



How to change front
suspension strut on
MERCEDES-BENZ CLK
(C209) – 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 CLK (C209) 320 3.2 (209.365), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 500 5.0 (209.375), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 240 2.6 (209.361), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 200 1.8 Kompressor (209.342), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 200 CGI 1.8 (209.343), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 270 CDI 2.7 (209.316), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 55 AMG 5.4 (209.376), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 350 3.5 (209.356), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 280 3.0 (209.354), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 220 CDI 2.2 (209.308), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 320 CDI 3.0 (209.320), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 500 5.5 (209.372), MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) 200 1.8 Kompressor (209.341)

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: MERCEDES-BENZ C-Class Saloon (W203) C 240 (203.061)

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209). TOOLS YOU NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #21
- HEX bit No.H6.
- HEX bit No.H7.
- HEX bit No.H12.
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 19
- Drive socket # 21
- 14X2.5-mm strut nut socket
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Tap wrench
- Crow bar
- Nippers
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

Buy tools

Replacement: suspension strut – MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209). AUTODOC recommends:

- 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.
- Please note: all work on the car – MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) – should be done with the engine switched off.

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 a combination spanner #21. Use HEX No.H7. Use a ratchet wrench.



5 Secure the wheels with chocks.



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



7 Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

8 Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.
MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209)

9 Remove the wheel.



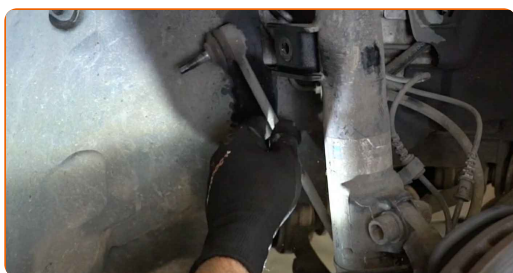
10 Clean the stabiliser link fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



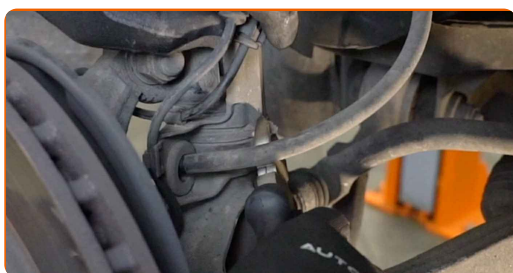
11 Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



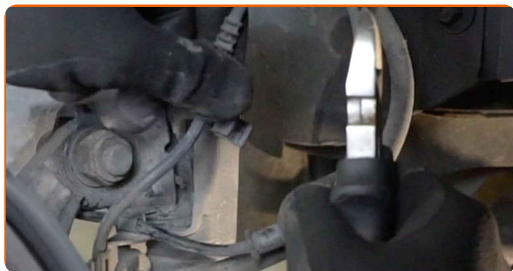
12 Remove the stabilizer rod.



13 Disconnect the brake hose bracket. Use nippers.

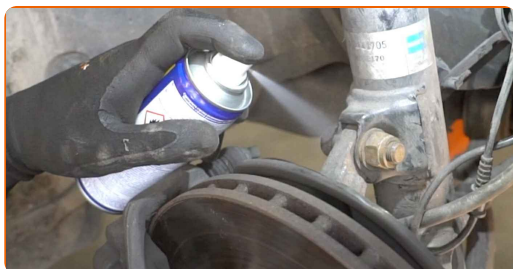


14 Disconnect the ABS sensor wiring.



15 Disconnect the brake pad wear sensor wire.

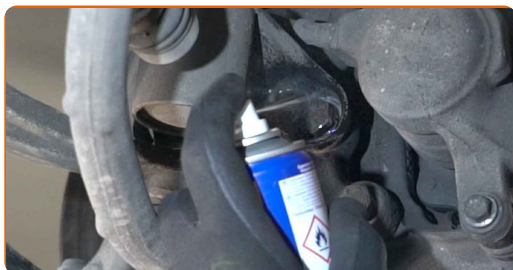
16 Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



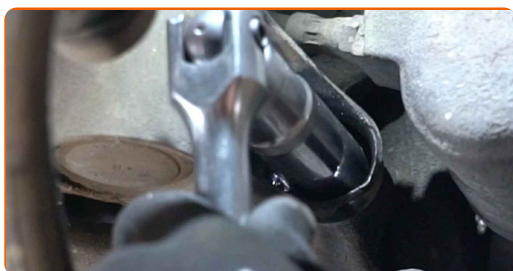
17 Unscrew the upper fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use HEX No.H12. Use a drive socket #21. Use a ratchet wrench. Use a tap wrench.



