



How to change front
suspension strut on **SEAT**
Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) –
replacement guide

SIMILAR VIDEO TUTORIAL



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

Important!

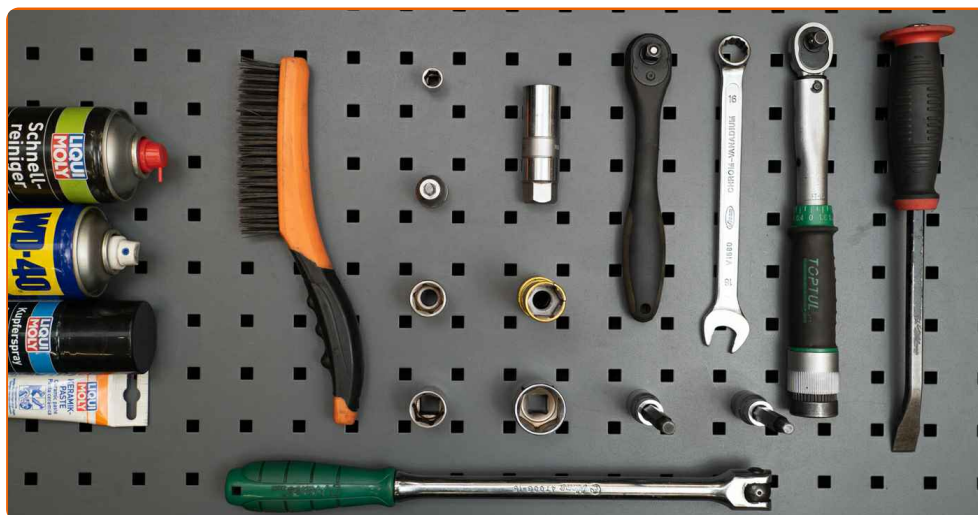
This replacement procedure can be used for:

SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) 2.0 i, SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) 1.9 TDI, SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) 1.8 T 20V, SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) 2.8 V6, SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) 2.8 V6 4motion, SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) 1.9 TDI 4motion, SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) 2.0 TDI

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: VW SHARAN (7M8, 7M9, 7M6) 1.9 TDI

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – SEAT ALHAMBRA (7V8, 7V9). TIP FROM AUTODOC:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Ceramic grease
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #16
- Drive socket # 10
- Drive socket # 18
- Drive socket # 19
- Drive socket # 27
- 21-mm strut nut socket
- Shock absorber socket
- HEX bit no.H7
- HEX bit no.H8
- Wheel impact socket #19
- Ratchet wrench
- Tap wrench
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Crow bar
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

Buy tools

Replacement: suspension strut – SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- 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 – SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) – 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 Unscrew the brake fluid reservoir cap.

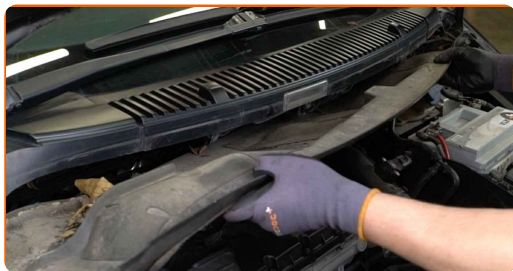
4 Remove the cowl grille seal.



5 Unscrew the plastic panel fasteners. Use a drive socket #10. Use a ratchet wrench.



6 Remove the plastic panel.



7 Clean the upper fastener of the suspension strut mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

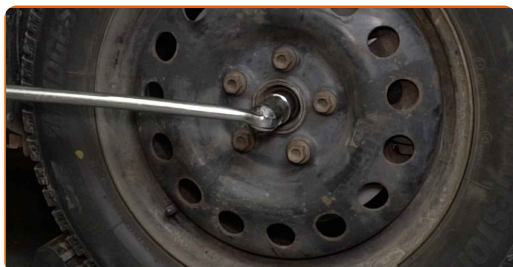


8 Loosen the upper fastener of the shock strut mount. Use a 21-mm strut nut socket. Use HEX No.H7. Use a ratchet wrench.



9 Secure the wheels with chocks.

10 Loosen the fastener of the driveshaft. Use a drive socket #27. Use a tap wrench.



11 Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #19.



