



How to change rear  
shock absorbers on  
**MERCEDES-BENZ C-  
Class T-modell (S203)** –  
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:

MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 220 CDI (203.208), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 200 Kompressor (203.245), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 320 (203.264), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 200 CDI (203.204), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 220 CDI (203.206), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 270 CDI (203.216), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 180 (203.235), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 240 (203.261), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 200 CDI (203.204, 203.207), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 180 Kompressor (203.246), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 200 Kompressor (203.242), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 200 CGI Kompressor (203.243), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 200 CDI (203.207), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 230 Kompressor (203.240), MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203) C 350 (203.256), (+ 3)

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

Please note that this tutorial was created based on the replacement procedure for this car part on a car with a similar design.

This tutorial was created based on the replacement procedure for a similar car part on: MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class Saloon (W203) C 240 (203.061)

**REPLACEMENT: SHOCK ABSORBERS – MERCEDES-BENZ C-CLASS T-MODELL (S203). TOOLS YOU NEED:**



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- All-purpose cleaning spray
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #16
- Combination spanner #17
- Drive socket # 10
- Drive socket # 16
- Torx bit T40
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Shock absorber socket #DD6
- Clip removal tool
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

Replacement: shock absorbers – MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203).  
 AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Both shock absorbers of the rear suspension should be replaced simultaneously.
- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right shock absorbers of the rear suspension.
- Warning! Shut down the engine before starting any work – MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203).

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

**1** Open the boot lid.

**2** Raise the lower lining of the boot.



**3** Fold down the backrests of the rear seats.



4

Unscrew the fastener of the central protective plastic panel. Use Torx T40. Use a ratchet wrench.



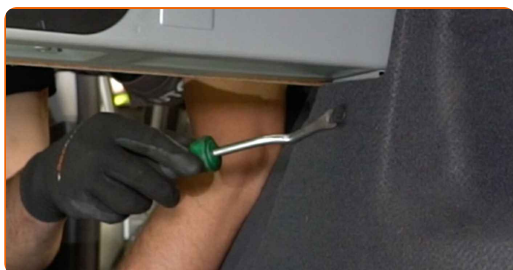
5

Remove the central protective plastic panel.



6

Remove the clips of the boot side lining. Use a clip removal tool.



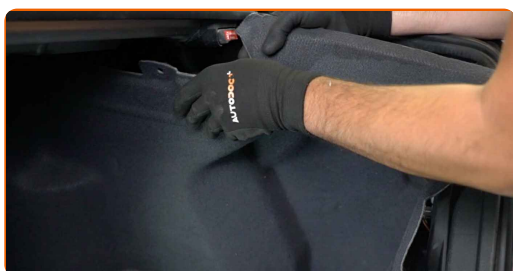
7

Remove the headlight rear cover.

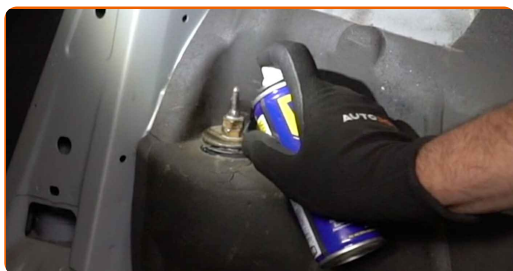


8

Remove the boot side lining.



**9** Clean the shock absorber fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**10** Unscrew the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #17. Use a shock absorber socket #DD6. Use a ratchet wrench.



**11** Secure the wheels with chocks.

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



**13** Raise the rear of the car and secure on supports.

**14** Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.  
MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203)

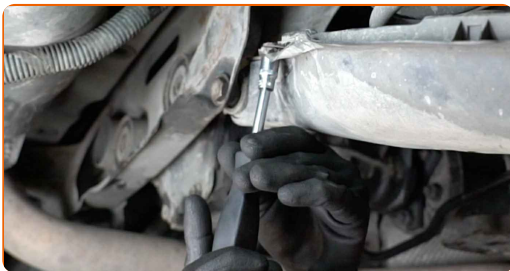
15

Remove the wheel.



