



How to change front coil  
springs on **VW Golf 3** –  
replacement guide

## VIDEO TUTORIAL

** Important!**

This replacement procedure can be used for:

VW GOLF III (1H1) 1.9 D, VW GOLF III (1H1) 1.9 TD,GTD, VW GOLF III (1H1) 1.9 TDI, VW GOLF III (1H1) 1.6, VW GOLF III (1H1) 1.8, VW GOLF III (1H1) 2.0, VW GOLF III (1H1) 2.0 GTI 16V, VW GOLF III (1H1) 1.4, VW GOLF III (1H1) 2.8 VR6, VW Vento (1H2) 1.9 D, VW Vento (1H2) 1.9 TD, VW Vento (1H2) 1.9 TDI, VW Vento (1H2) 1.4, VW Vento (1H2) 1.6, VW Vento (1H2) 1.8, (+ 4)

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The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

REPLACEMENT: COIL SPRINGS – VW GOLF 3. TOOLS YOU NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Combination spanner #18
- Drive socket # 10
- Drive socket # 18
- Drive socket # 21
- Drive socket # 22
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

**BUY TOOLS**

**Replacement: coil springs – VW Golf 3. Professionals recommend:**

- Both coil springs of the front suspension should be replaced simultaneously.
- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right coil springs of the front suspension.
- Please note: all work on the car – VW Golf 3 – should be done with the engine switched off.

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

**1**

Secure the wheels with chocks.



**2**

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

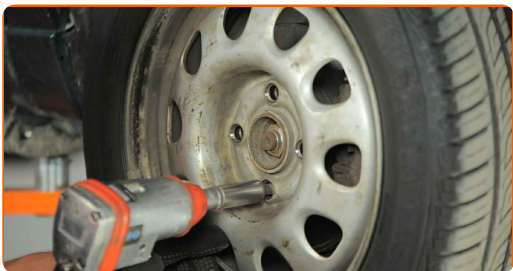


**3**

Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.



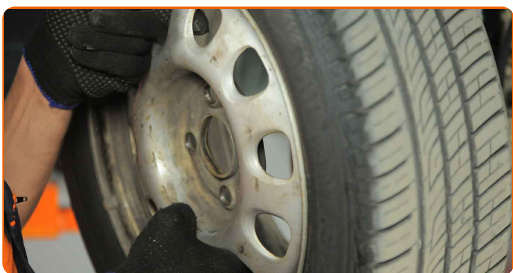
**4** Unscrew the wheel bolts.



**Replacement: coil springs – VW Golf 3. Tip:**

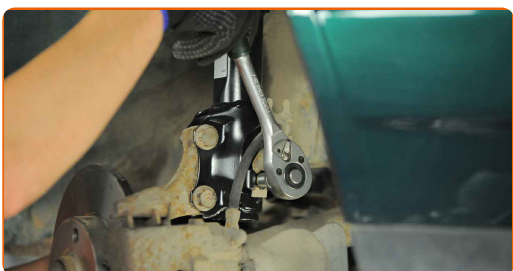
- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when unscrewing the bolts.

**5** Remove the wheel.



**6** Clean the fastener of the bracket that connects the brake hose to the shock strut. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

**7** Unscrew the brake hose fastening bracket from the shock strut. Use a drive socket #10. Use a ratchet wrench.



**8** Remove the bracket from the shock absorber strut.

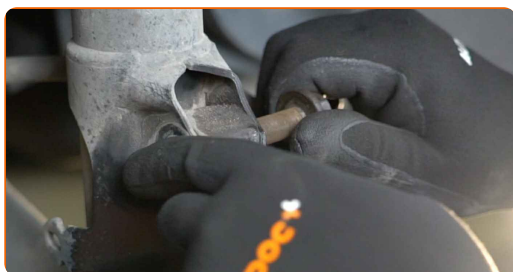


**9** Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

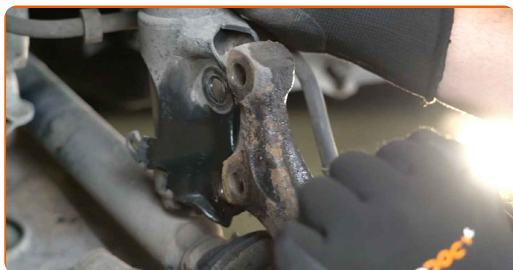
**10** Unscrew the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



**11** Remove the fastening bolts (2 pieces).



**12** Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut.



**13** Lower the car.



**14** Open the bonnet.



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

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

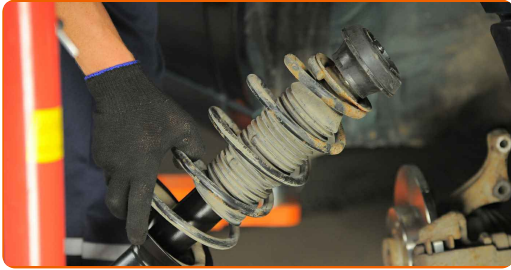


**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Hold the suspension strut while unscrewing the fastening bolts. VW Golf 3

**17**

Remove the suspension strut.



