



How to change front  
suspension strut on **Opel**  
**Meriva X03** –  
replacement guide

## VIDEO TUTORIAL



### Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:

OPEL Meriva A (X03) 1.4 16V Twinport LPG (E75), OPEL Corsa C Hatchback (X01) 1.0 (F08, F68), OPEL Corsa C Hatchback (X01) 1.2 (F08, F68), OPEL Corsa C Hatchback (X01) 1.8 (F08, F68), OPEL Corsa C Hatchback (X01) 1.7 DTI (F08, F68), OPEL Corsa C Hatchback (X01) 1.7 DI (F08, F68), OPEL Corsa C Hatchback (X01) 1.4 (F08, F68), OPEL COMBO Box Body / Estate 1.7 DI 16V, OPEL Corsa C Van (X01) 1.2 16V (F08, W5L), OPEL Corsa C Van (X01) 1.7 DI 16V (F08, W5L), OPEL Corsa C Van (X01) 1.7 DTI 16V (F08, W5L), OPEL COMBO Box Body / Estate 1.6, OPEL COMBO Box Body / Estate 1.7 DTI 16V, OPEL Meriva A (X03) 1.8 (E75), OPEL Meriva A (X03) 1.7 DTI (E75), (+ 23)

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

**REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – OPEL MERIVA X03. TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:**



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #18
- Drive socket # 8
- Drive socket # 9
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 18
- Drive socket # 19
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Shock absorber socket # DD9
- Ratchet wrench
- Tap wrench
- Flat Screwdriver
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

**BUY TOOLS**

Replacement: suspension strut – Opel Meriva X03. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Both shock struts of the front suspension should be replaced simultaneously.
- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right shock struts of the front suspension.
- Please note: all work on the car – Opel Meriva X03 – should be done with the engine switched off.

## CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

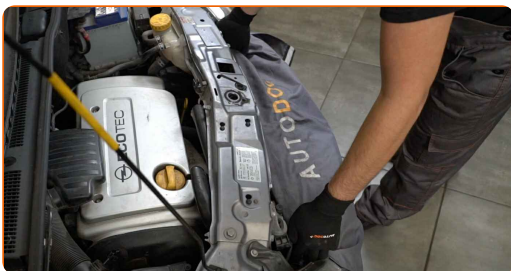
1

Open the hood.

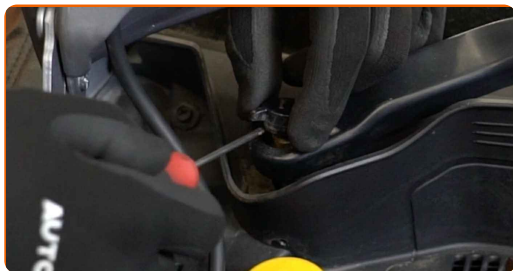


2

Use a fender protection cover to prevent damaging paintwork and plastic parts of the car.



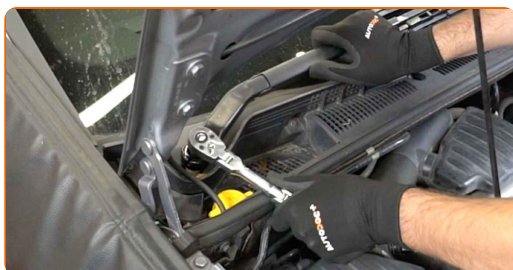
**3** Remove the windscreen wiper arm nut covers. Use a flat screwdriver.



**4** Clean the fasteners of the wiper arms. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**5** Unscrew the fasteners of the windscreen wiper arms. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



**6** Remove the wiper arms.



7

Unscrew the fasteners of the cowl grille. Use a drive socket #8. Use a ratchet wrench.



8

Remove the cowl grille seal.



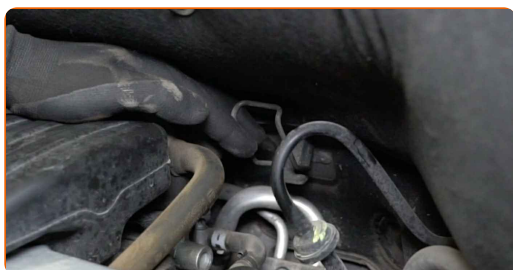
9

Unscrew the fasteners of the windscreen wiper scuttle tray. Use a drive socket #8. Use a ratchet wrench.



