



How to change front  
brake pads 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

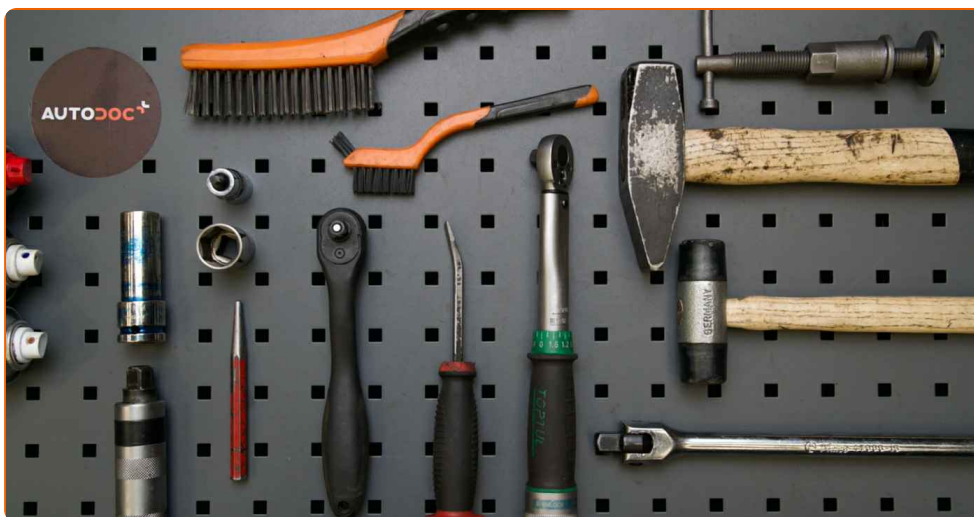
#### **Important!**

This replacement procedure can be used for:  
 MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 600 (221.176), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 420 CDI (221.028, 221.128), MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221) S 450 CDI (221.028, 221.128)

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 M-Class (W163) ML 270 CDI (163.113)

REPLACEMENT: BRAKE PADS – MERCEDES-BENZ S-CLASS SALOON (W221). LIST OF THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:



- Wire brush
- Nylon cleaning brush
- Brake cleaner
- Anti-squeal paste
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Pin punch
- Hammer
- Rubber mallet
- Brake caliper wind back tool
- Crow bar
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

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

- Perform the replacement of brake pads in complete set for each axis. This provides effective braking.
- The replacement procedure is identical for all brake pads on the same axle.
- 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.

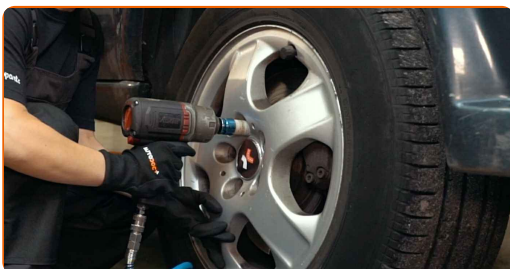
**2** Secure the wheels with chocks.

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



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

**5** Unscrew the wheel bolts.

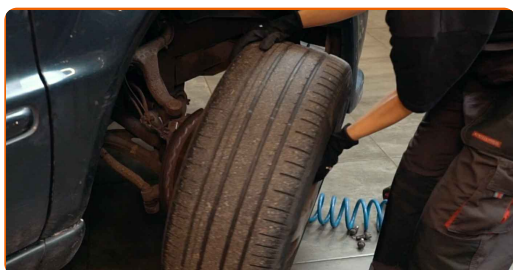


**AUTODOC recommends:**

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

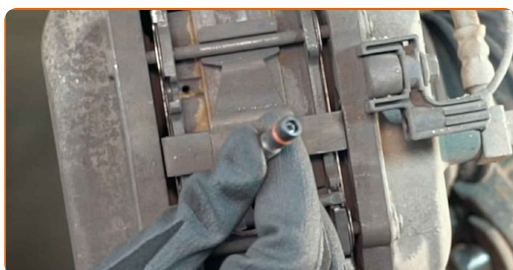
**6**

Remove the wheel.



**7**

Detach the connector of the brake pad wear sensor.



**Please note!**

- Some cars are not equipped with the brake pad wear sensor.

**8**

Clean the brake caliper surface. Use a wire brush. Use a brake cleaner.