12 Raise the car.

Replacement: suspension strut – SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9). Tip from AUTODOC:

- 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.

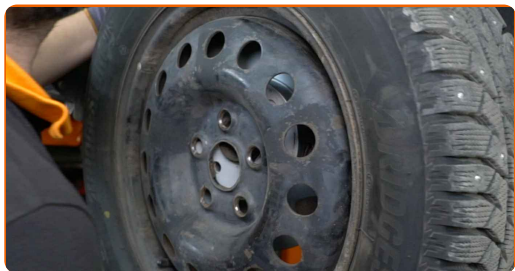
13 Unscrew the wheel bolts.



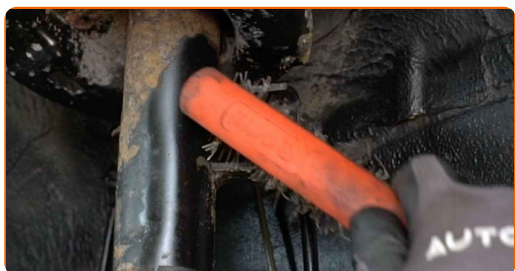
AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.
SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9)

14 Remove the wheel.



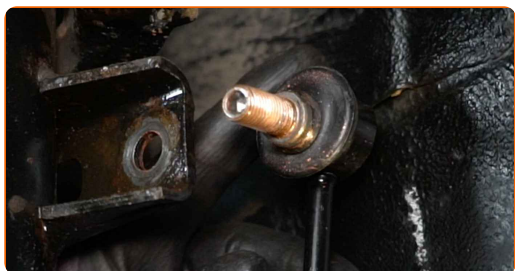
15 Clean the fastener that connects the sway bar link to the suspension strut. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



16 Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #19. Use a ratchet wrench.



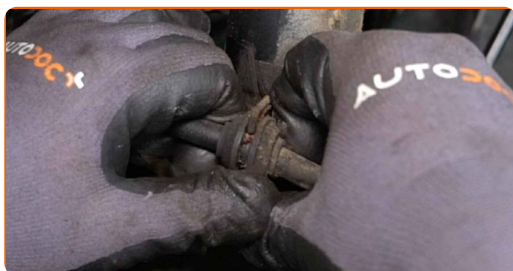
17 Remove the stabilizer rod.



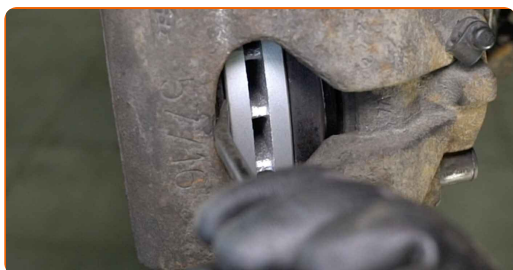
18 Disconnect the ABS sensor wiring.



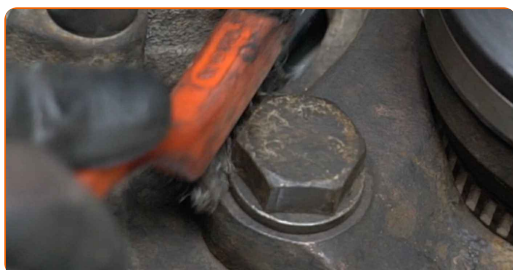
19 Detach the brake hose from the shock strut.



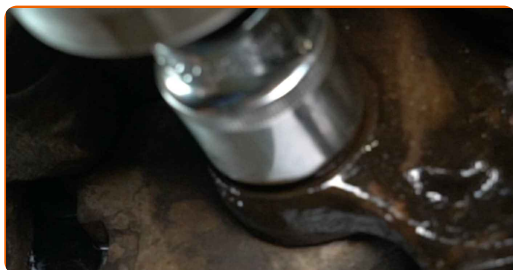
20 Spread the brake pads. Use a crowbar.



