



How to change front
lower arm on
MERCEDES-BENZ SL
(R129) – replacement
guide

SIMILAR VIDEO TUTORIAL



This video shows the replacement procedure of a similar car part on another vehicle

Important!

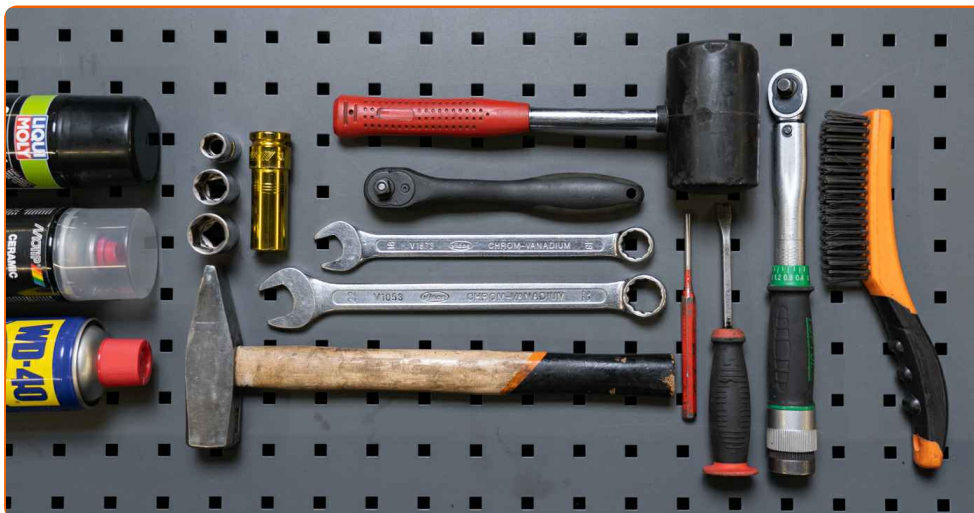
This replacement procedure can be used for:

MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 280 2.8 (129.058), MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 300 SL 3.0 (129.060), MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 300 SL-24 3.0 (129.061), MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 320 3.2 (129.063), MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 500 5.0 (129.067), MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 500 SL 5.0 (129.066), MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 280 2.8 (129.059), MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 320 3.2 (129.064), MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 500 5.0 (129.068)

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 E-Class Saloon (W124) E 250 D (124.126, 124.129)

REPLACEMENT: FRONT LOWER ARM – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). LIST OF THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- All-purpose cleaning spray
- Ceramic grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #18
- Combination spanner #22
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 19
- Drive socket # 22
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Tap wrench
- Hammer
- Pin punch
- Crow bar
- Rubber mallet
- Strut spring compressor
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

Buy tools

Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right lower control arms.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: FRONT LOWER ARM – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF STEPS:

1 Secure the wheels with chocks.

2 Loosen the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a tap wrench.



3 Raise the car.

Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). 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.

4

Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

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

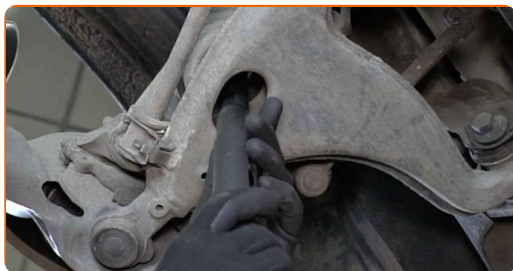
5

Remove the wheel.



6

Install the coil spring compressor on the coil spring.

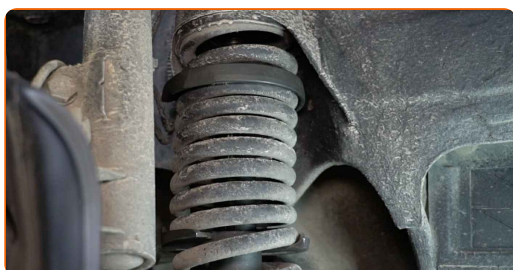


Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). Professionals recommend:

- Use adapters and jaws of the appropriate size.
- The spring coils should be securely fixed with the coil spring compressor.
- Use high quality coil spring compressors.

7

Compress the spring.

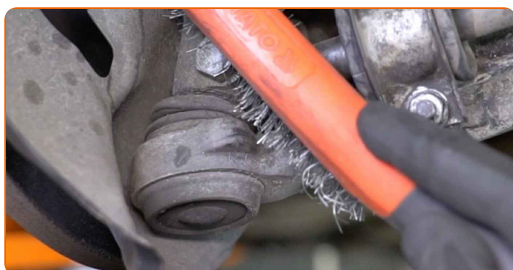


AUTODOC recommends:

- Be careful. The compressed spring is powerful and can cause injury if it comes loose.

