



How to change front
suspension strut on
OPEL ASTRA J Saloon –
replacement guide

SIMILAR VIDEO TUTORIAL



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

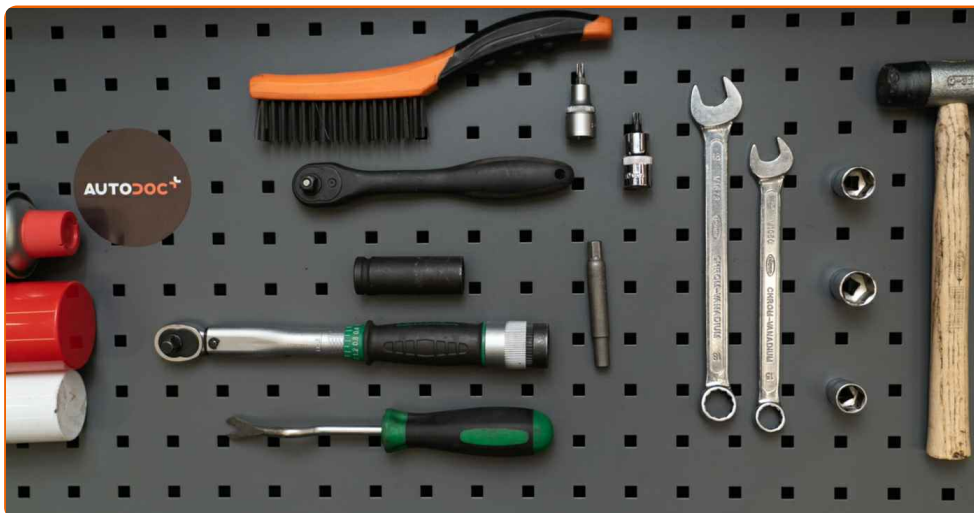
Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:
OPEL ASTRA J Saloon 1.6 (69)

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: OPEL Corsa D Hatchback (S07) 1.3 CDTI (L08, L68)

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – OPEL ASTRA J SALOON. TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Combination spanner #15
- Combination spanner #18
- Torx bit T30
- Torx bit T40
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 18
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Tap wrench
- Shock absorber socket #9
- Clip removal tool
- Crow bar
- Rubber mallet
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

Buy tools

Replacement: suspension strut – OPEL ASTRA J Saloon. AUTODOC recommends:

- 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 ASTRA J Saloon – should be done with the engine switched off.

CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

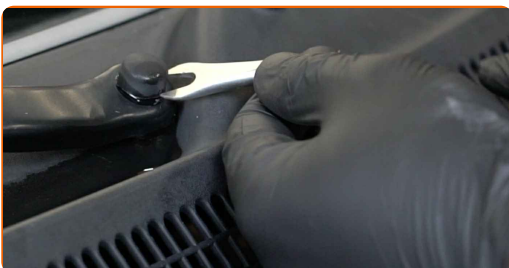
1 Open the bonnet.

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

3 Remove the cowl grille seal.



4 Remove the windscreen wiper arm nut covers. Use a clip removal tool.



5 Treat the wiper arm fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



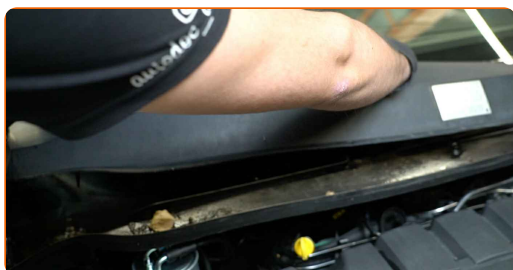
6 Unscrew the fasteners of the windscreen wiper arms. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



