



How to change front  
suspension strut on  
**CITROËN C3 Pluriel**  
**(HB\_)** – 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:

CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_) 1.6, CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_) 1.4, CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_) 1.4 HDi

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: CITROËN C3 I Hatchback (FC\_, FN\_) 1.4 i

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – CITROËN C3  
PLURIEL (HB\_). TOOLS YOU NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Combination spanner #16
- Combination spanner #17
- Combination spanner #22
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 17
- Drive socket # 19
- Drive socket # 22
- Drive socket # 30
- HEX bit No.H7.
- Torx bit T30
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Shock absorber socket
- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Flat chisel
- Pin punch
- Tap wrench
- Hammer
- Crow bar
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

Replacement: suspension strut – CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_). Tip:

- Both shock struts of the front suspension should be replaced simultaneously.
- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right shock struts of the front suspension.
- Warning! Shut down the engine before starting any work – CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_).

**CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:**

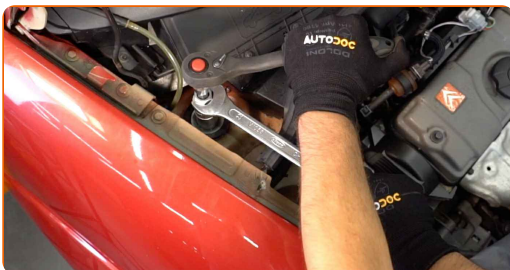
**1** Open the bonnet.

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

**3** Clean the fasteners of the shock strut upper mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**4** Loosen the upper fastener of the shock strut mount. Use HEX No.H7. Use a combination spanner #22. Use a ratchet wrench.



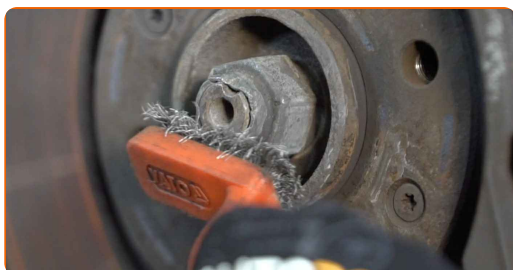
**5** Secure the wheels with chocks.



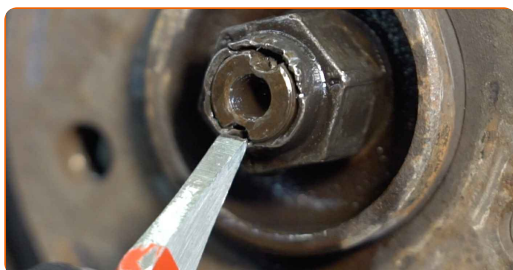
**6** Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



**7** Clean the fastener of the driveshaft. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**8** Unstake the fastener of the driveshaft. Use a flat metal-working chisel. Use a hammer.



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



**10** Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

**11** Unscrew the wheel bolts.



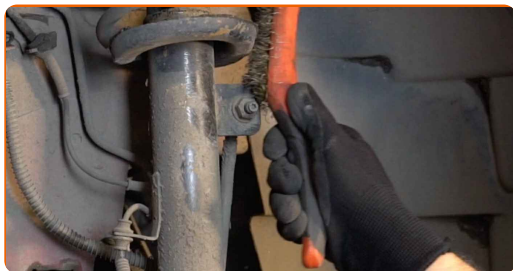
Replacement: suspension strut – CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_). AUTODOC experts recommend:

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

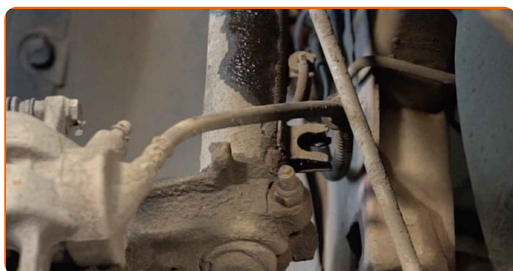
**12** Remove the wheel.