10

Release the engine bulkhead panel clips.



11

Raise up and remove the cowl grille.





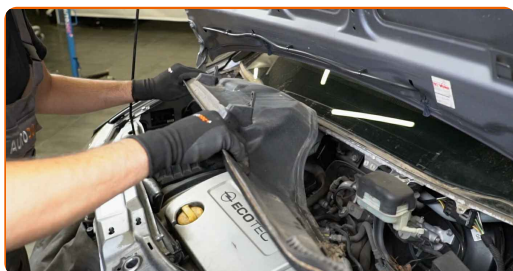
12

Unscrew the fasteners of the windscreen wiper scuttle tray. Use a drive socket #8. Use a ratchet wrench.



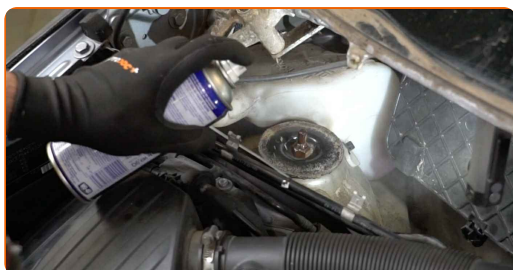
13

Remove the windscreen wiper scuttle tray.



14

Clean the fasteners of the shock strut upper mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



15

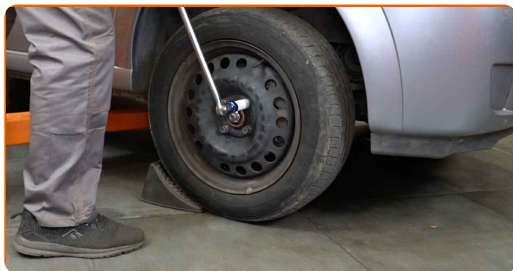
Loosen the upper fastener of the shock strut mount. Use a drive socket #9. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



16

Secure the wheels with chocks.

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



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



**19** Unscrew the wheel bolts.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

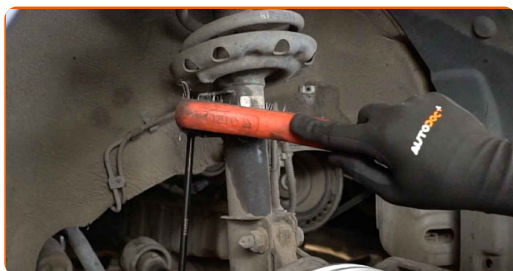
- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.  
Opel Meriva X03

**20** Remove the wheel.

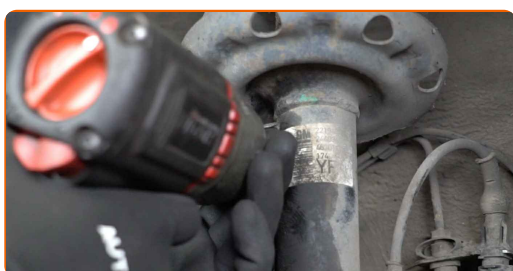




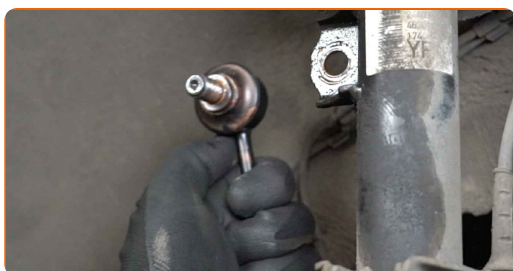
**21** Clean the stabiliser link fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



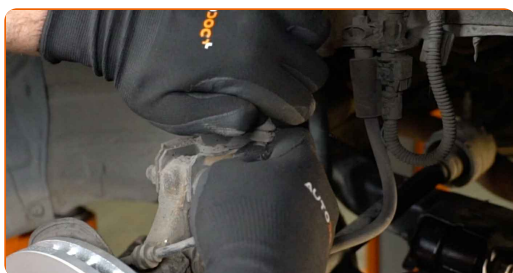
**22** Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a drive socket #19. Use a ratchet wrench.



