



How to change front  
lower arm on  
**MERCEDES-BENZ SLK**  
**(R171)** – 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 SLK (R171) 200 1.8 Kompressor (171.442), MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171) 350 3.5 (171.456), MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171) 55 AMG 5.4 (171.473), MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171) 280 3.0 (171.454), MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171) 350 3.5 (171.458), MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171) 200 1.8 Kompressor (171.445), MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171) 300 3.0 (171.454), MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171) 55 AMG (171.473)

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 (W204) C 220 CDI (204.008)

**REPLACEMENT: FRONT LOWER ARM – MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171). LIST OF THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:**



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Ceramic grease
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #21
- Combination spanner #22
- Torx bit E20
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Ball joint puller
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right lower control arms.
- Please note: all work on the car – MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171) – should be done with the engine switched off.

## CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

**1** Secure the wheels with chocks.

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



**3** Raise the car.

Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171). 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:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.  
MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171)

5

Remove the wheel.

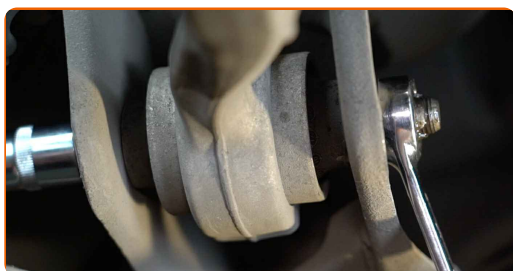


6

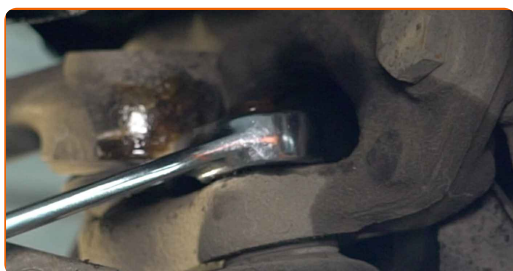
Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



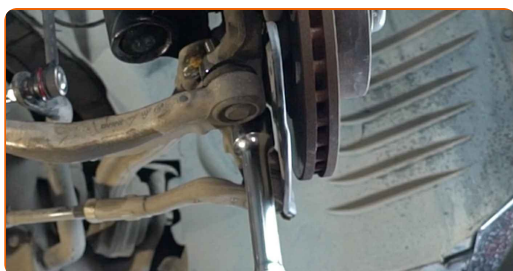
- 7 Unscrew the fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a combination spanner #21. Use Torx E20. Use a ratchet wrench.



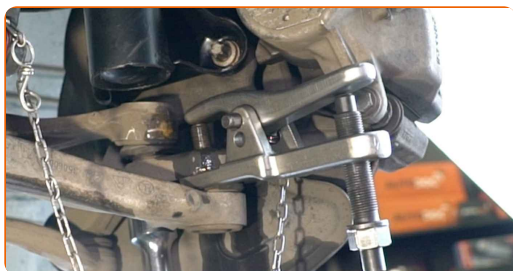
- 8 Unscrew the ball joint fastening to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #21.



- 9 Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



- 10 Disconnect the ball joint from the steering knuckle. Use a ball joint puller.



**11**

Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.

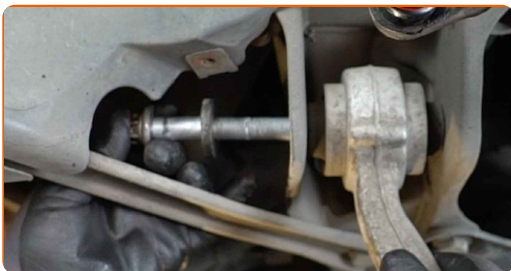


**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

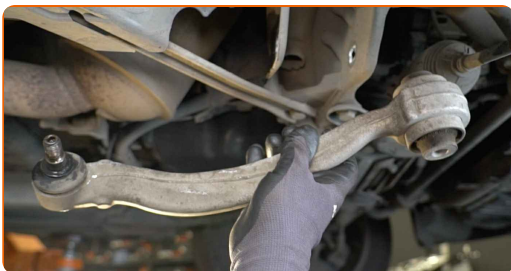
**12**

Remove the fastening bolt.