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

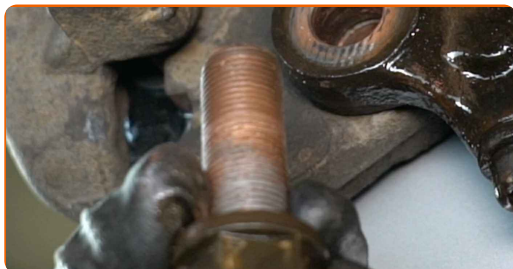


22 Unscrew the caliper bracket fastening. Use a drive socket #27. Use a ratchet wrench.



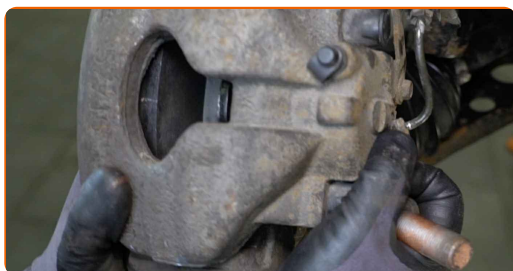
23

Remove the fastening bolts.



24

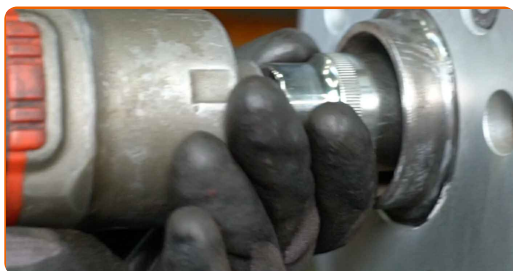
Remove the brake caliper together with its bracket.



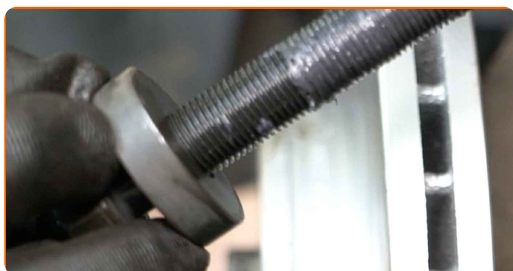
Replacement: suspension strut – SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- 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.

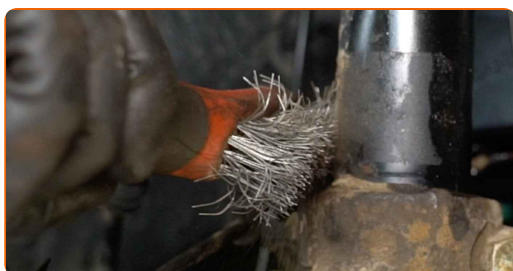
25 Unscrew the fastener connecting the drive shaft to the wheel hub. Use a drive socket #27. Use a ratchet wrench.



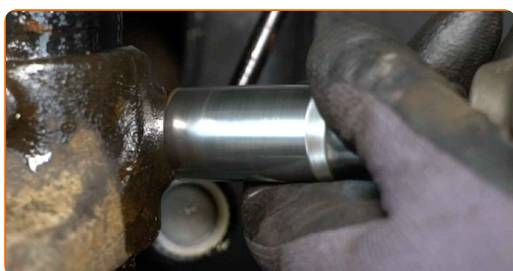
26 Remove the fastening bolt.



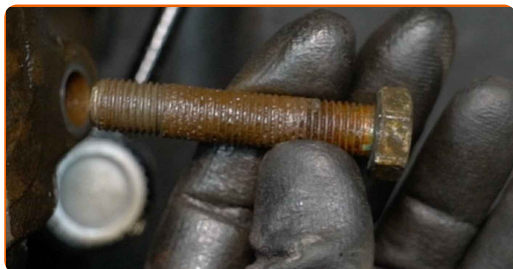
27 Clean the lower fastener connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



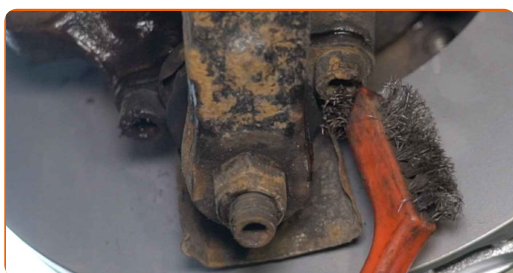
28 Unscrew the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