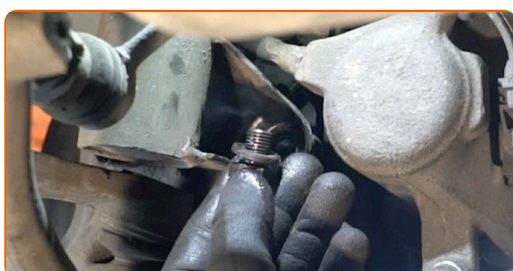
18 Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



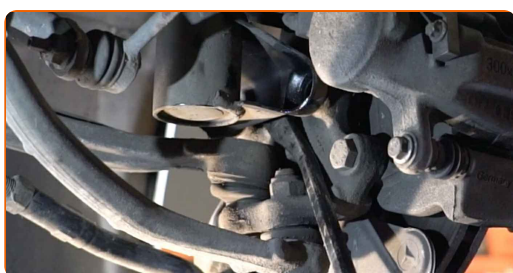
19 Unscrew the fasteners connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #19. Use a tap wrench.



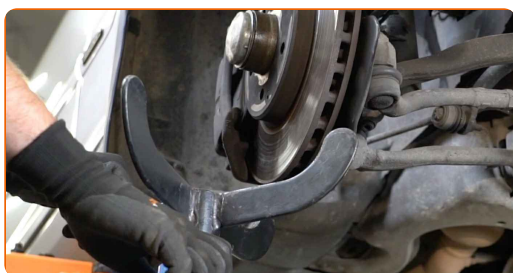
20 Remove the fastening bolts.



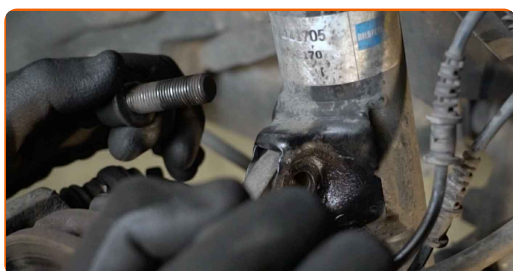
21 Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut. Use a crowbar.



22 Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.

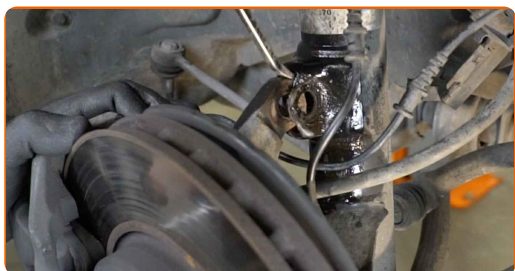


23 Remove the fastening bolt.



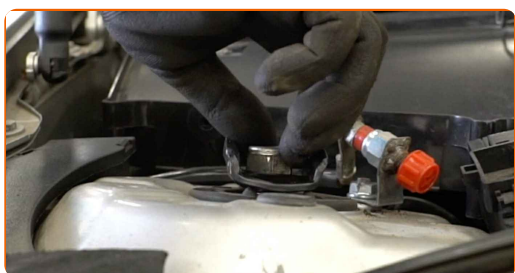
24

Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut. Use a crowbar.



25

Unscrew the top fastening of the shock strut mount.

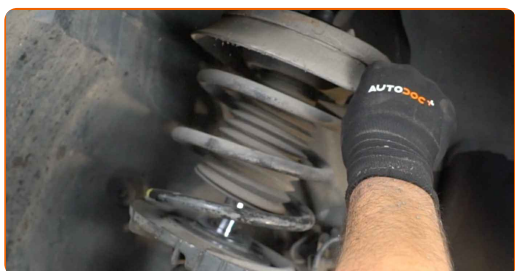


AUTODOC recommends:

- MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) – To avoid injury, hold the suspension strut while unscrewing the fastening bolts.

26

Remove the suspension strut.



27

Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.