7 Remove the wiper arms.

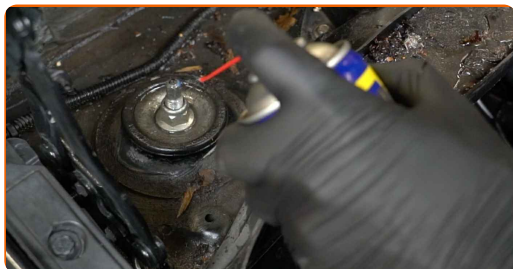


8 Raise up and remove the cowl grille.



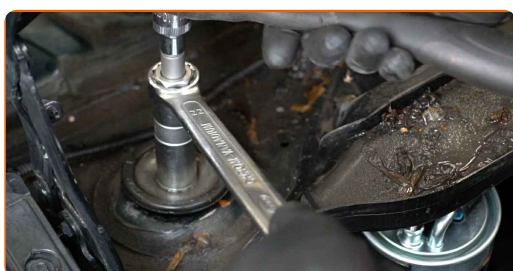
9

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



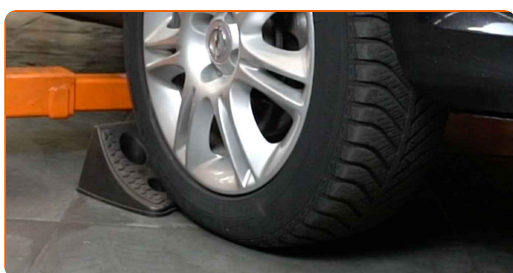
10

Loosen the upper fastener of the shock strut mount. Use a shock absorber socket №9 Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



11

Secure the wheels with chocks.



12

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



13

Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

14

Unscrew the wheel bolts.



Replacement: suspension strut – OPEL ASTRA J Saloon. AUTODOC experts recommend:

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

15

Remove the wheel.

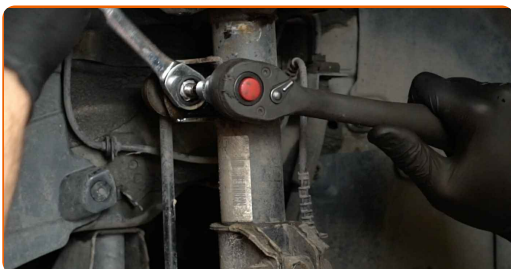


16

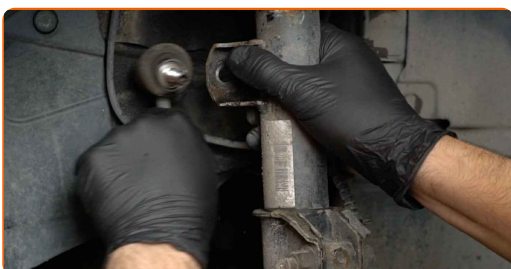
Clean the stabiliser link fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



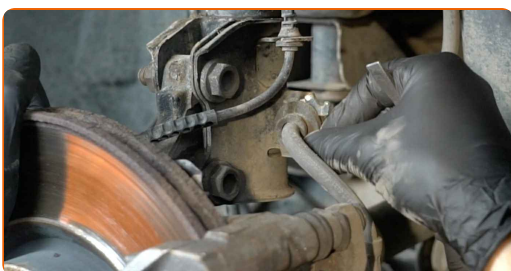
- 17 Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #15. Use Torx T30. Use a ratchet wrench.



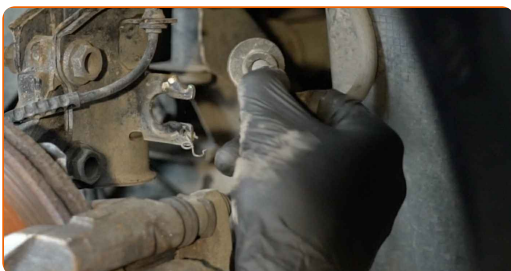
- 18 Remove the stabilizer rod.



- 19 Remove the brake hose retaining clip.



- 20 Disconnect the brake hose. Use a crowbar.

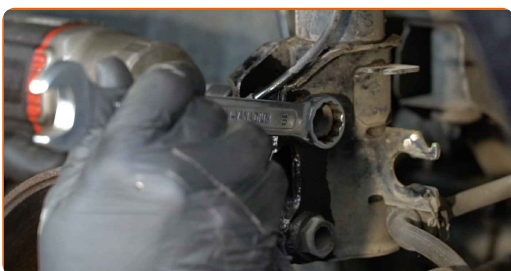


- 21 Disconnect the ABS sensor wiring.