**13** Clean the stabiliser link fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



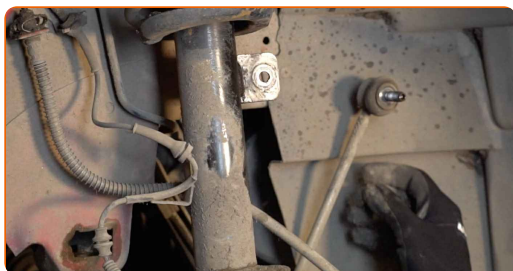
**14** Disconnect the wiring and the brake hose from the bracket on the shock strut. Use a crowbar.



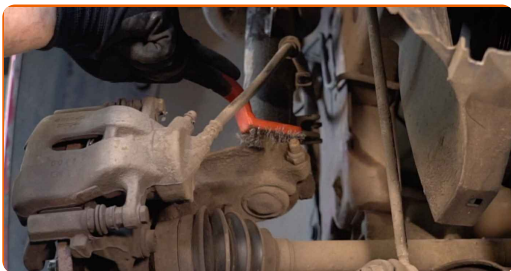
**15** Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #17. Use Torx T30. Use a ratchet wrench.



**16** Remove the stabilizer rod.



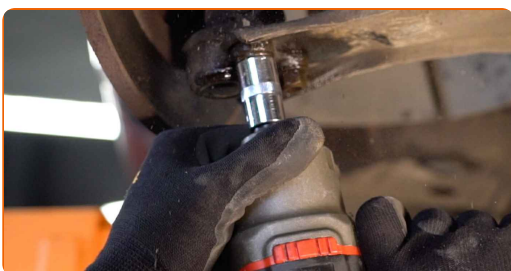
**17** Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



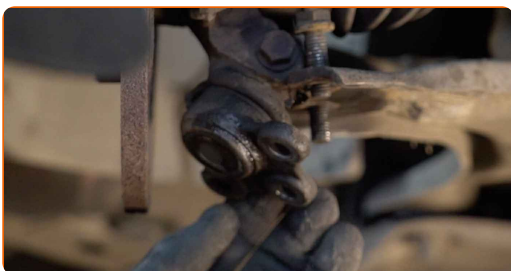
**18** Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**19** Unscrew the fastener connecting the ball joint to the suspension control arm. Use a drive socket #16. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a tap wrench.



**20** Disconnect the spherical joint from the arm.





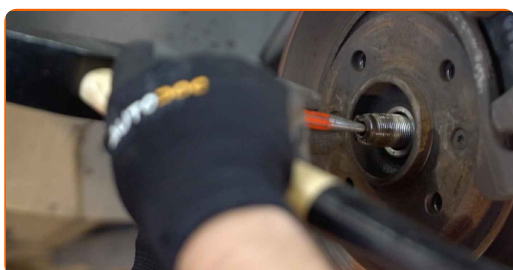
21

Unscrew the fastener connecting the drive shaft to the wheel hub. Use a drive socket #30.



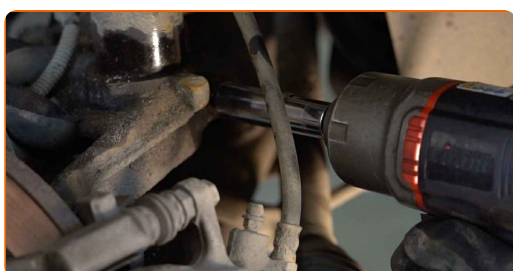
22

Remove the drive shaft. Use a pin punch. Use a hammer.



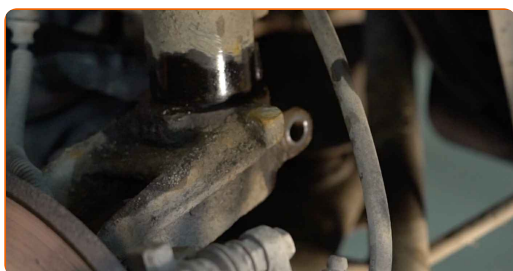
23

Unscrew the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #16. Use a tap wrench.