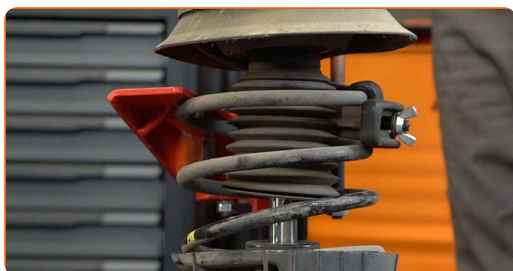


Replacement: suspension strut – MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- 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.

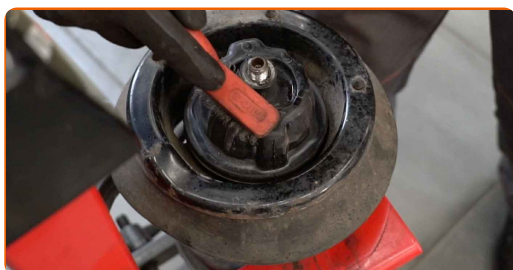
28

Compress the spring.



29

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

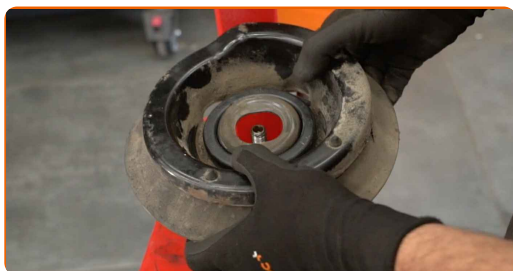


30

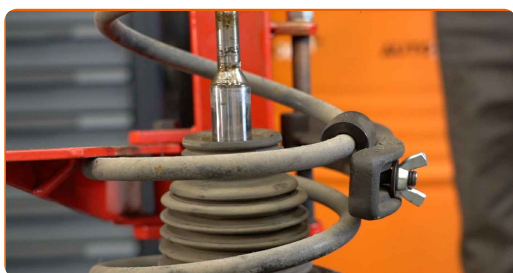
Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a 14X2.5-mm strut nut socket. Use a drive socket #21. Use HEX No.H7. Use a ratchet wrench.



31 Remove the top strut mount.



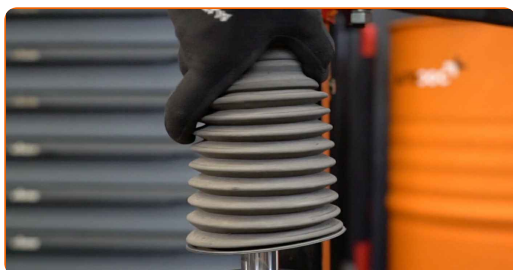
32 Release the coil spring.



33 Remove the spring.



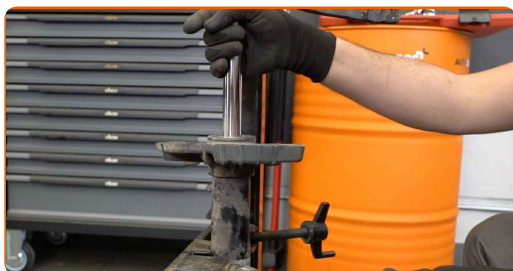
34 Remove the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209). Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

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



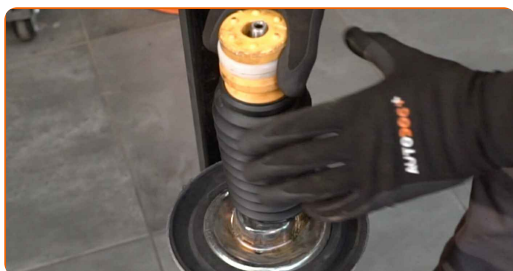
Replacement: suspension strut – MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209). Tip from AUTODOC:

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

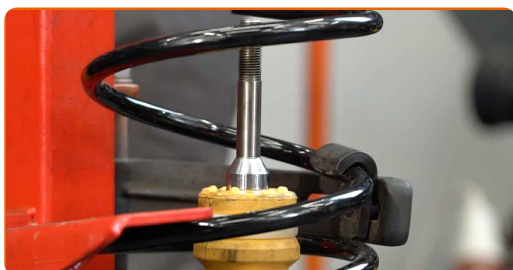
36 Install the new shock absorber on the hydraulic coil spring compressor.



