316i 1.6, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) M3 3.0, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 328i 2.8, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 318is 1.9, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 323i 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) M3 3.2, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 325is 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 318i 1.8

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: BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 323i 2.5

**REPLACEMENT: WHEEL BEARING – BMW 3 COUPE (E36). TOOLS YOU NEED:**



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- All-purpose cleaning spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 46
- HEX bit No.H6
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Tap wrench
- Hammer
- Impact screwdriver
- Universal puller
- 3-Arm Gear Puller
- Flat chisel
- Crow bar
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Do not re-use the bearing assembly of your BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 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 – BMW 3 COUPE (E36). TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS:**

**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.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.  
BMW 3 Coupe (E36)

**5**

Remove the wheel.



**6**

Spread the brake pads. Use a crowbar.



**7**

Clean the brake caliper bracket fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**8**

Unscrew the caliper bracket fastening. Use a drive socket #16. Use a tap wrench.



9

Remove the brake caliper together with its bracket.



Replacement: wheel bearing – BMW 3 Coupe (E36). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- 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.

10

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



11

Unscrew the brake disc fastening. Use HEX No.H6. Use an impact screwdriver.



12

Remove the brake disc.



13

Remove the wheel hub nut cap. Use a crowbar. Use a hammer.

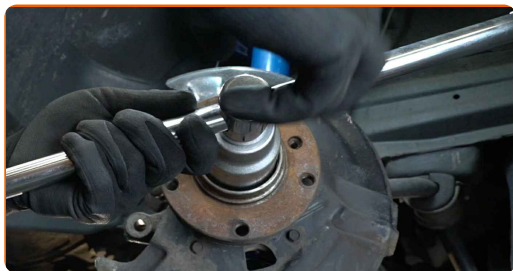


14

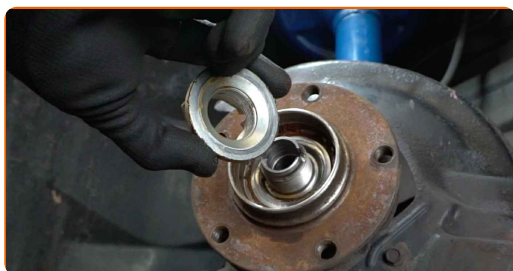
Unstake the wheel hub retaining nut. Use a flat metal-working chisel. Use a hammer.



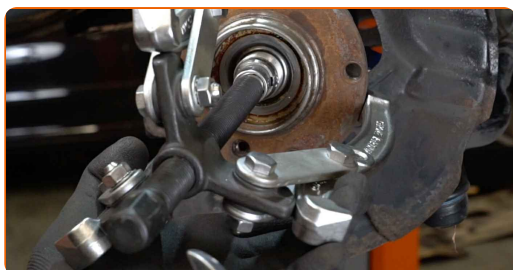
**15** Unscrew the hub nut. Use a drive socket #46. Use a tap wrench.



**16** Remove the fastening nut.



**17** Remove the wheel hub together with the bearing. Use 3-Arm Gear Puller.

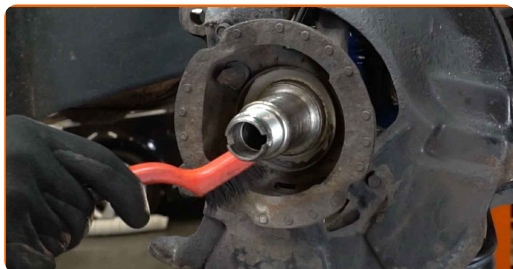


**18** Pull the bearing inner race out of the wheel hub. Use a universal puller.





**19** Clean the hub bearing mounting seat. Use a wire brush. Use all-purpose cleaning spray.



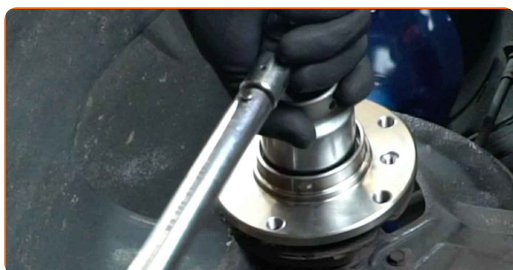
**20** Install the new wheel hub with a bearing. Use a drive socket #46. Use a hammer.