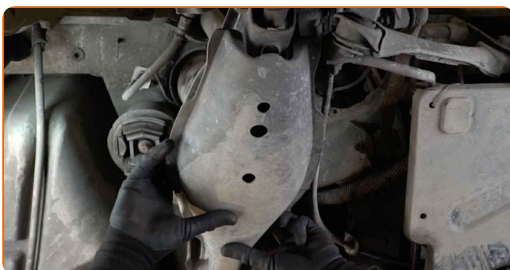
16

Unscrew the fasteners of the control arm plastic cover. Use a drive socket #10. Use a ratchet wrench.



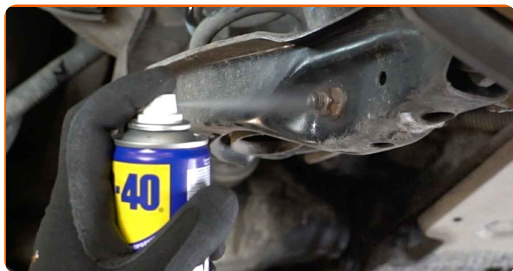
17

Remove the control arm plastic cover.





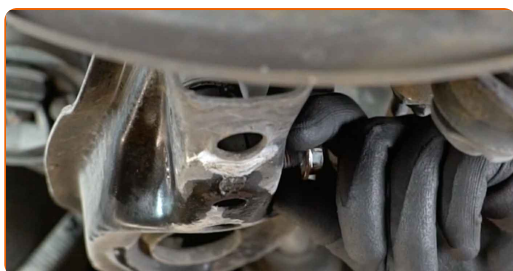
**18** Clean the shock absorber fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**19** Unscrew the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



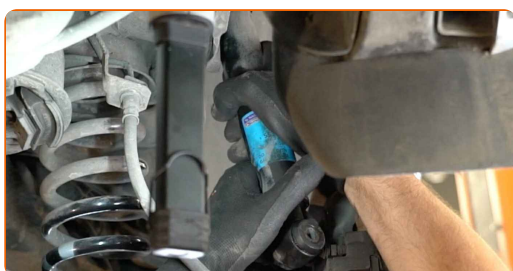
**20** Remove the fastening bolt.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Hold the shock absorber while unscrewing the fastening bolts.  
MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203)

**21** Remove the shock absorber.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: shock absorbers – MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203). Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

**22**

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

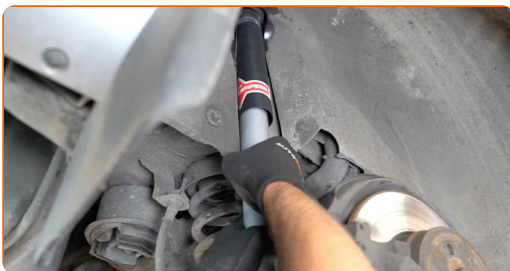


**Replacement: shock absorbers – MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203).  
Tip from AUTODOC:**

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

**23**

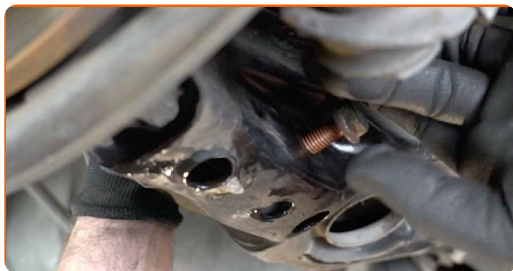
Place the shock absorber in the wheel arch and secure it.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Hold the shock absorber while screwing in the fastening bolts. MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203)

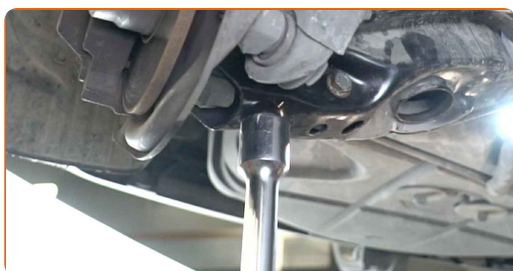
**24** Install the fastening bolt.