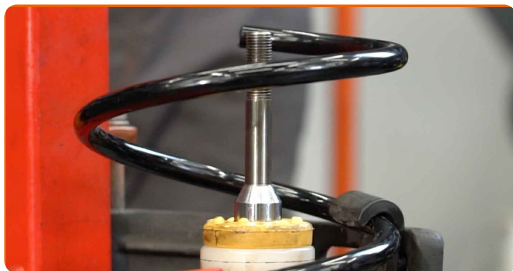
37 Install the dust sleeve and the bump stop on the new shock absorber.



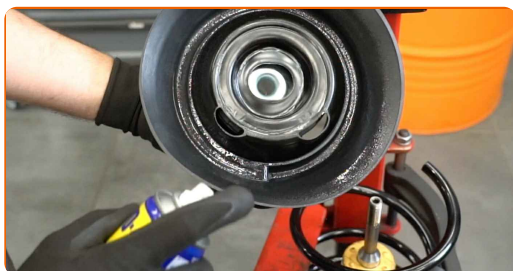
38 Install the spring on the shock absorber.



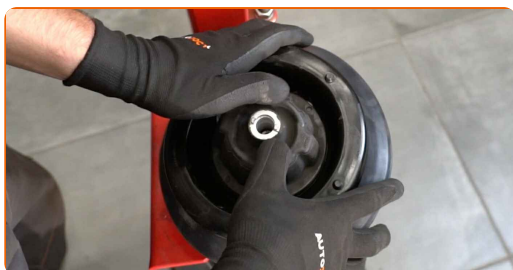
39 Compress the spring.



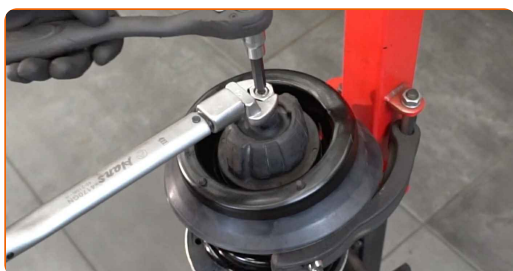
40 Treat the upper shock strut mount. Use WD-40 spray.



41 Install the upper strut mount and the strut mount bearing.



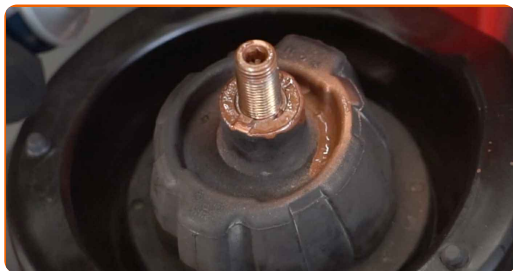
42 Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a 14X2.5-mm strut nut socket. Use a drive socket #21. Use HEX No.H6. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 20 Nm torque.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209). Be sure to position the filtering element correctly. Avoid misalignment.

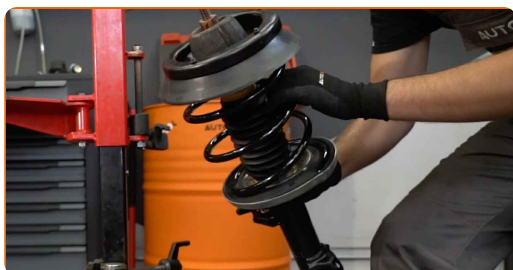
43 Treat the shock strut rod. Use copper grease.



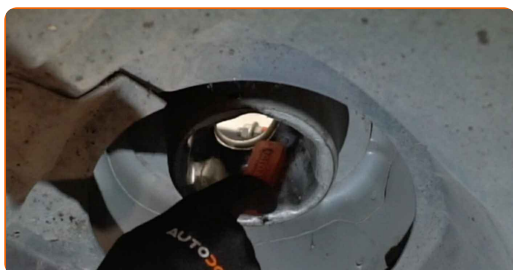
44 Decompress the spring.



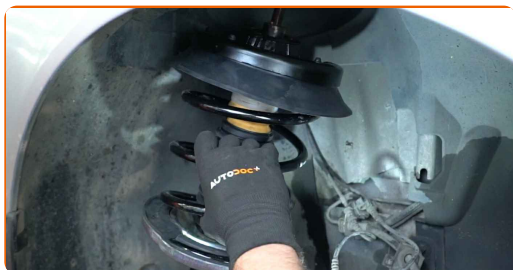
45 Remove the assembled shock strut.