**18**

Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.



**Replacement: coil springs – VW Golf 3. AUTODOC recommends:**

- 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.

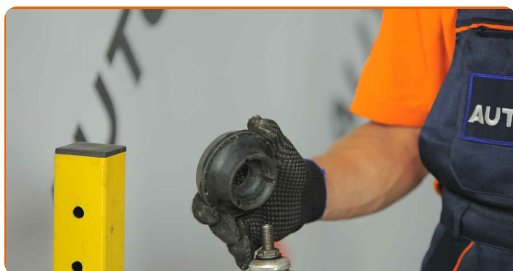
**19**

Compress the spring.

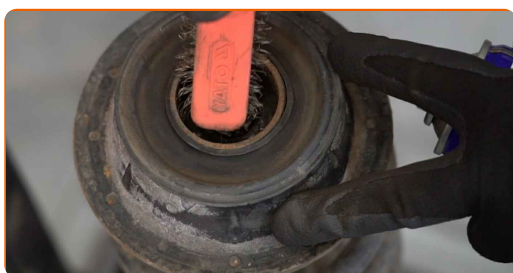




**20** Unscrew the fastener of the shock strut mount.



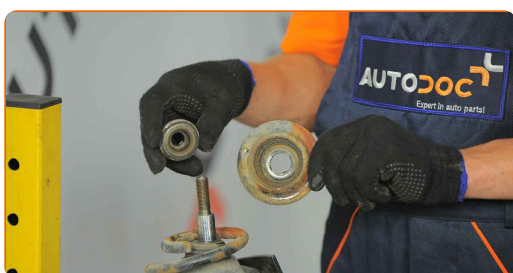
**21** Treat the shock strut rod. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**22** Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a drive socket #21. Use a ratchet wrench.

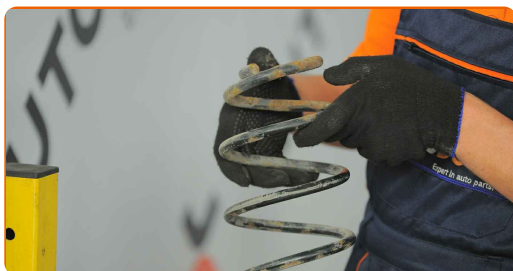


**23** Remove the top strut mount.



**24** Release the coil spring.

**25** Remove the spring.



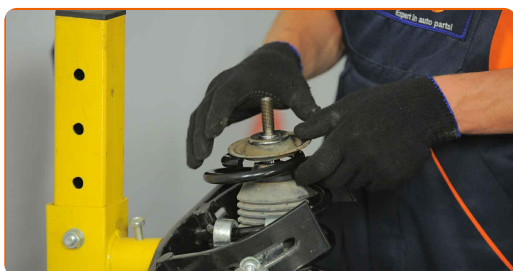
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: coil springs – VW Golf 3. Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

**26** Install the spring on the shock absorber.



**27** Compress the spring.



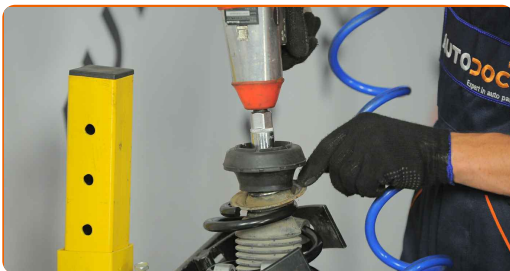
**28** Install the upper strut mount and the strut mount bearing.



**29** Screw in the fastener of the shock strut mount.



**30** Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a drive socket #21. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 65 Nm torque.

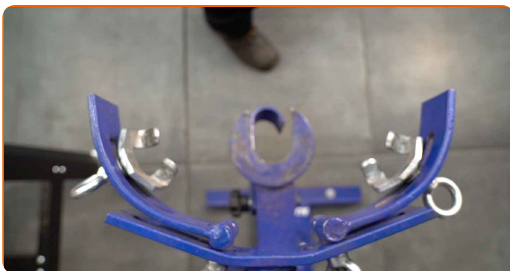


Replacement: coil springs – VW Golf 3. AUTODOC experts recommend:

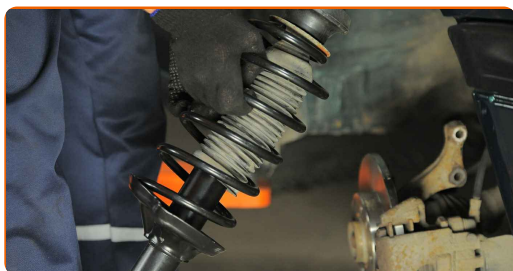
- Check to make sure the spring is positioned correctly. Avoid its misalignment.

