



How to change front  
wheel bearing 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) 600 6.0 (129.076), MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 60 AMG 6.0 (129.067), 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), MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 55 AMG 5.4, MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) 600 SL 6.0

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: WHEEL BEARING – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). LIST OF THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:**



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- All-purpose cleaning spray
- Copper grease
- Multipurpose grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #32
- HEX bit No.H5
- Drive socket # 12
- Drive socket # E12
- Drive socket # 18
- Torx bit T30
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Tap wrench
- Impact screwdriver
- Crow bar
- Round-nose pliers
- Bush and bearing driver set
- Hammer
- Rubber mallet
- Vice
- 3-Arm Gear Puller
- Telescoping magnet
- Wheel chock

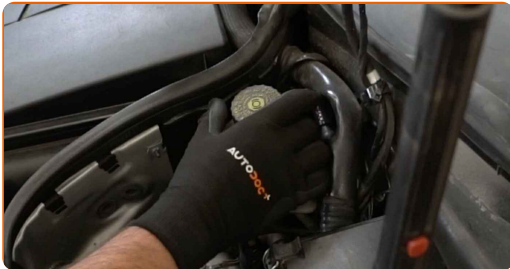
**Buy tools**

Replacement: wheel bearing – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Do not re-use the bearing assembly of your MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129) car.
- The wheel hub bearing replacement procedure is identical for both wheels on the same axle.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

## REPLACEMENT: WHEEL BEARING – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

**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 SL (R129)

**6** Remove the wheel.



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



**8**

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

**9**

Unscrew the brake caliper fastening. Use a drive socket #12. Use a ratchet wrench.

**10**

Spread the brake pads. Use a crowbar.

**11**

Remove the brake caliper.



Replacement: wheel bearing – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). Professionals recommend:

- 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.
- Check the brake caliper bracket, brake caliper guide pins and boots. Clean them. Replace, if necessary.

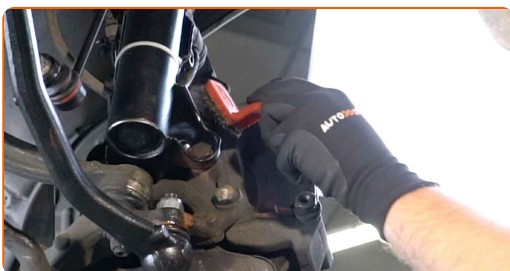
12

Remove the brake pads.



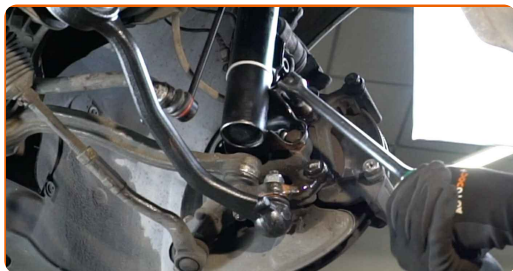
13

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



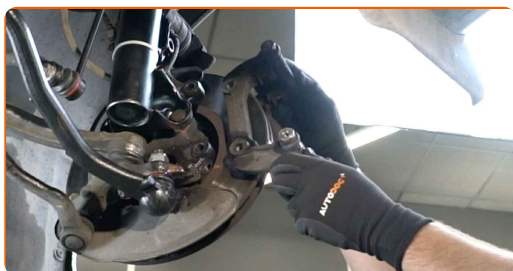
14

Unscrew the caliper bracket fastening. Use a drive socket #18. Use a tap wrench. Use a ratchet wrench.



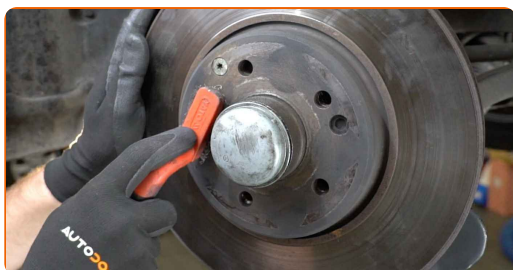
15

Remove the caliper bracket.



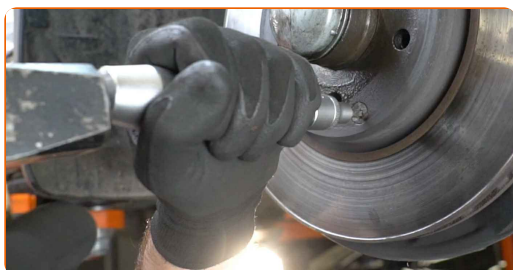
16

Clean the brake disc fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



17

Unscrew the brake disc fastening. Use Torx T30. Use an impact screwdriver.