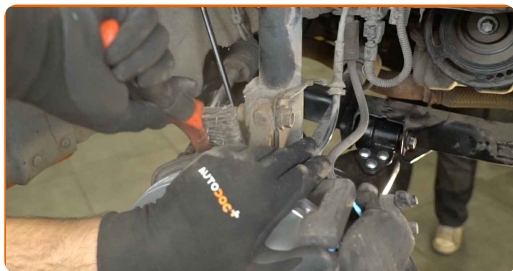
**23** Remove the stabilizer rod.



**24** Disconnect the ABS sensor wiring.



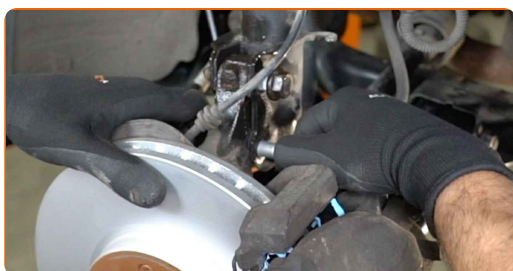
**25** Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



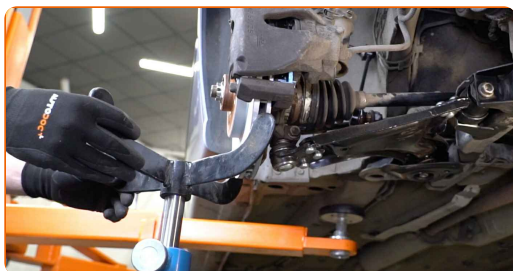
**26** Unscrew the fasteners connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a tap wrench.



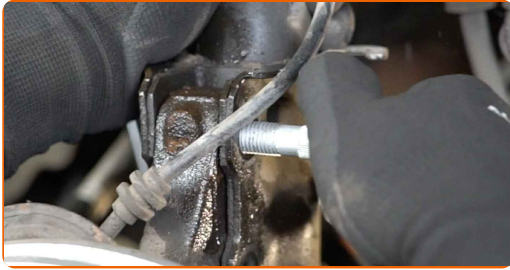
**27** Remove the fastening bolt.



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



**29** Remove the fastening bolt.



**30** Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut.



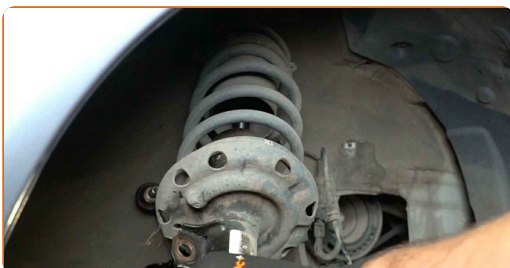
**31** Unscrew the top fastening of the shock strut mount.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Opel Meriva X03 – To avoid injury, hold the suspension strut while unscrewing the fastening bolts.

**32** Remove the suspension strut.



**33**

Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.

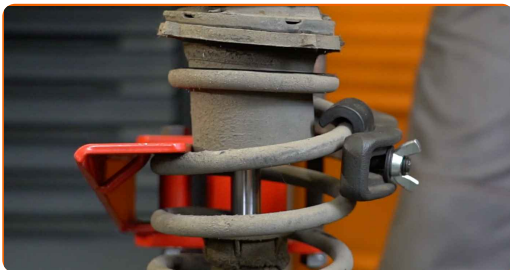


**Replacement: suspension strut – Opel Meriva X03. Tip from AUTODOC:**

- Note that when using a spring compressor, spring coils need to be securely gripped, compressing the spring on the opposite sides.
- Ensure the correct position of the spring in the retainer.
- Make sure that the spring coils tightly entered the lock handles.

**34**

Compress the spring.



**35**

Treat the shock strut rod. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



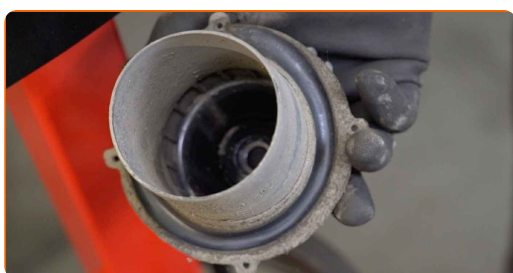
- 36** Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a shock absorber socket N°DD9. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 37** Remove the top strut mount.