**31** Decompress the spring.

**32** Remove the assembled shock strut.



**33** Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.



**34** Screw the top fastening of the shock strut mount.

**Replacement: coil springs – VW Golf 3. Tip from AUTODOC:**

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

**35** Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a drive socket #22. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 70 Nm torque.



**36** Remove the fender protection cover.

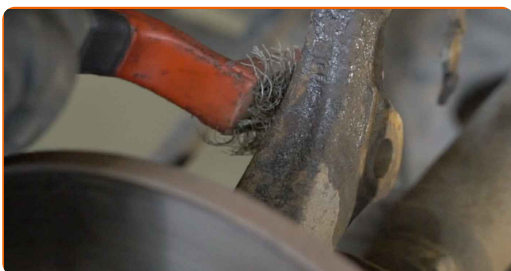
**37** Close the hood.



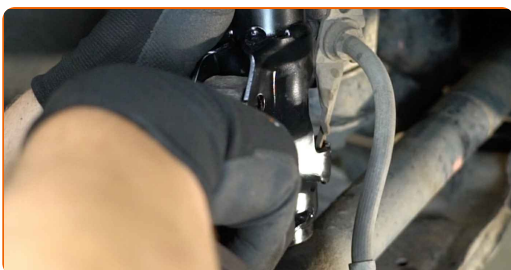
**38** Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.



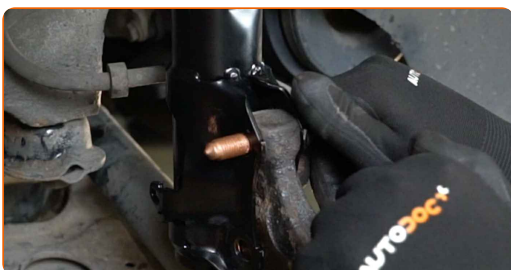
**39** Treat the shock strut mounting seat on the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



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



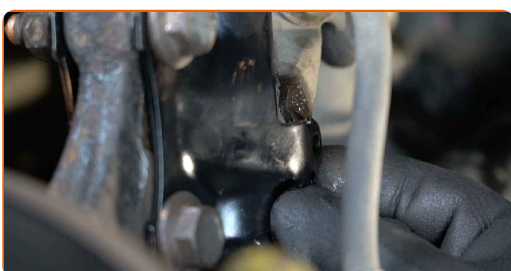
**41** Install the fastening bolts (2 pieces).



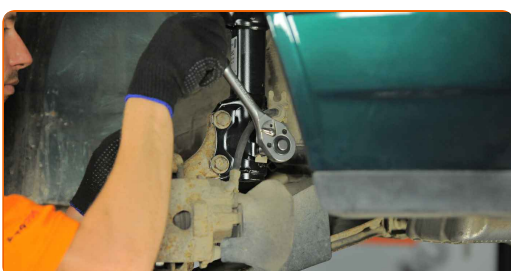
- 42 Tighten the lower fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 80 Nm torque.



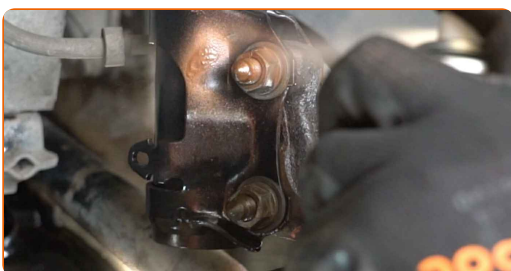
- 43 Install the bracket onto the shock absorber strut.



- 44 Tighten the brake hose fastening bracket to the shock strut. Use a drive socket #10. Use a ratchet wrench.

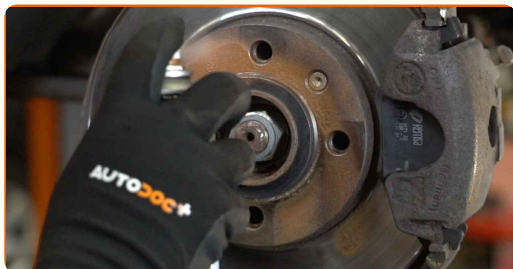


- 45 Treat the shock strut fasteners. Use copper grease.



46

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



47

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



Replacement: coil springs – VW Golf 3. AUTODOC recommends:

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

48

Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. VW Golf 3

49

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



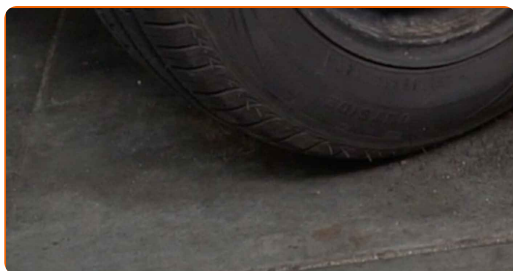
50

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.



51

Remove the jacks and chocks.



**WELL DONE!** 

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