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

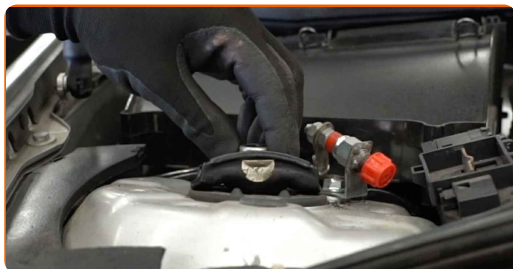


47 Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.



48

Screw the top fastening of the shock strut mount. Do not tighten it.

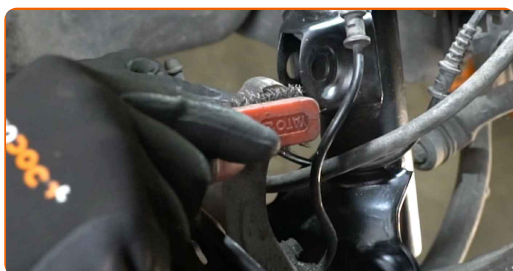


AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the suspension strut while screwing in the fastening bolts.
MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209)

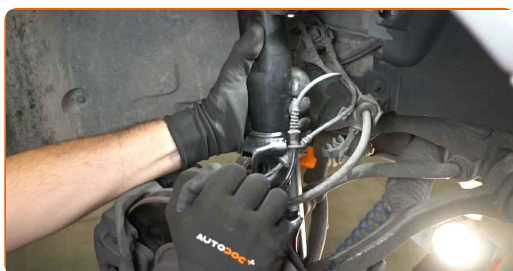
49

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



50

Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle. Use a crowbar.

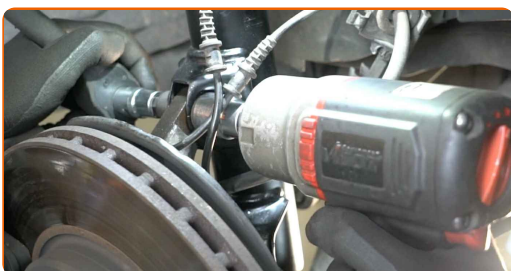


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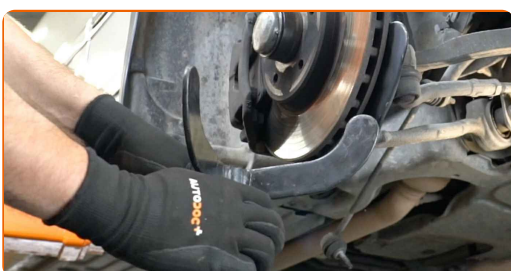
Install the fastening bolt.



- 52** Screw in the upper fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #21. Use HEX No.H12. Use a ratchet wrench.



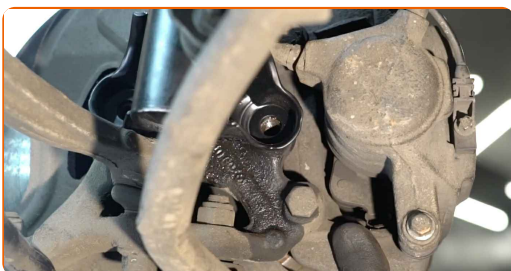
- 53** Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



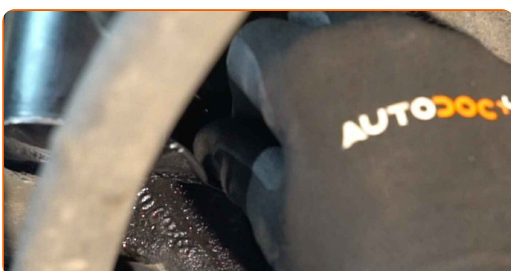
AUTODOC recommends:

- MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209) – Do not lower the transmission jack sharply to avoid damaging components and mechanisms of the car.

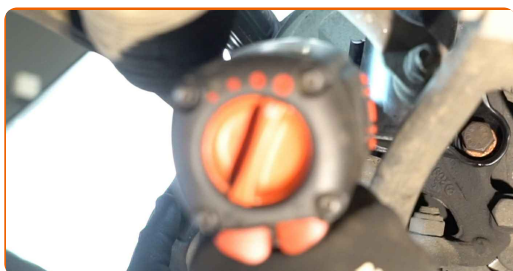
- 54** Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle. Use a crowbar.



- 55** Install the fastening bolts.