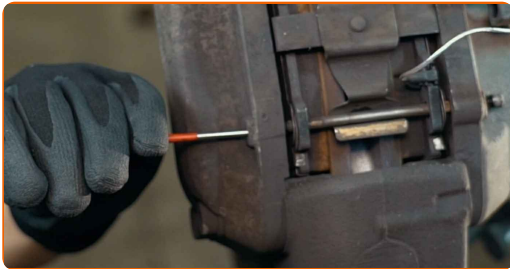


**AUTODOC recommends:**

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

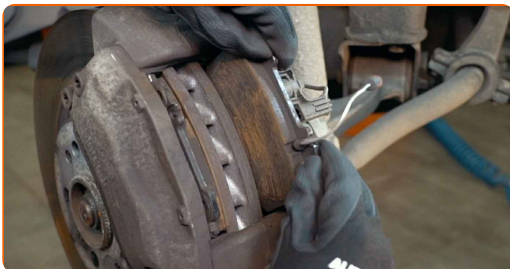
**9**

Remove the brake pads retaining clips. Use a pin punch. Use a hammer. Use a crowbar.



**10**

Remove the brake pads. Use a crowbar.



**Replacement: brake pads – MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221). Tip from AUTODOC:**

- Measure the brake disc thickness. Upon reaching the wear limit the part must be replaced.

**11**

Clean the brake caliper surface. Use a wire brush. Use a brake cleaner.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

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

**12**

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



**AUTODOC recommends:**

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

**13**

Press in the brake caliper piston. Use brake caliper wind back tool. Use a crowbar.



**14**

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

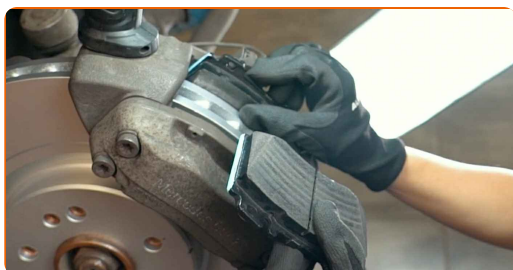


Replacement: brake pads – MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221).  
AUTODOC experts recommend:

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

15

Install the brake pads.



Replacement: brake pads – MERCEDES-BENZ S-Class Saloon (W221). Tip:

- Make sure the pads are installed with linings facing the disc.

16

Install the brake pads retaining clips. Use a rubber mallet.



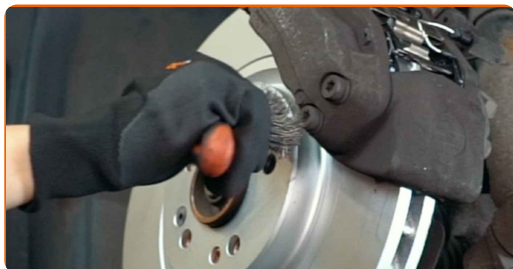
17

Attach the connector of the brake pad wear sensor.

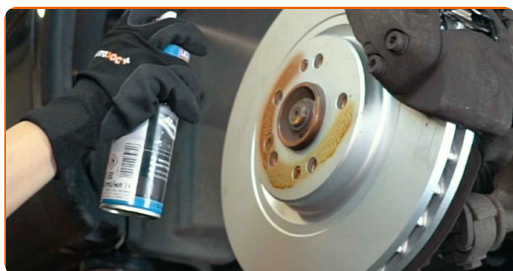




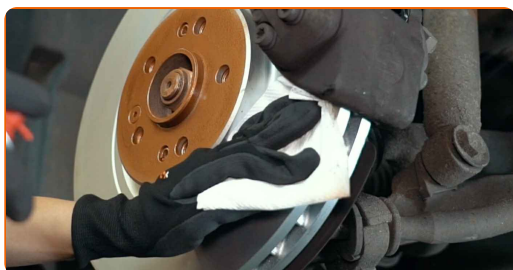
**18** Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush.



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



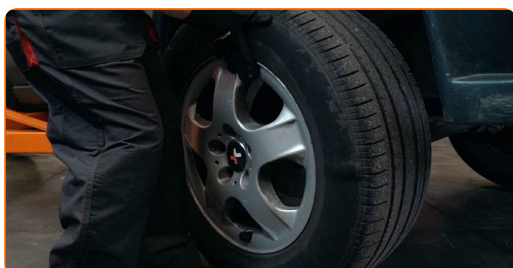
**20** Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

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

**21** Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

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

22

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



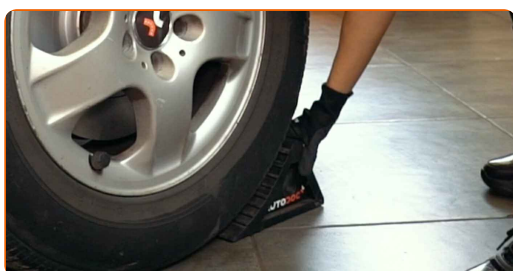
23

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 150 Nm torque.



24

Remove the jacks and chocks.



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

- 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.

25

Tighten the brake fluid reservoir cap. Close the hood.



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

- Slow down smoothly for first 150-200 km after the brake pads replacement. Avoid unnecessary and sharp braking to a stop.

**WELL DONE!** 

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