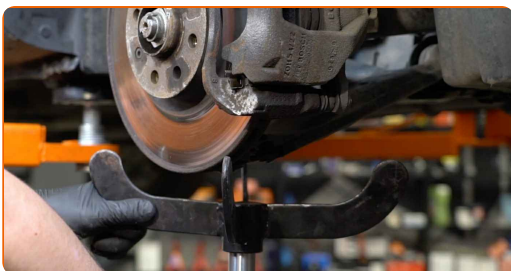
22 Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



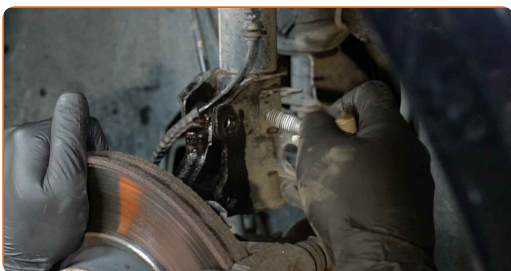
23 Unscrew the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a tap wrench.



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



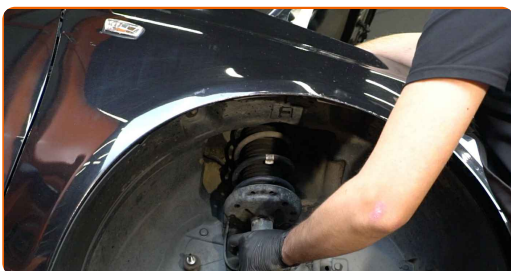
25 Remove the fastening bolts.



26 Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut.



27 Unscrew the top fastening of the shock strut mount.



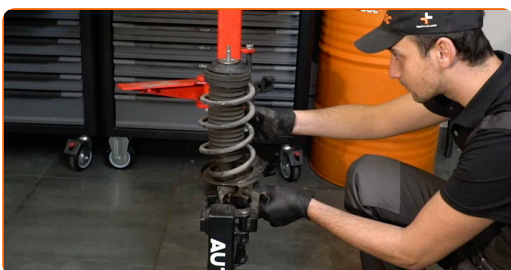
AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the suspension strut while unscrewing the fastening bolts. OPEL ASTRA J Saloon

28 Remove the suspension strut.



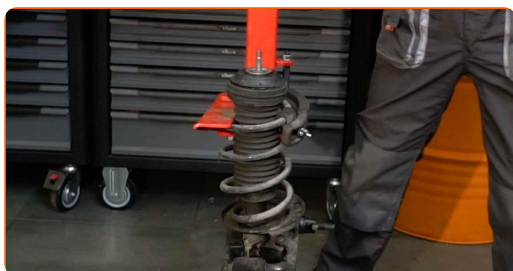
29 Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.



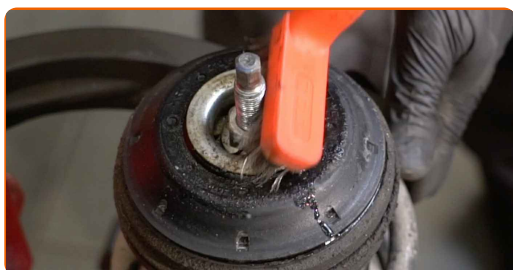
Replacement: suspension strut – OPEL ASTRA J Saloon. AUTODOC recommends:

- 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.

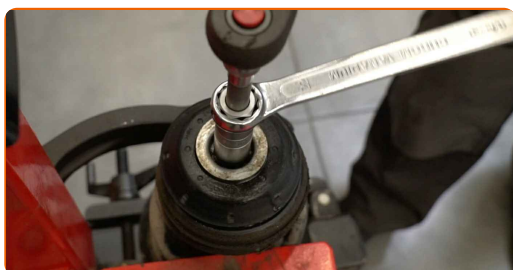
30 Compress the spring.