**13**

Remove the arm.





14

Clean the suspension arm mounting seats. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



15

Install a new arm.



Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171). Tip from AUTODOC:

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

16

Install the fastening bolt.



17

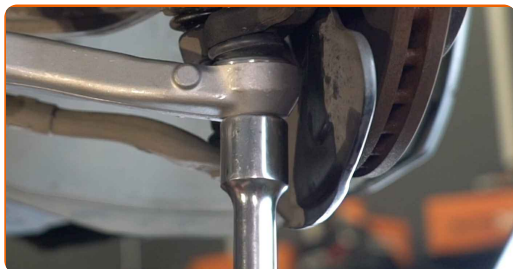
Connect the ball joint to the steering knuckle.





18

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

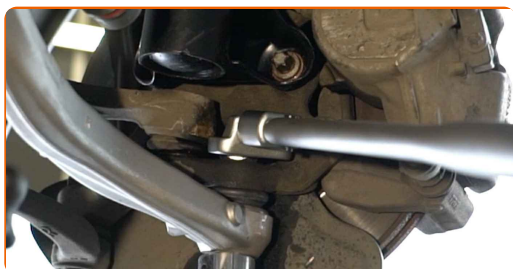


**AUTODOC recommends:**

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

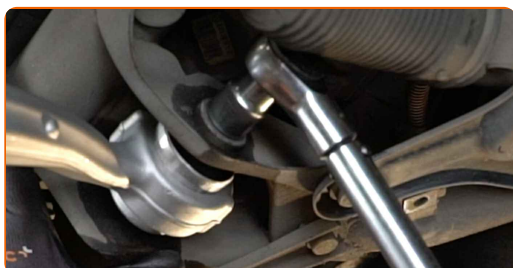
19

Tighten the fastener connecting the ball joint to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #22. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 50 Nm torque.+60°

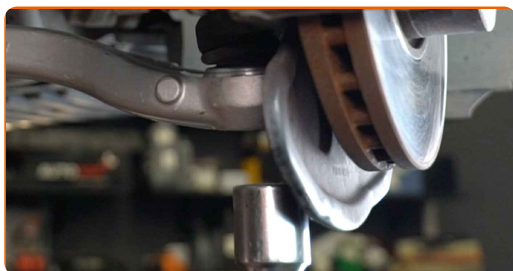


20

Tighten the fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a combination spanner #21. Use Torx E20. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 80 Nm torque.+120°



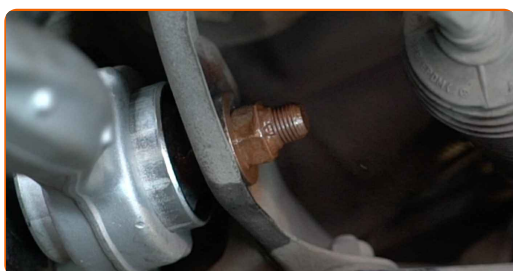
**21** Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



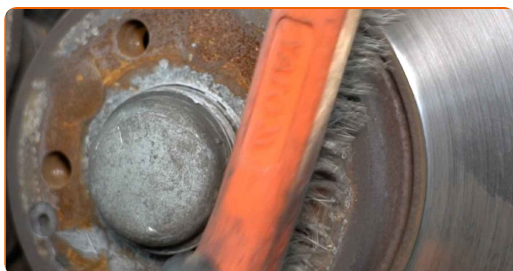
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: front lower arm – MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

**22** Treat all joints of the arm. Use copper grease.



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



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



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



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

**26** Install the wheel.

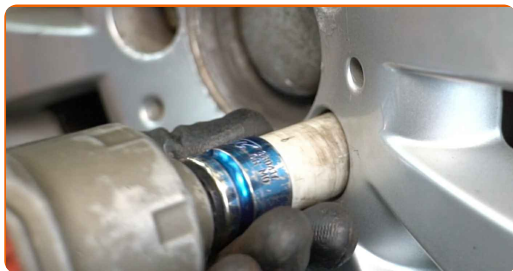


**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. MERCEDES-BENZ SLK (R171)

27

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



28

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.



29

Remove the jacks and chocks.



**WELL DONE!** 

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