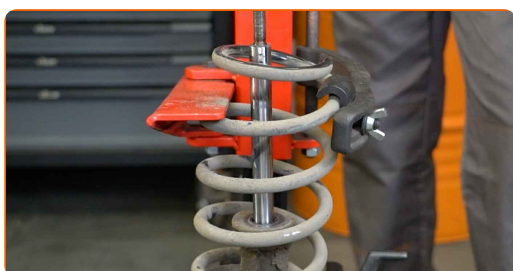
- 38** Remove the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: suspension strut – Opel Meriva X03. Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

- 39** Release the coil spring.





40 Remove the spring.



41 Remove the old shock absorber from the hydraulic coil spring compressor.



Replacement: suspension strut – Opel Meriva X03. AUTODOC recommends:

- Before installing a new shock absorber you should pump it manually 3-5 times.

42 Install the new shock absorber on the hydraulic coil spring compressor.

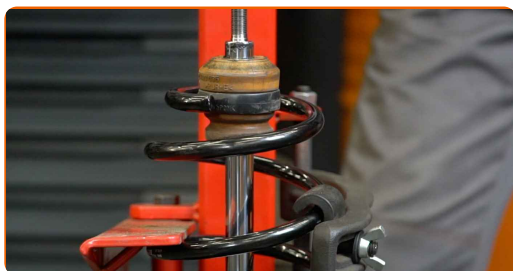


43 Install the spring on the shock absorber.

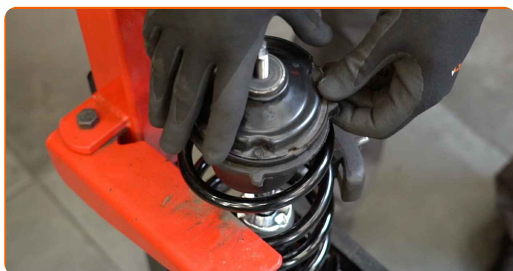




**44** Compress the spring.



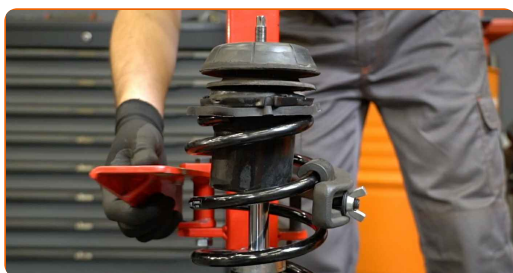
**45** Install the mount, boot and bump stop onto a new shock absorber.



**46** Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a shock absorber socket NºDD9. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 50 Nm torque.



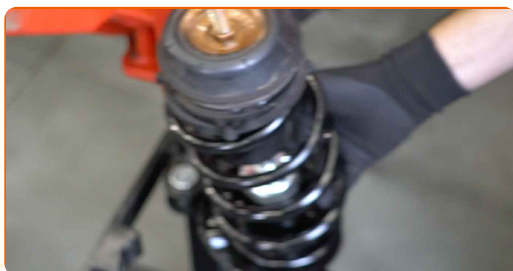
**47** Decompress the spring.



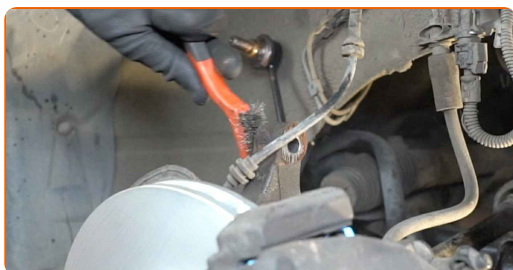
48 Treat the shock strut rod. Use copper grease.



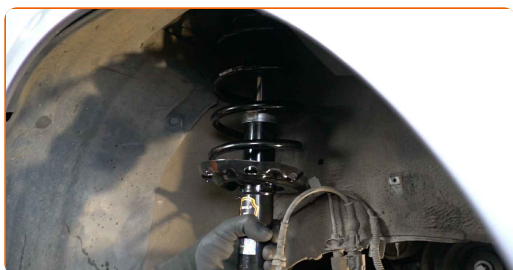
49 Remove the assembled shock strut.