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



32 Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a shock absorber socket №9 Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



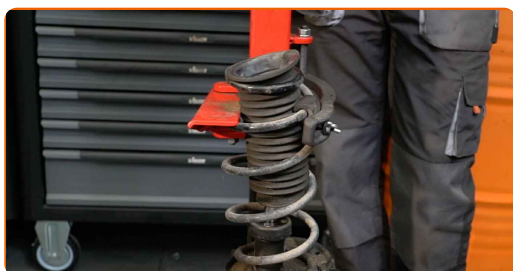
33 Remove the top strut mount.



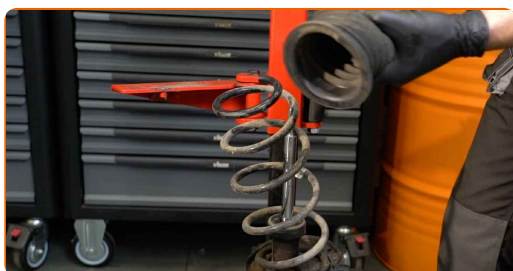
AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – OPEL ASTRA J Saloon. Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

34 Release the coil spring.



35 Remove the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop.



36 Remove the spring.



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



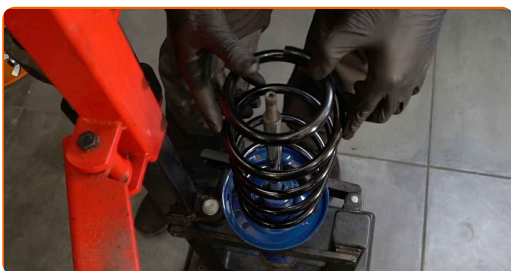
Replacement: suspension strut – OPEL ASTRA J Saloon. Tip:

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

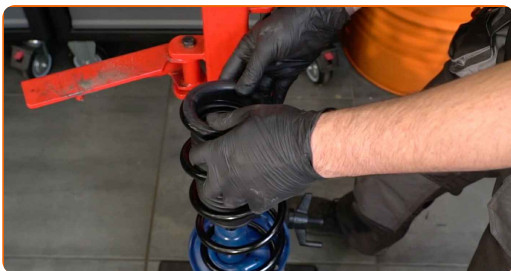
38 Install the new shock absorber on the hydraulic coil spring compressor.



39 Install the spring on the shock absorber.



40 Install the dust sleeve and the bump stop on the new shock absorber.



41 Compress the spring.



42 Install the upper strut mount and the strut mount bearing.



43 Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a drive socket #18. Use Torx T40. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 50 Nm torque.



Replacement: suspension strut – OPEL ASTRA J Saloon. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Check to make sure the spring is positioned correctly. Avoid its misalignment.

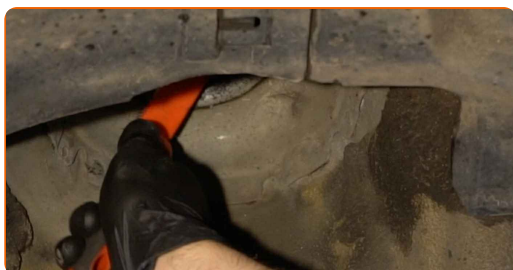
44 Decompress the spring.



45 Remove the assembled shock strut.



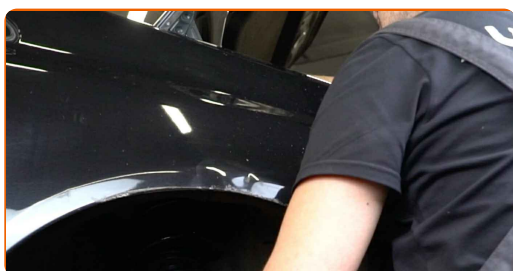
46 Treat the mounting seats of the shock strut. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



47 Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.



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

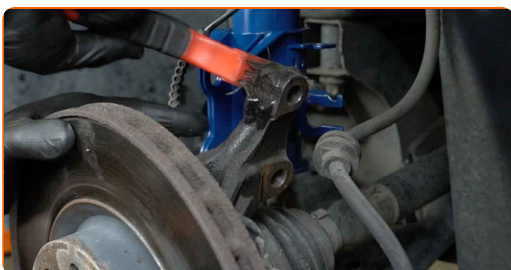


Replacement: suspension strut – OPEL ASTRA J Saloon. AUTODOC recommends:

- To avoid injuries, hold the shock strut when screwing the fastening bolts in.