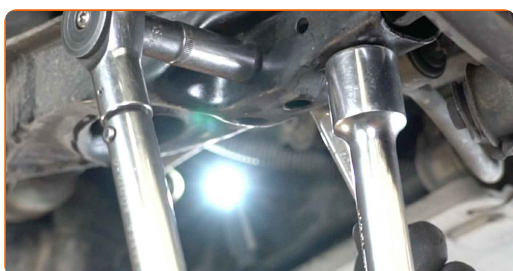
**25** Screw in the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



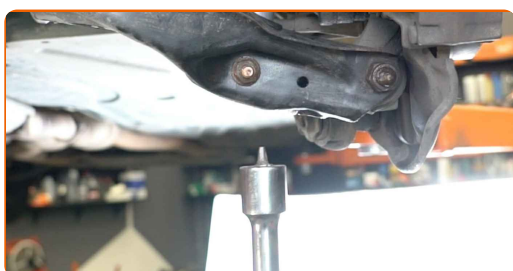
**26** Support the control arm. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



**27** Tighten the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 55 Nm torque.



**28** Remove the support from under the control arm.

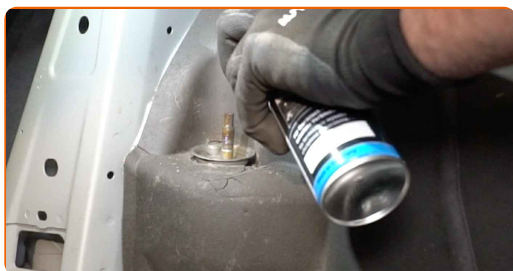


**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: shock absorbers – MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

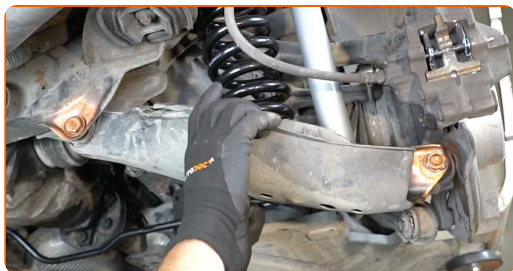
**29**

Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Use copper grease.



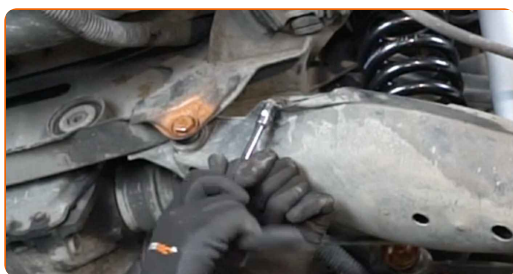
**30**

Install the control arm plastic cover.



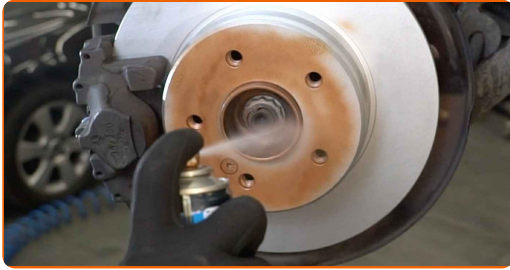
**31**

Screw the fasteners of the control arm plastic cover. Use a drive socket #10. Use a ratchet wrench.



**32**

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



**33**

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: shock absorbers – MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203).  
After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

**34**

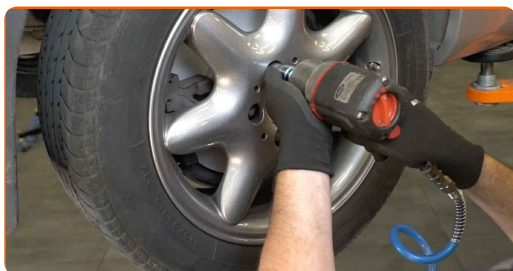
Install the wheel.



