



How to change front  
brake pad wear sensor on  
**MERCEDES-BENZ S-  
Class Saloon (W221)** –  
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 S-Class Saloon (W221) S 400 Hybrid (221.095, 221.195),  
 MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 250 CDI (221.003, 221.103), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 350 BlueTec (221.026, 221.126), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 350 BlueTEC 4-matic (221.083, 221.183), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 350 CGI (221.057, 221.157), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 350 CGI 4-matic (221.082, 221.182), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 500 CGI (221.073, 221.173), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 500 CGI 4-matic (221.094, 221.194), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 65 AMG (221.179), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 350 CDI, MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 350 (221.056, 221.156), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 500 (221.071, 221.171), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 320 CDI (221.022, 221.122), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 450 (221.070, 221.170), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 450 4-matic (221.084, 221.184), (+ 12)

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 (W204) C 220 CDI (204.008)

**REPLACEMENT: BRAKE PAD WEAR SENSOR –  
MERCEDES-BENZ S-CLASS SALOON (W221). TOOLS  
YOU MIGHT NEED:**



- Wire brush
- Nylon cleaning brush
- WD-40 spray
- Electronic spray
- Brake cleaner
- Anti-squeal paste
- Ceramic grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #17
- Drive socket # 13
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Long nose pliers
- Brake caliper wind back tool
- Crow bar
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

Replacement: brake pad wear sensor – MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221). Tip from AUTODOC:

- The replacement procedure is identical for both brake pad wear sensors on the same axle.
- The wear sensors should be replaced together with the brake pads.
- Please note: all work on the car – MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) – should be done with the engine switched off.

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

**1** Open the bonnet. Unscrew the brake fluid reservoir cap.

**2** Secure the wheels with chocks.

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



**4** Raise the car.

Replacement: brake pad wear sensor – MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221). AUTODOC recommends:

- If you are using a jack, make sure it rests on a flat surface without any unevenness.
- Be sure to additionally secure the car with jack stands.

5

Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts. MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221)

6

Remove the wheel.



**7** Detach the connector of the brake pad wear sensor. Use long nose pliers.

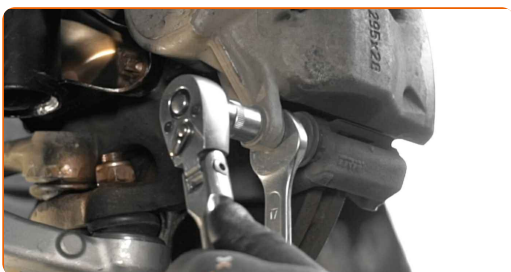


**8** Spread the brake pads. Use a crowbar.



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

**10** Unscrew the brake caliper fasteners. Use a combination spanner #17. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



**11** Remove the fastening bolts.



**12**

Remove the brake caliper.

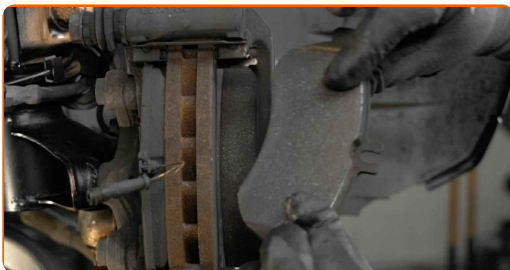


**Replacement: brake pad wear sensor – MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221). Tip:**

- 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.

**13**

Remove the brake pads.





14

Clean the brake caliper bracket from dirt and dust. Use a wire brush. Use a brake cleaner.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.
- Check the brake caliper bracket, brake caliper guide pins and boots. Clean them. Replace, if necessary.

15

Treat the brake caliper piston. Use a nylon cleaning brush. Use a brake cleaner.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: brake pad wear sensor – MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

**16** Press in the brake caliper piston. Use brake caliper wind back tool.



**17** Attach the new wear sensor to the new pad.



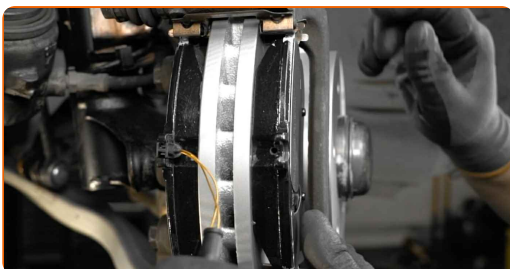
**18** Treat the brake pads in the area where their surface comes into contact with the brake caliper bracket. Use anti-squeal paste.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Make sure the disc surface is clean before installing the pads.

**19** Install the brake pads.



**20** Install the brake caliper and fix it.



**21** Install the fastening bolts.



**22** Tighten the brake caliper fasteners. Use a combination spanner #17. Use a drive socket #13. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 34 Nm torque.



**23** Treat the brake pad wear sensor plug. Use dielectric grease.



**24** Attach the connector of the brake pad wear sensor.



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



**26** Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use ceramic grease.



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



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

**28** Install the wheel.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221)

**29**

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



**30**

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 130 Nm torque.



**31**

Remove the jacks and chocks.



Replacement: brake pad wear sensor – MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Without starting the engine, press the brake pedal several times until you feel significant resistance.
- Check the brake fluid level in the expansion tank and refill if necessary.

32

Tighten the brake fluid reservoir cap. Close the hood.

**WELL DONE!** 

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