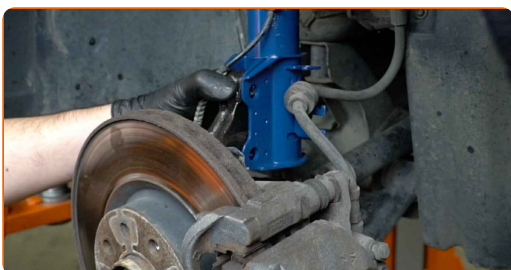
49

Treat the shock strut mounting seat on the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



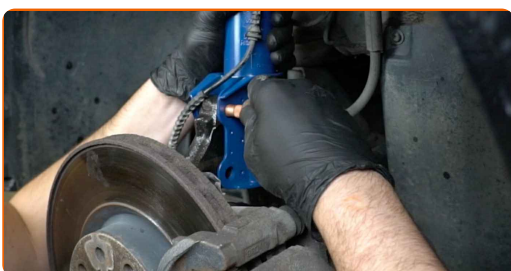
50

Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle.



51

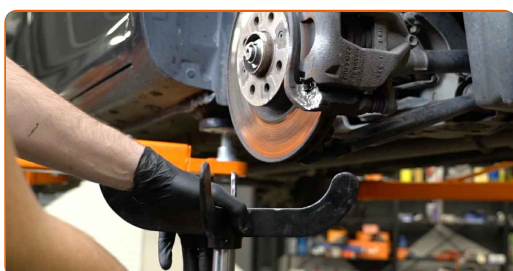
Install the fastening bolts.



- 52** Screw in the fastener that connects the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



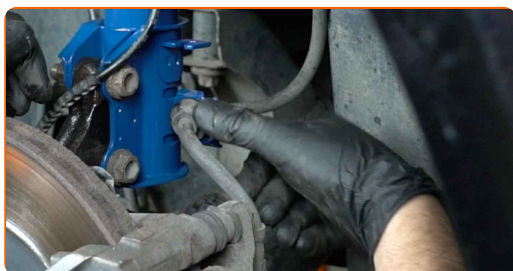
- 53** Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



AUTODOC recommends:

- OPEL ASTRA J Saloon – Do not lower the transmission jack sharply to avoid damaging components and mechanisms of the car.

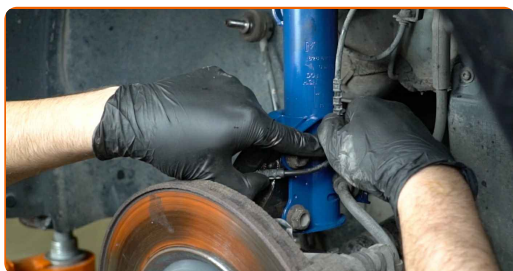
- 54** Attach the brake hose.



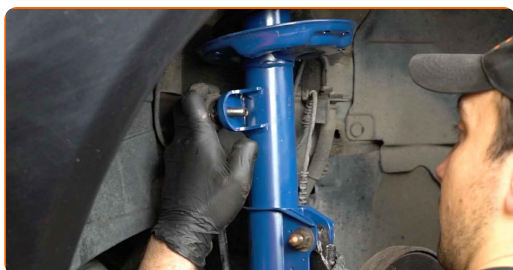
55 Install the brake hose retaining clip. Use a rubber mallet.



56 Connect the ABS sensor wiring.



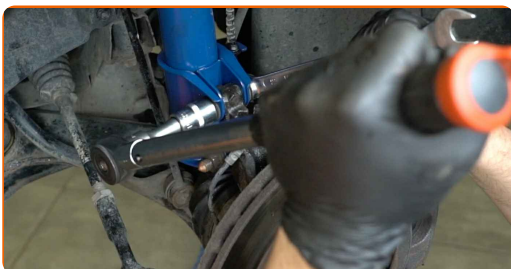
57 Install the transverse stabilizer link.