8

Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



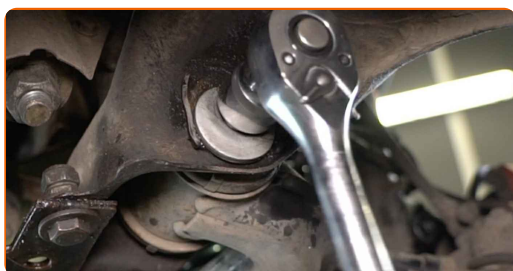
9

Make marks on the camber bolts.



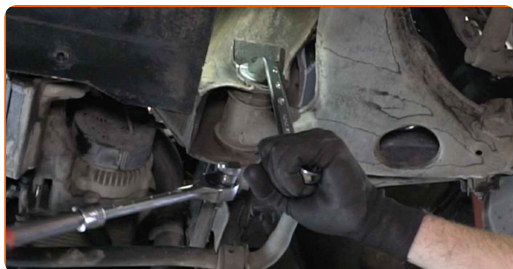
10

Unscrew the rear fastener of the control arm. Use a combination spanner #22. Use a drive socket #22. Use a ratchet wrench.



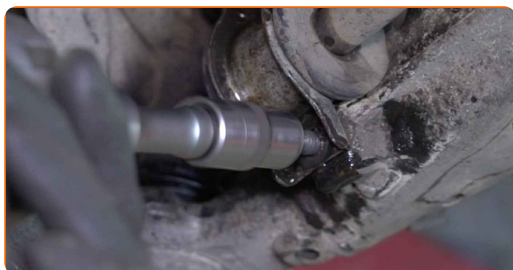
11

Unscrew the front fastener of the control arm. Use a combination spanner #22. Use a drive socket #22. Use a ratchet wrench.



12

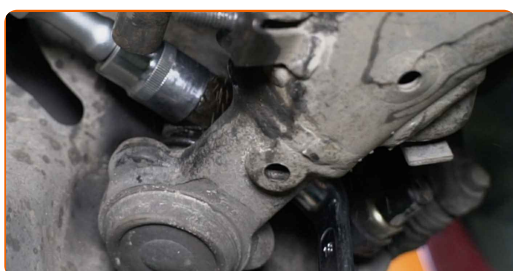
Unscrew the fasteners connecting the anti-roll bar bracket to the control arm. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



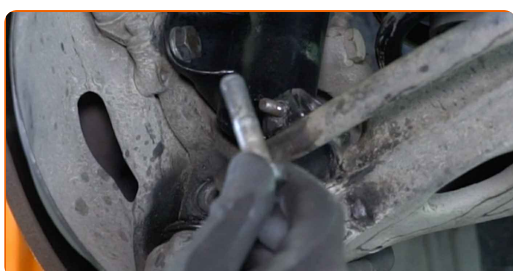
13 Detach the anti-roll bar from the control arm.



14 Unscrew the fastener connecting the ball joint to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #19. Use a ratchet wrench.



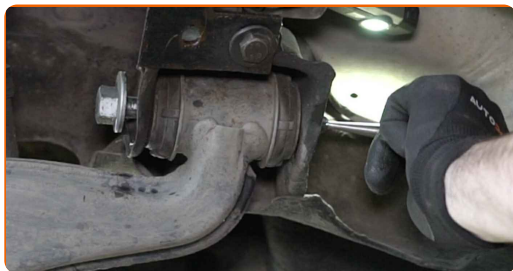
15 Remove the fastening bolt.



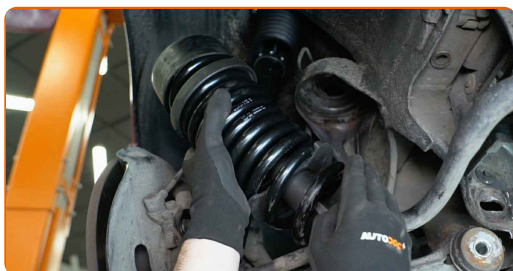
16 Disconnect the ball joint from the steering knuckle.



17 Remove the fastening bolts. Use a pin punch. Use a hammer.



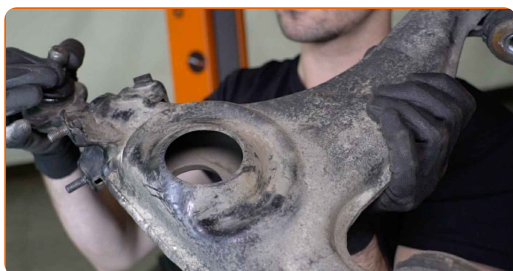
18 Remove the coil spring together with the coil spring compressor.