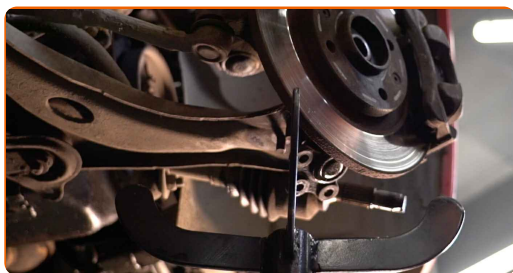


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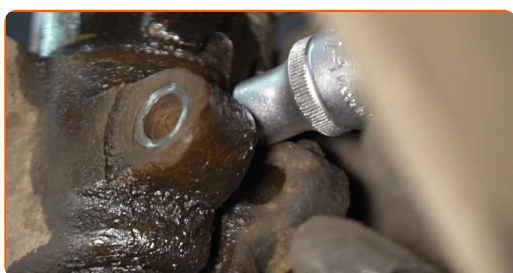
Remove the fastening bolt.



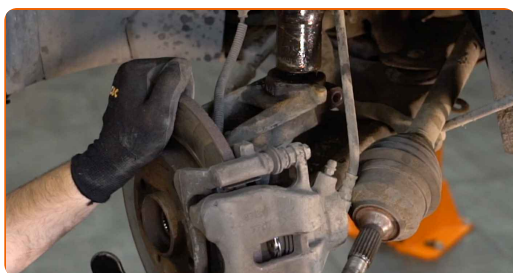
**25** Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



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



**27** Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut. Use a hammer.



**28** Unscrew the top fastening of the shock strut mount. Use a drive socket #22.



Replacement: suspension strut – CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_). Tip from AUTODOC:

- To avoid injuries, hold the shock strut when undoing the fastening bolts.

29

Remove the suspension strut.



30

Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.

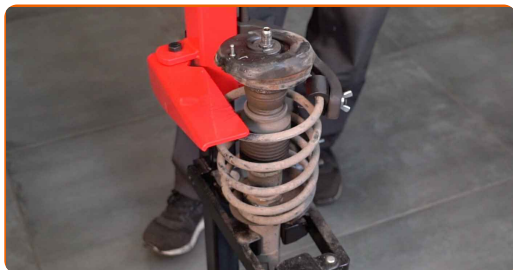


Replacement: suspension strut – CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- Note that when using a spring compressor, spring coils need to be securely gripped, compressing the spring on the opposite sides.
- Ensure the correct position of the spring in the retainer.
- Make sure that the spring coils tightly entered the lock handles.

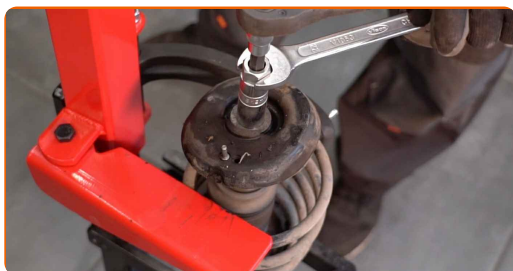
31

Compress the spring.



32

Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a drive socket #19. Use HEX No.H7. Use a ratchet wrench.



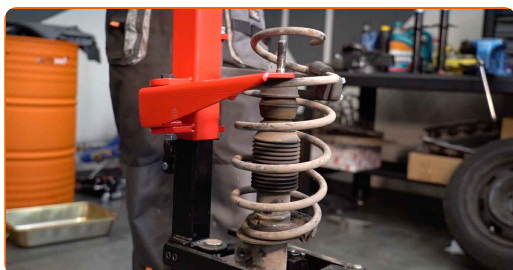
33

Remove the top strut mount.