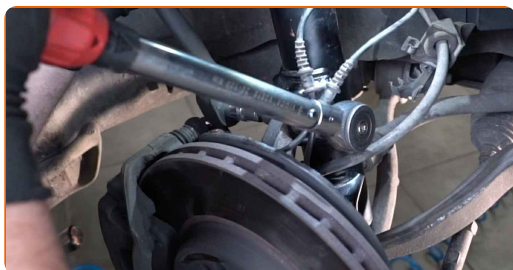
- 56** Screw in the fasteners connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #19. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 57** Tighten the lower fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 110 Nm torque.



- 58** Tighten the upper fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #21. Use HEX No.H12. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 100 Nm torque.+90°

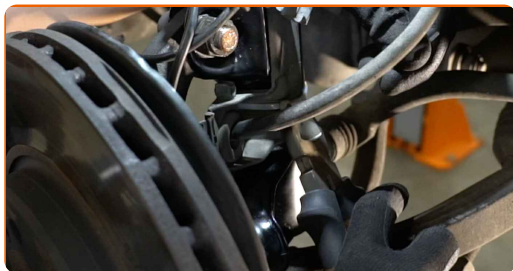


AUTODOC recommends:

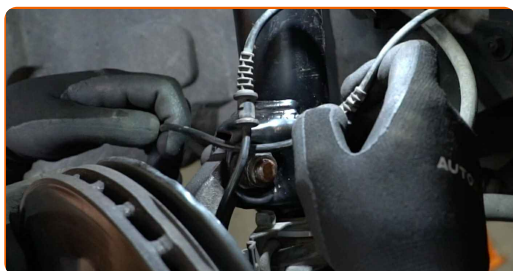
- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

59

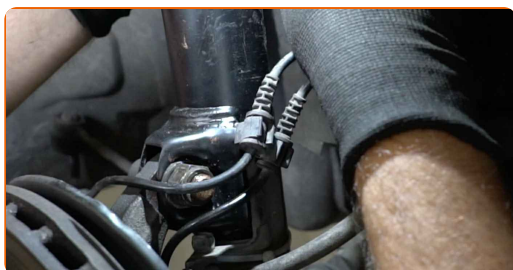
Secure the brake hose bracket. Use nippers.

**60**

Connect the ABS sensor wiring.

**61**

Connect the brake pad wear sensor wire.

**62**

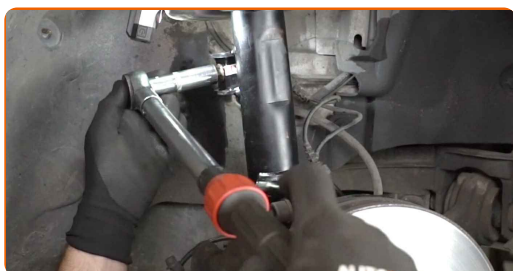
Clean the mounting seats of the stabiliser link. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

63

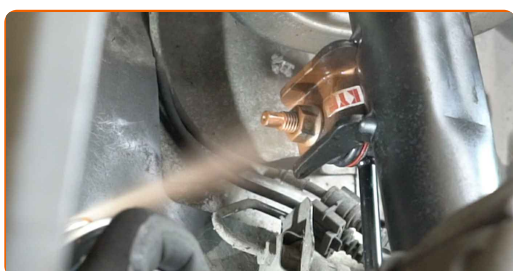
Install the transverse stabilizer link.



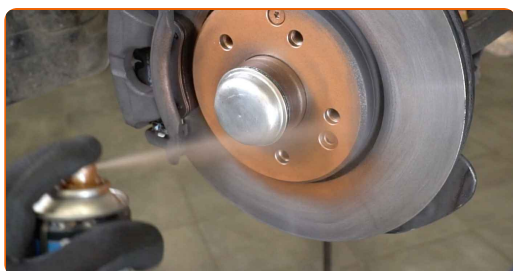
- 64** Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.



- 65** Treat all joints of the stabiliser link. Treat the shock strut fasteners. Use copper grease.



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



- 67** Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

68

Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. MERCEDES-BENZ CLK (C209)

69

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



70

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.



71 Remove the jacks and chocks.



72 Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a combination spanner #21. Use HEX No.H6. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.



73 Treat the fasteners of the shock strut mount. Use copper grease.



74 Remove the fender protection cover.

75 Close the hood.

WELL DONE! 

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