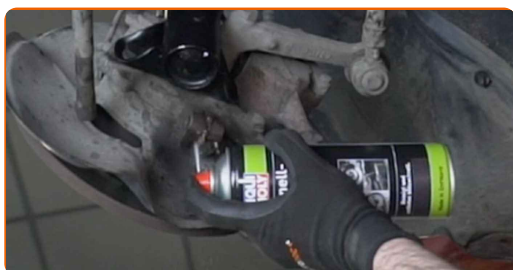
Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- While the spring is compressed, do not do any operations on it.

19 Remove the control arm. Use a crowbar.



20 Clean the suspension arm mounting seats. Use a wire brush. Use all-purpose cleaning spray.



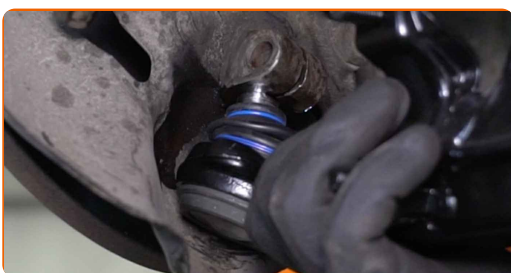
21 Install the new control arm.



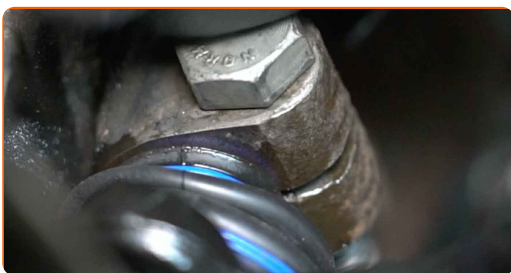
AUTODOC recommends:

- During the installation process, use only new bolts and nuts.

22 Connect the ball joint to the steering knuckle.



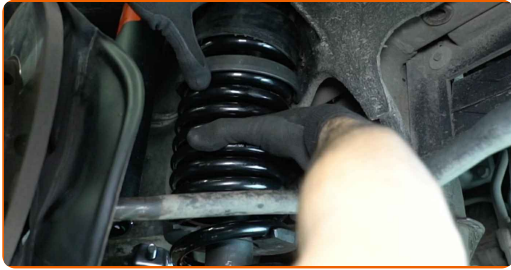
23 Install the fastening bolt.



24 Support the control arm. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



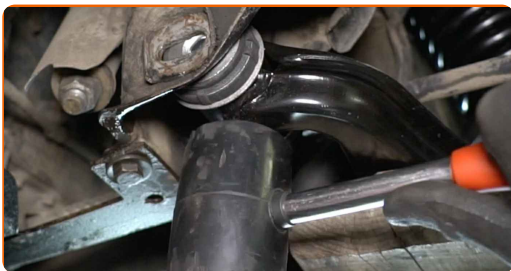
25 Install the spring together with the compressor.



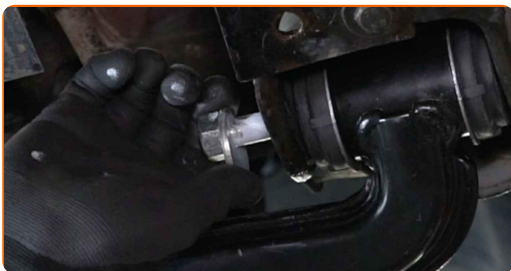
Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). Tip:

- Make sure that the coil spring is correctly positioned in its mounting seats.

26 Position the control arm according to its mounting holes. Use a rubber mallet.



27 Install the fastening bolts. Use a rubber mallet.

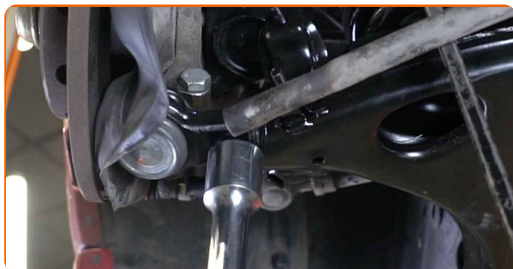


28 Remove the support from under the control arm.

29 Adjust the position of the camber bolts according to the marks.

30

Support the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.

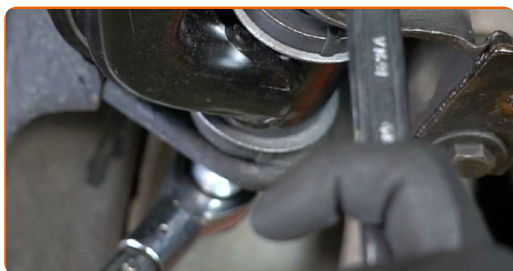


AUTODOC recommends:

- For tightening the fasteners correctly, you have to jack up the suspension components to their working position.