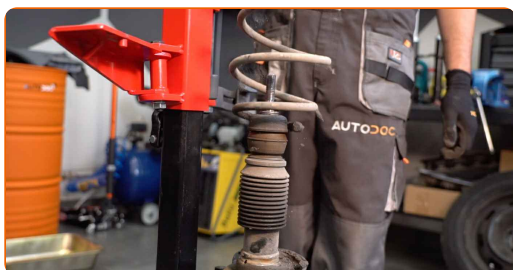
34

Release the coil spring.



35

Remove the spring.

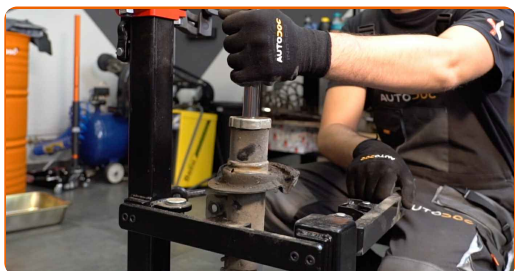


**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: suspension strut – CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_). Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

36

Remove the old shock absorber from the hydraulic coil spring compressor.

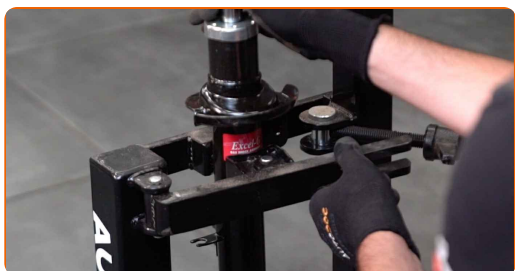


Replacement: suspension strut – CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_). Tip from AUTODOC:

- Before installing a new shock absorber you should pump it manually 3-5 times.

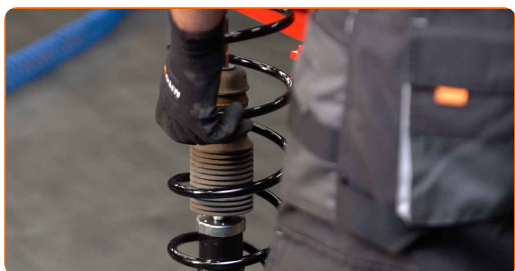
37

Install the new shock absorber on the hydraulic coil spring compressor.



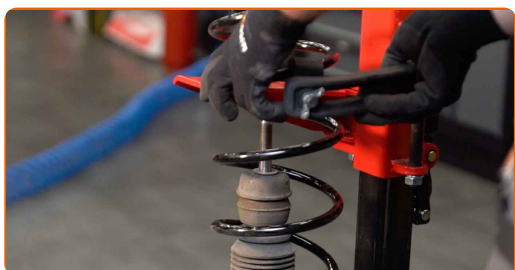
38

Install the spring on the shock absorber.

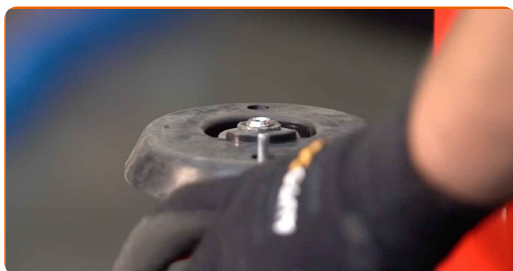


39

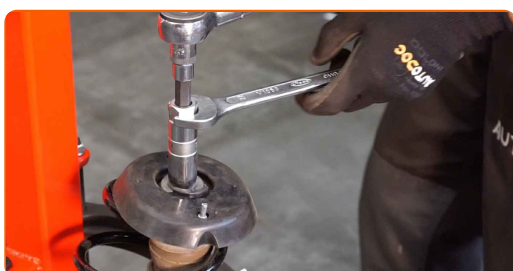
Compress the spring.



**40** Install the upper strut mount and the strut mount bearing.



**41** Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use HEX No.H7. Use a drive socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.