**18** Remove the brake disc.



**19** Remove the wheel hub nut cap. Use a crowbar. Use a hammer.



Replacement: wheel bearing – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). Tip from AUTODOC:

- In some cars, the wheel hub nut is not protected with a cap.

**20** Loosen the wheel hub fastening nut screw. Use HEX No.H5. Use a ratchet wrench.

**21** Make a mark on the hub nut.

**22** Unscrew the hub nut.

**23** Remove the fastening nut.

24 Remove the wheel hub bearing. Use a telescoping magnet.



25 Remove the wheel hub together with the bearing.



26 Grip the wheel hub together with the bearing in a vice.



27 Remove the old O-ring. Use a crowbar.



28 Remove the wheel hub bearing.



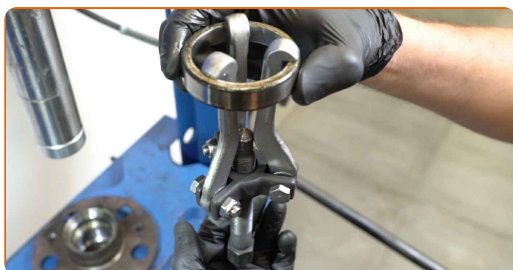
**29** Loosen the vice and remove the hub.



**30** Pull the bearing inner race out of the wheel hub. Use a bush and bearing driver set.



**31** Pull the bearing inner race out of the wheel hub. Use 3-Arm Gear Puller. Use a bush and bearing driver set.



**32** Clean the hub. Use a wire brush. Use all-purpose cleaning spray.



**33** Treat the mounting seat of the bearing assembly. Use a multipurpose grease.



**34** Install the inner race of the wheel bearing into the hub. Use a bush and bearing driver set.



**35** Treat the mounting seat of the bearing assembly. Use a multipurpose grease.



**36** Install the inner race of the wheel bearing into the hub. Use a bush and bearing driver set.



**37** Place the hub in the vice.



**38** Treat the mounting seat of the bearing assembly. Use a multipurpose grease.



**39** Install a new wheel hub bearing.



**40** Release the vice and take out the wheel hub together with the bearing.



**41** Install the new O-ring. Use a bush and bearing driver set.

**42** Clean the fasteners of the brake disc cover. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



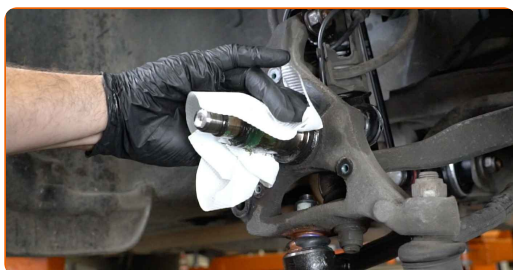
**43** Unscrew the fasteners of the brake disc cover. Use a drive socket #E12. Use a ratchet wrench.



**44** Remove the brake disc cover.



**45** Clean the wheel hub mounting seat. Use all-purpose cleaning spray.



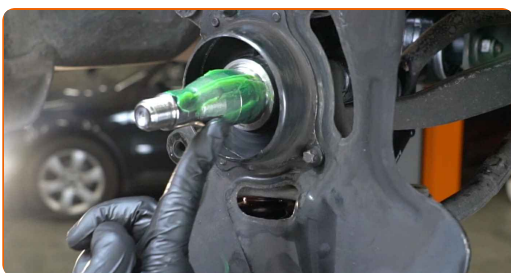
**46** Install the brake disc cover.



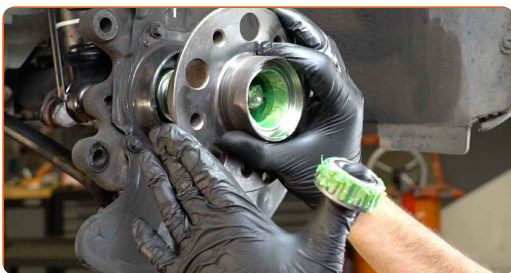
**47** Screw in the fasteners of the brake disc cover. Use a drive socket #E12. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 11 Nm torque.