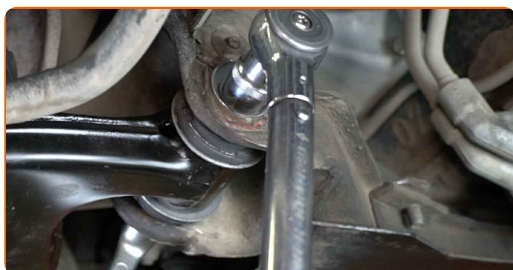
31

Tighten the rear fastener of the control arm. Use a combination spanner #22. Use a drive socket #22. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 Nm torque.

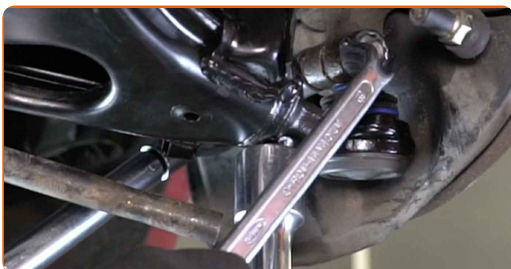


32

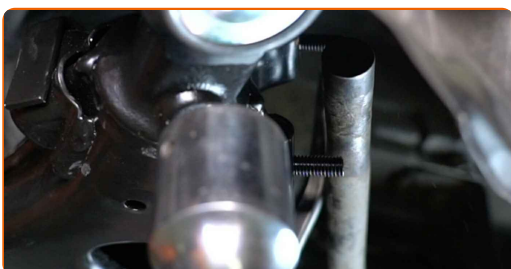
Tighten the front fastener of the arm. Use a combination spanner #22. Use a drive socket #22. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 Nm torque.



- 33** Tighten the ball joint fastener. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 75 Nm torque.



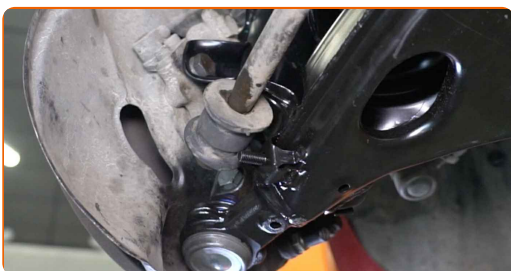
- 34** Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



AUTODOC recommends:

- MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) – Do not lower the transmission jack sharply to avoid damaging components and mechanisms of the car.

- 35** Connect the anti-roll bar to the control arm. Use a crowbar.



- 36** Tighten the fasteners connecting the anti-roll bar bracket to the control arm. Use a drive socket #13. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 20 Nm torque.



- 37** Decompress the spring.



- 38** Remove the coil spring compressor.



- 39** Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush. Use all-purpose cleaning spray.



40

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



41

Install the wheel.



Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when screwing in the fastening bolts.

42

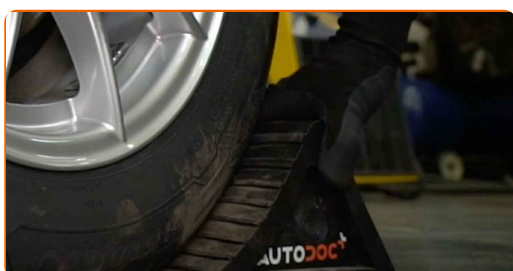
Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 43** 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.



- 44** Remove the jacks and chocks.



WELL DONE! 

VIEW MORE TUTORIALS

AUTODOC – TOP QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE CAR PARTS ONLINE

AUTODOC MOBILE APP: GREAT DEALS AND CONVENIENT SHOPPING



+ AUTODOC

GET IT ON
Google Play

Download on the
App Store

Download

A GREAT SELECTION OF SPARE PARTS FOR YOUR CAR

CONTROL ARM: A WIDE SELECTION

DISCLAIMER:

The document contains only general recommendations that may be useful for you when you perform repair or replacement work. AUTODOC shall not be liable for any loss, injury, damage of property occurring in the repair or replacement process due to incorrect use or misinterpretation of the provided information.

AUTODOC shall not be liable for any possible mistakes and uncertainties in this guide. The information provided is for information purposes only and cannot replace advice from specialists.

AUTODOC shall not be liable for incorrect or hazardous usage of equipment, tools and car parts. AUTODOC strongly recommends to be careful and observe the safety rules when performing repair or replacement works. Remember: usage of low quality auto parts does not guarantee you the appropriate level of road safety.

© Copyright 2023 – All the contents of this website, in particular texts, photographs and graphics, are protected by copyright. All rights, including reproduction, publication, editing and translation rights, are reserved by AUTODOC SE.