Replacement: suspension strut – CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_). Professionals recommend:

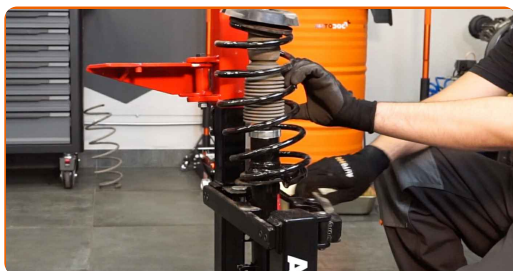
- Check to make sure the spring is positioned correctly. Avoid its misalignment.

**42** Decompress the spring.



43

Remove the assembled shock strut.



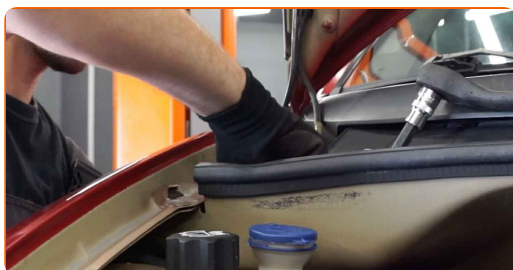
44

Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.



45

Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_) Do not tighten it.

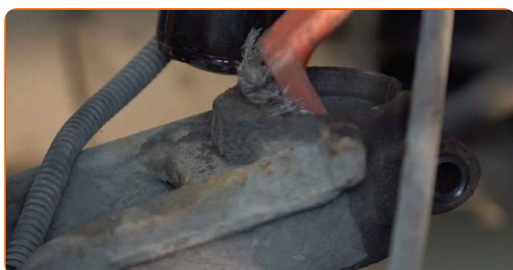


**AUTODOC recommends:**

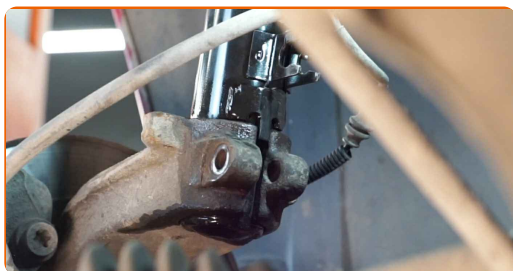
- Important! Hold the suspension strut while screwing in the fastening bolts. CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_)

46

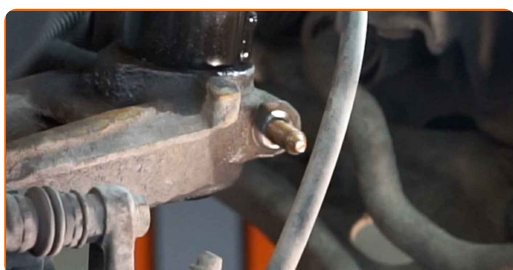
Treat the shock strut mounting seat on the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



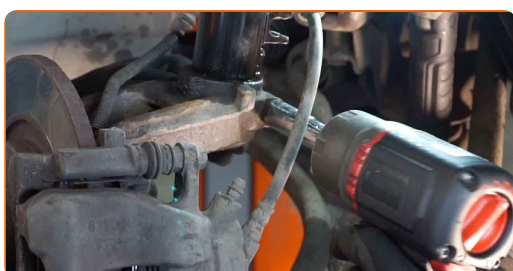
**47** Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle.



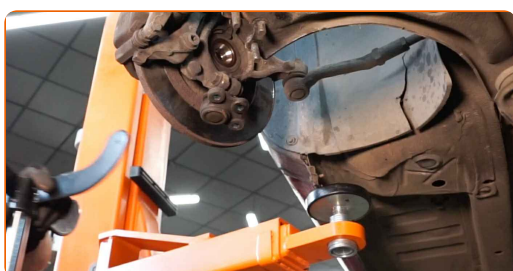
**48** Install the fastening bolt.