58 Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #15. Use Torx T30. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 40 Nm torque.



- 59** Tighten the lower fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. 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.

- 60** Treat the shock strut fasteners. Use copper grease.

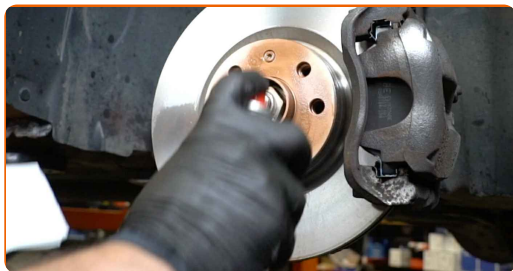


- 61** Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use copper grease.



62

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



Replacement: suspension strut – OPEL ASTRA J Saloon. Tip:

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

63

Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. OPEL ASTRA J Saloon

64

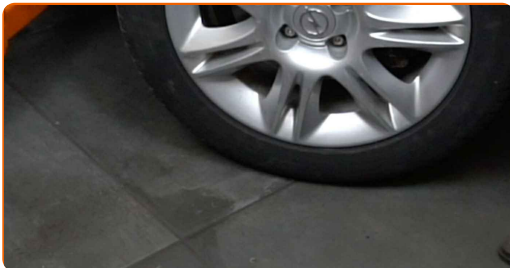
Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



- 65** 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.



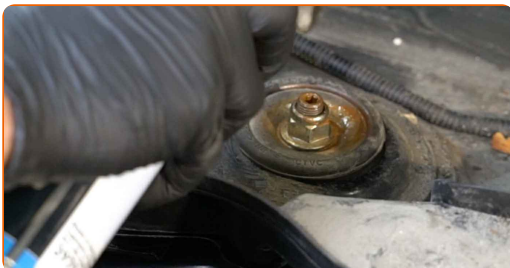
- 66** Remove the jacks and chocks.



- 67** Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a drive socket #18. Use Torx T40. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 45 Nm torque.

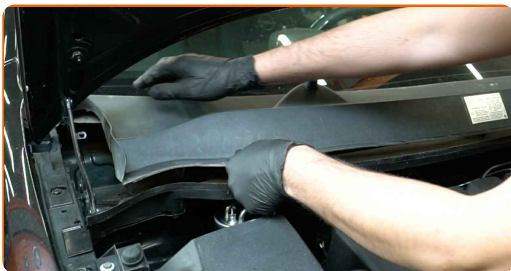


- 68** Treat the fasteners of the shock strut mount. Use copper grease.



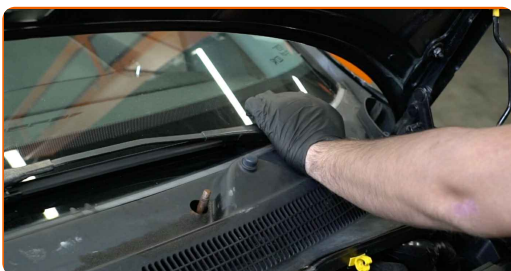
69

Install and secure the cowl grille.



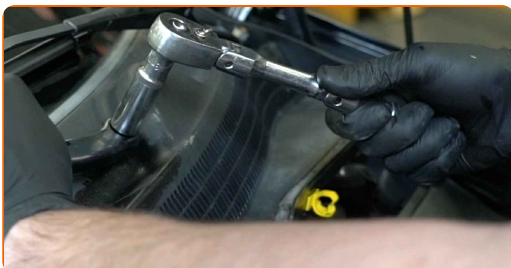
70

Reinstall the wiper arms.



71

Tighten the fasteners of the wiper arms. Use a drive socket #13. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 21 Nm torque.



Replacement: suspension strut – OPEL ASTRA J Saloon. Tip from AUTODOC experts:

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

72

Install the nut covers of the windscreen wiper arms.

73

Install the cowl grille seal.



74

Remove the fender protection cover.

75

Close the hood.

WELL DONE! 

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