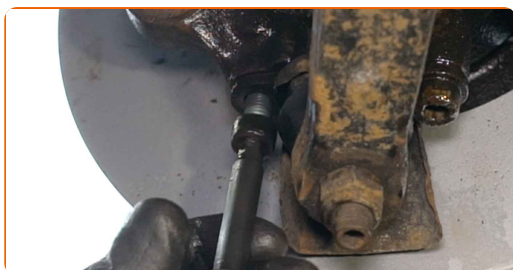
29 Remove the fastening bolt.



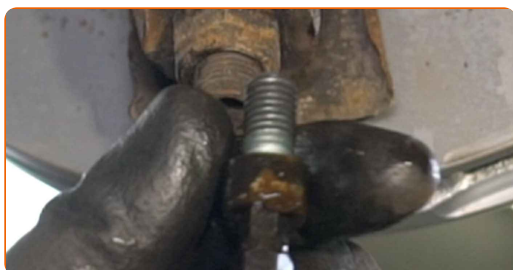
30 Clean the fasteners that connect the ball joint to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



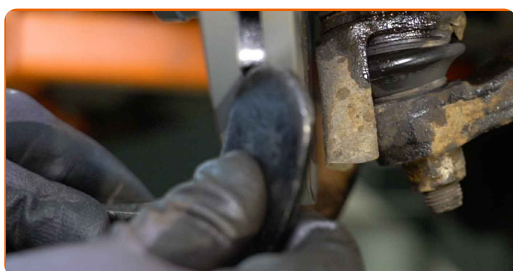
31 Unscrew the ball joint fasteners from the steering knuckle. Use HEX No.H8. Use a ratchet wrench.



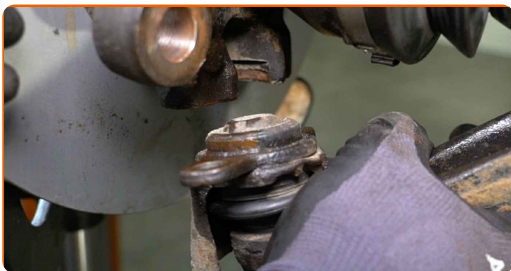
32 Remove the fastening bolts.



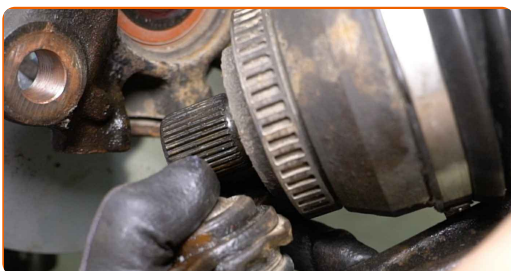
33 Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



34 Disconnect the ball joint from the steering knuckle.



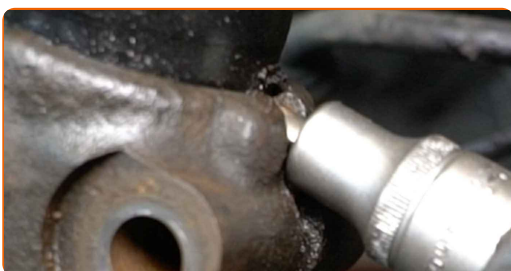
35 Detach the driveshaft from the steering knuckle.



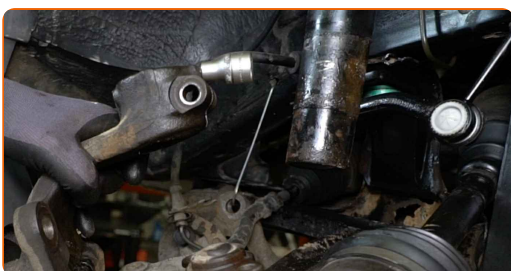
AUTODOC recommends:

- Make sure that the drive shaft is not unloaded (when the car is jacked).