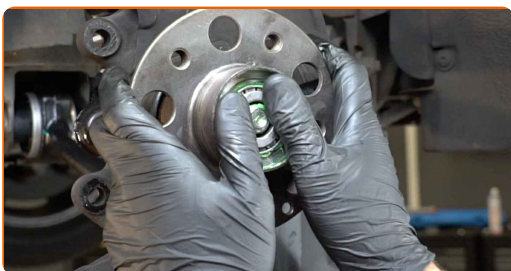
**48** Treat the mounting seat of the bearing assembly. Use a multipurpose grease.



**49** Install the new wheel hub together with the bearing.



**50** Install a new wheel hub bearing.



**51** Install the fastening nut.



Replacement: wheel bearing – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). Tip:

- Insert the hub nut according to the mark.

**52** Screw on the hub nut.

**53** Install the cap of the hub nut.



**54** Clean the hub. Use a wire brush. Treat the contacting surface. Use copper grease.





**55** Install the brake disc.



**56** Tighten the brake disc fastening. Use Torx T30. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 9 Nm torque.



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



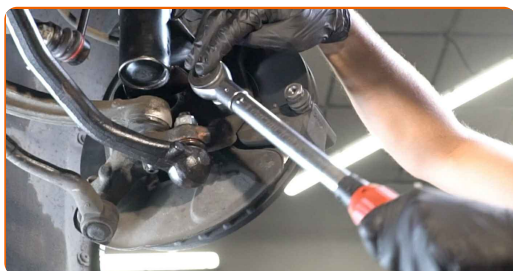
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: wheel bearing – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

**58** Install the brake caliper bracket.



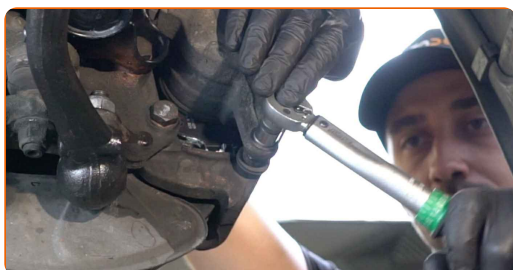
**59** Tighten the brake caliper bracket. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 115 Nm torque.



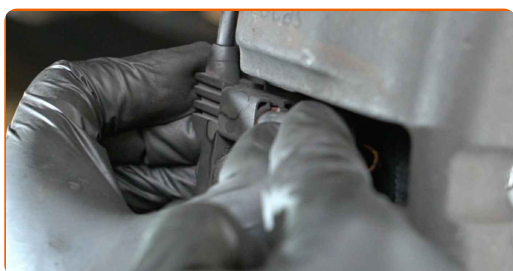
**60** Install the brake pads.



**61** Install the brake caliper and fix it. Use a drive socket #12. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 25 Nm torque.



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



**63** Remove the wheel hub nut cap.



**64** Install the wheel.



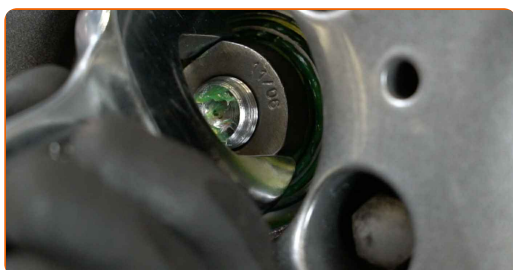
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129)

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



**66** Adjust the wheel bearing. Use a combination spanner #32.



Replacement: wheel bearing – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Do not apply excessive force when tightening the wheel hub nut. This can damage the tapered roller bearings.

67

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



68

Unscrew the wheel bolts.

AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts. MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129)

69

Remove the wheel.



70

Screw in the wheel hub fastening nut screw. Use HEX No.H5. Use a ratchet wrench.



71

Treat the wheel hub bearing. Use a multipurpose grease.



72

Install the cap of the hub nut. Use a rubber mallet. Use a crowbar.



73

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



74

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: wheel bearing – MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

75

Install the wheel.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. MERCEDES-BENZ SL (R129)

76

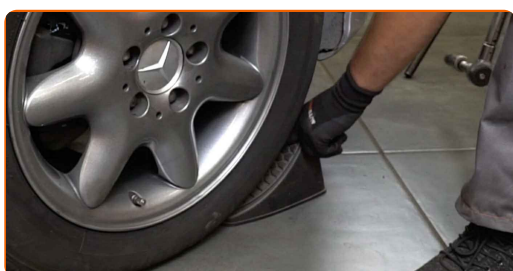
Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



**77** 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.



**78** Remove the jacks and chocks.



**79** Tighten the brake fluid reservoir cap. Close the hood.



**WELL DONE!** 

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