**21** Install the fastening nut.



**22** Tighten the wheel hub nut. Use a drive socket #46. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 290 Nm torque.



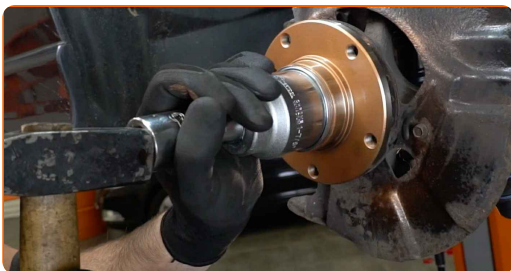
**23** Restake the wheel hub retaining nut. Use a flat metal-working chisel. Use a hammer.



**24** Treat the wheel hub nut. Use copper grease.



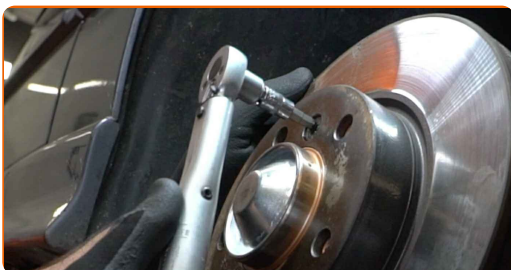
**25** Install the cap of the hub nut. Use a drive socket #46. Use a hammer.



**26** Install the brake disc.



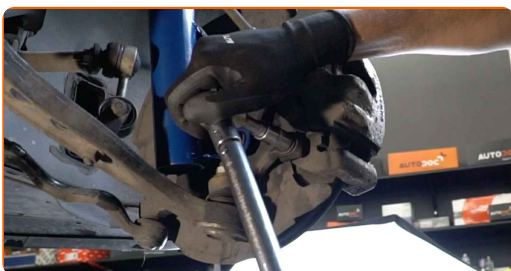
**27** Tighten the brake disc fastening. Use HEX No.H6. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 9 Nm torque.



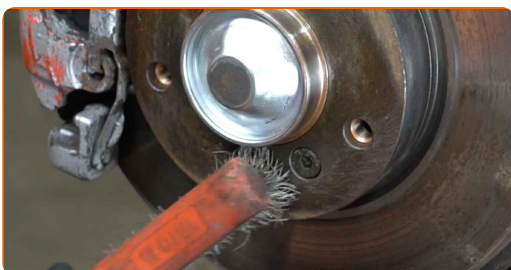
**28** Install the brake caliper together with its bracket.



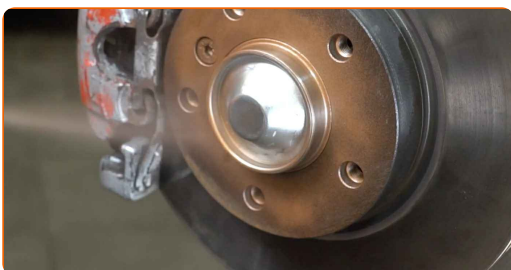
**29** Tighten the brake caliper bracket. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 110 Nm torque.



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



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



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



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: wheel bearing – BMW 3 Coupe (E36). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

**33**

Install the wheel.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. BMW 3 Coupe (E36)

**34**

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



- 35** 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.



- 36** Remove the jacks and chocks.



Replacement: wheel bearing – BMW 3 Coupe (E36). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Without starting the engine, press the brake pedal several times until you feel significant resistance.

**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**

**WHEEL BEARING: A WIDE SELECTION**

## **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 2023 – 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 SE.