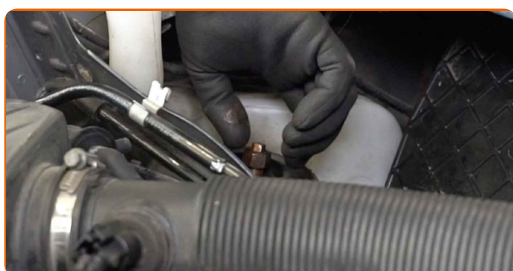
50 Clean the mounting seats of the shock strut. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



51 Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.



52 Screw the top fastening of the shock strut mount. Do not tighten it.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Hold the suspension strut while screwing in the fastening bolts. Opel Meriva X03

**53**

Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle.



**54**

Install the fastening bolts.



**55**

Screw in the fasteners connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



**56**

Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: suspension strut – Opel Meriva X03. Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

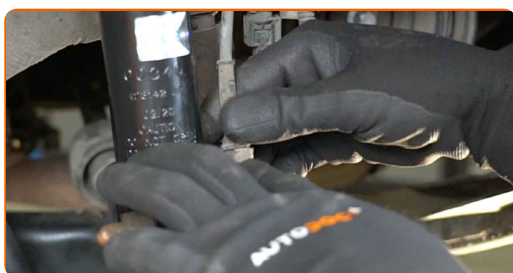
**57** Tighten the lower fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 80 Nm torque.+60°



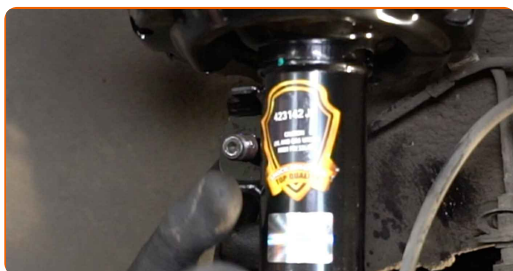
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

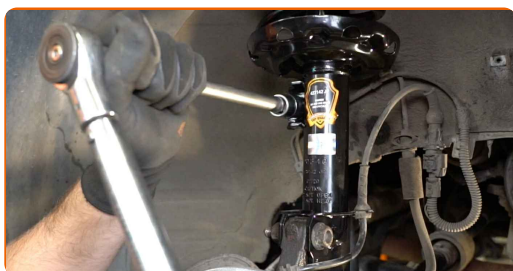
**58** Connect the ABS sensor wiring.



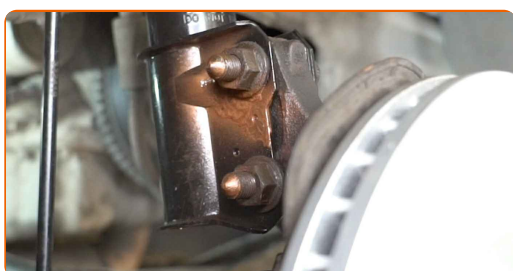
**59** Install the transverse stabilizer link.



- 60 Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a drive socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 55 Nm torque.



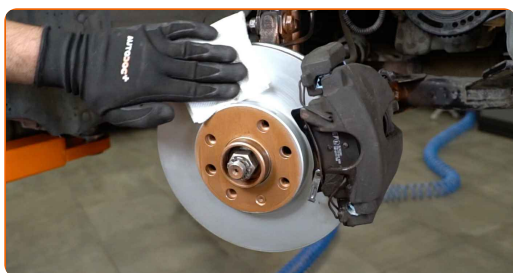
- 61 Treat the shock strut fasteners. Use copper grease.



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



- 63 Clean the brake disc surface. Use a brake cleaner.





**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: suspension strut – Opel Meriva X03. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

**64**

Install the wheel.

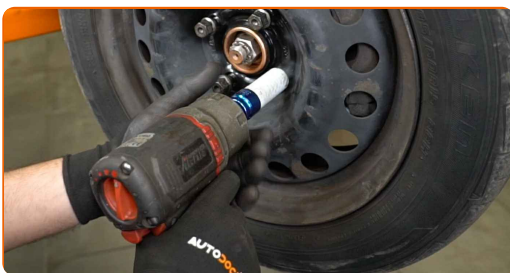


**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. Opel Meriva X03

**65**

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



**66**

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.