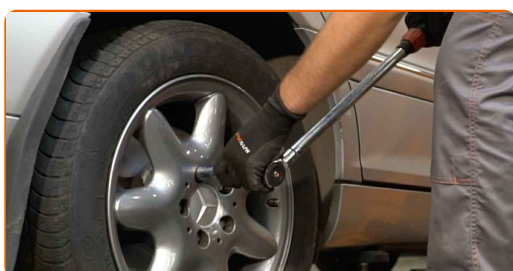
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class T-modell (S203)

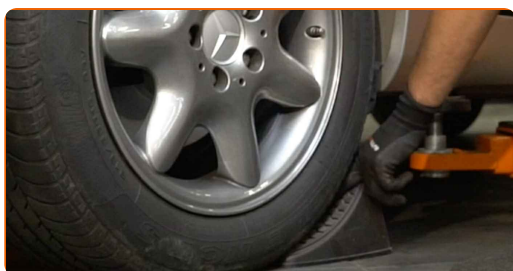
**35** Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



**36** 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 110 Nm torque.



**37** Remove the jacks and chocks.

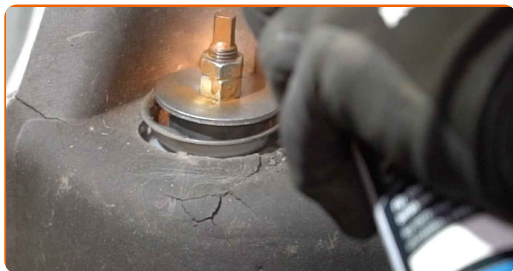


**38** Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Use copper grease.

**39** Tighten the top shock absorber fastening. Use a combination spanner #17. Use a shock absorber socket DDN#6. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 30 Nm torque.



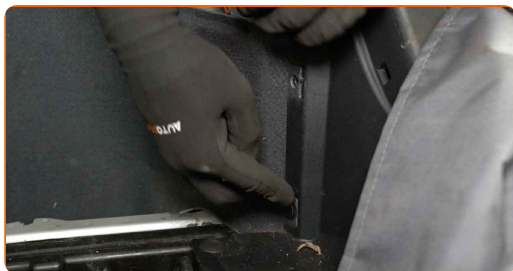
40 Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Use copper grease.



41 Attach the side lining of the boot.



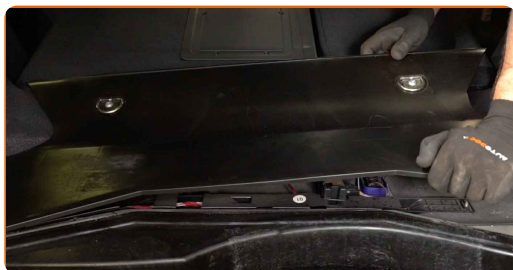
42 Install the clips of the boot side lining.



43 Install and secure the headlight rear cover.



44 Install the central protective plastic panel.



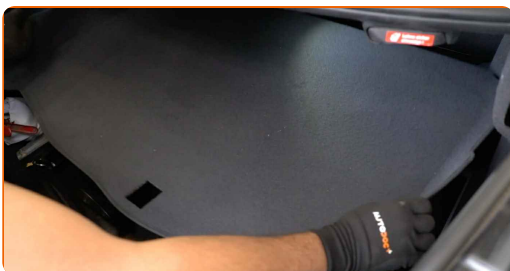
- 45 Screw in the fastener of the central protective plastic panel. Use Torx T40. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 11 Nm torque.



- 46 Return the seat to its original position.



- 47 Put down the lower lining of the boot.



- 48 Close the lid of the luggage compartment.

**WELL DONE!** 

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