**49** Screw in the fastener that connects the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #16.



**50** Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



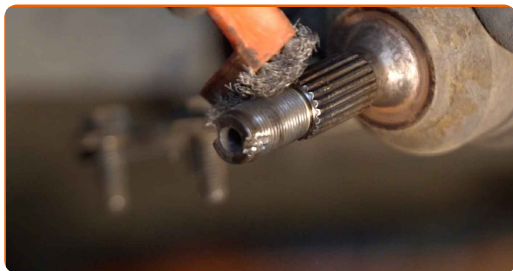
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: suspension strut – CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.



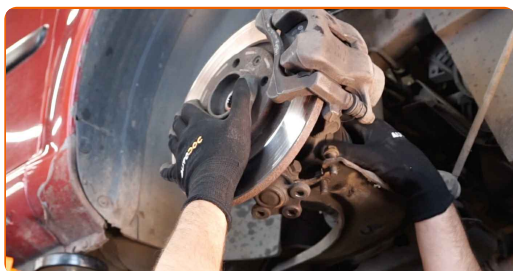
51

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



52

Install the drive shaft.



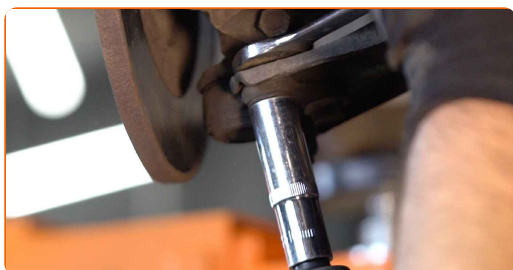
53

Attach the ball joint to the control arm.



54

Screw the fasteners of the ball joint. Use a drive socket #16.



55

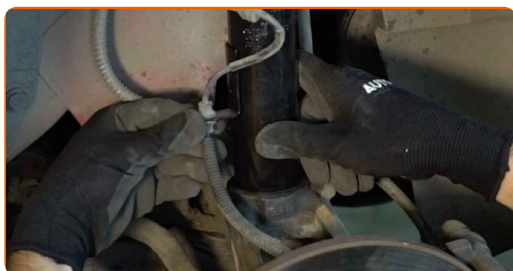
Install the transverse stabilizer link.



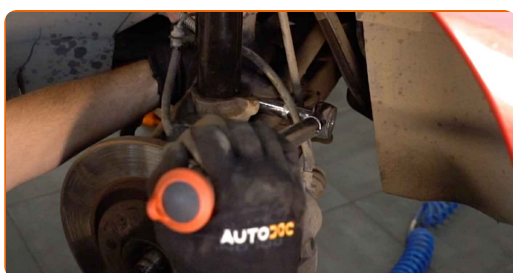
**56** Tighten the stabiliser link fastener. Use a drive socket #17.



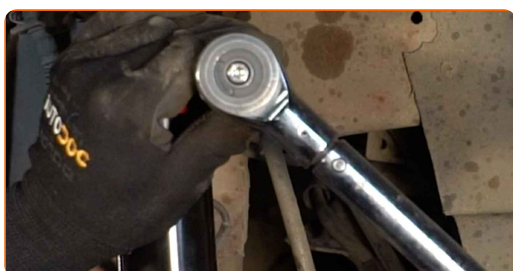
**57** Fasten the brake hose on the strut. Connect the fastener of the ABS sensor cable to the shock absorber strut.



**58** Tighten the lower fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 59 Nm torque.



**59** Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a drive socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 35 Nm torque.



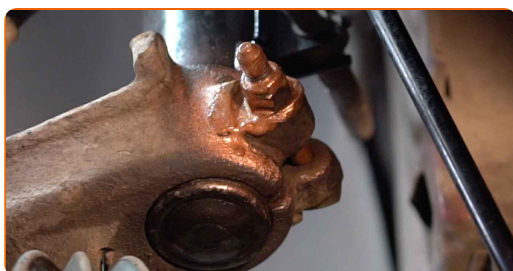
- 60 Tighten the ball joint fastener. Use a drive socket #16. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 52 Nm torque.