**67** Remove the jacks and chocks.

**68** Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a shock absorber socket N°DD9. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 50 Nm torque.



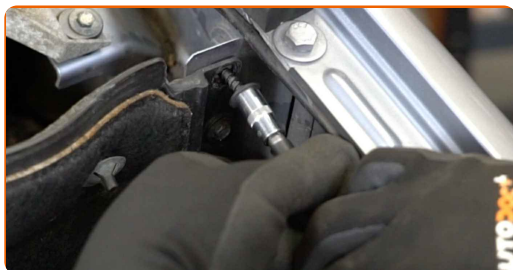
**69** Treat the fasteners of the shock strut mount. Use copper grease.



**70** Install the windscreen wiper scuttle tray.



**71** Screw in the fasteners of the windscreen wiper scuttle tray. Use a drive socket #8. Use a ratchet wrench.



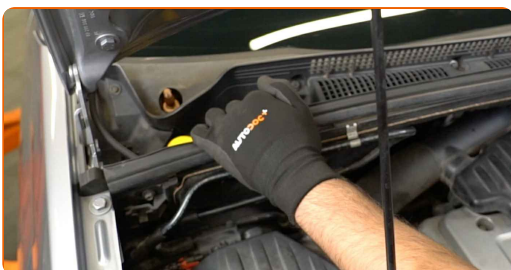
**72** Attach the cabin filter cover clips.



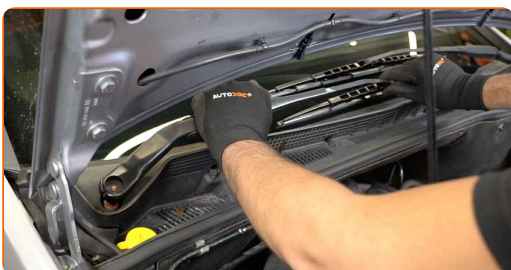
**73** Install and secure the cowl grille. Use a drive socket #8. Use a ratchet wrench.



**74** Install the cowl grille seal.



**75** Reinstall the wiper arms.



Replacement: suspension strut – Opel Meriva X03. AUTODOC recommends:

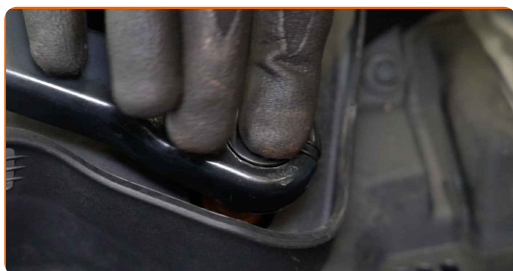
- Make sure not to mix up the wiper arms on the driver's and passenger's sides.

**76**

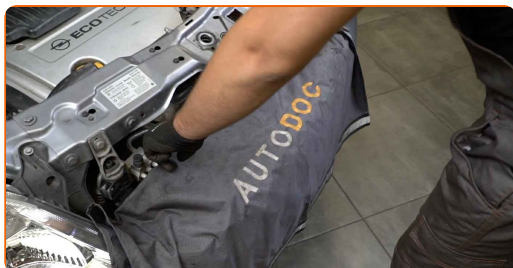
Tighten the wiper arm fasteners. Use a drive socket #13. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 22 nm torque.

**77**

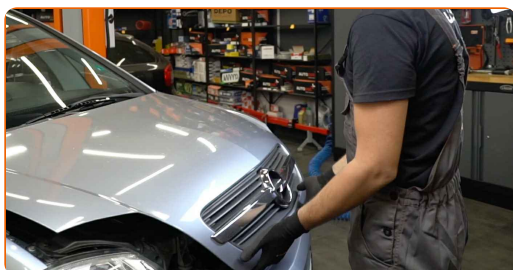
Install the nut covers of the windscreen wiper arms.

**78**

Remove the fender protection cover.

**79**

Close the hood.



**WELL DONE!** 

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