- 61 Screw the nut of the drive shaft. Use a drive socket #30.



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



- 63 Treat all joints of the stabiliser link. Use copper grease.



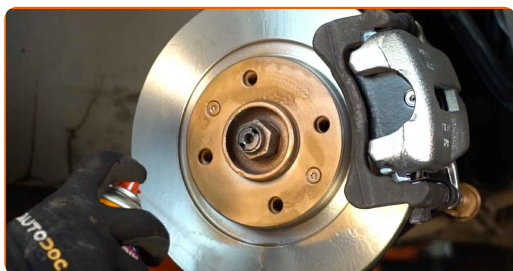
64

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



65

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.

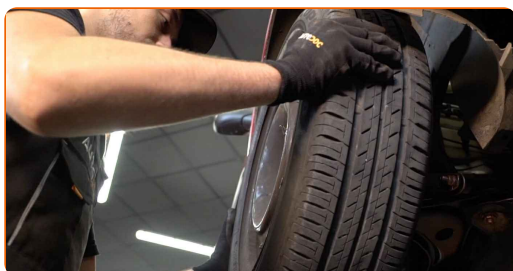


Replacement: suspension strut – CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_). Tip from AUTODOC:

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

66

Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

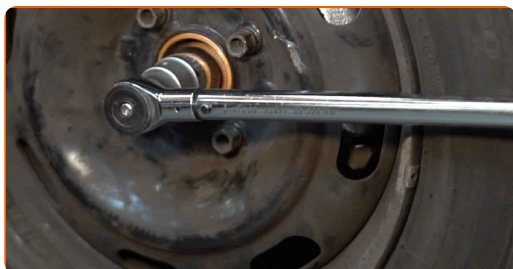
- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. CITROËN C3 Pluriel (HB\_)

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

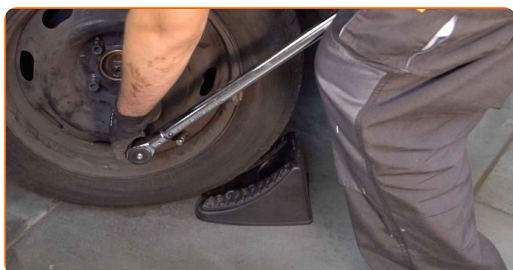


**68** Lower the car.

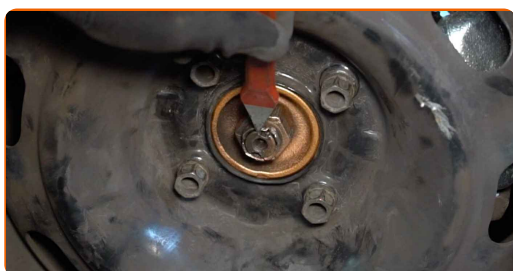
**69** Tighten the drive shaft nut. Use a drive socket #30. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 245 Nm torque.



**70** Tighten the wheel bolts using a criss-cross pattern. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 90 Nm torque.



**71** Restake the fastener of the driveshaft. Use a flat metal-working chisel. Use a hammer.



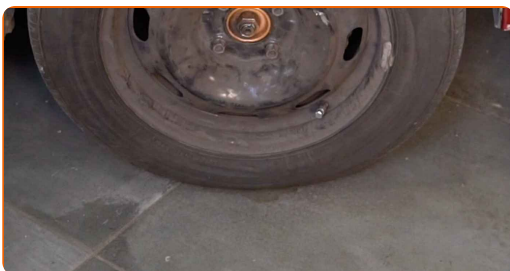
**72** Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a drive socket #22. Use HEX No.H7. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 nm torque.



**73** Treat the shock strut fasteners. Use copper grease.



**74** Remove the jacks and chocks.



**75** Remove the fender protection cover.

**76** Close the hood.

**WELL DONE!** 

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