36 Release the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a special drive socket to remove the shock absorber.



37 Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut.

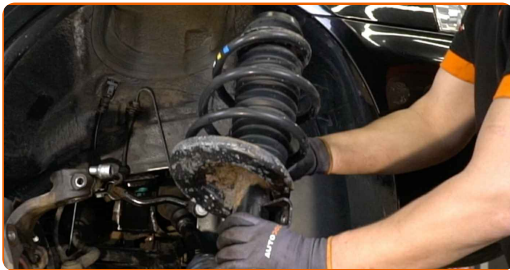


38 Unscrew the top fastening of the shock strut mount.

AUTODOC recommends:

- SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) – To avoid injury, hold the suspension strut while unscrewing the fastening bolts.

39 Remove the suspension strut.



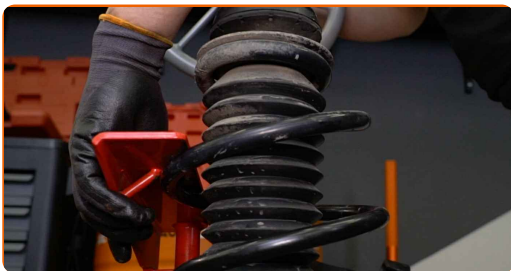
40 Set the suspension strut on the spring compressor tool.



Replacement: suspension strut – SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9). 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.

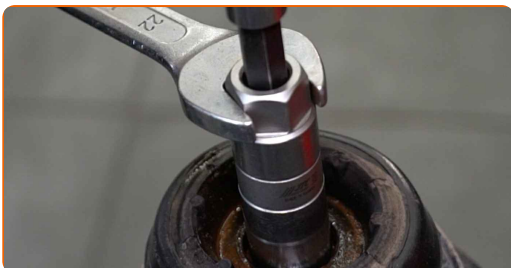
41 Compress the spring.



42 Clean the strut piston rod. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



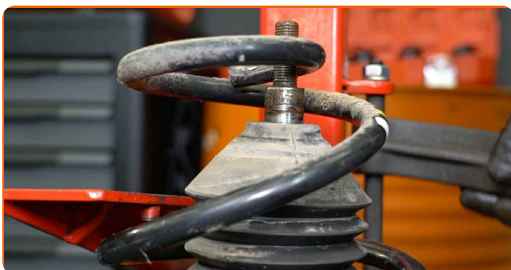
43 Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a 21-mm strut nut socket. Use HEX No.H7. Use a ratchet wrench.



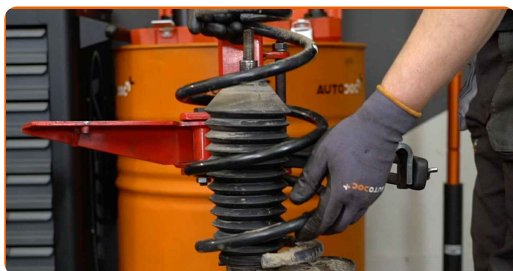
44 Remove the top strut mount.



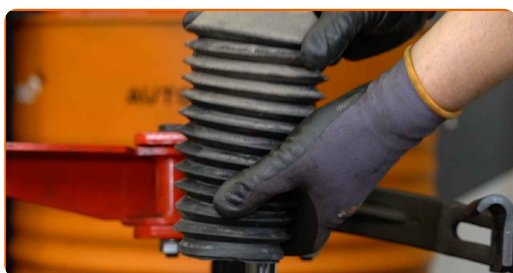
45 Release the coil spring.



46 Remove the spring.



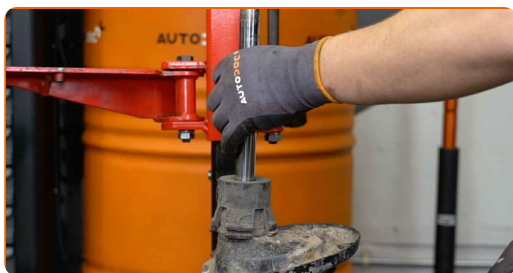
47 Remove the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9). Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

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



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

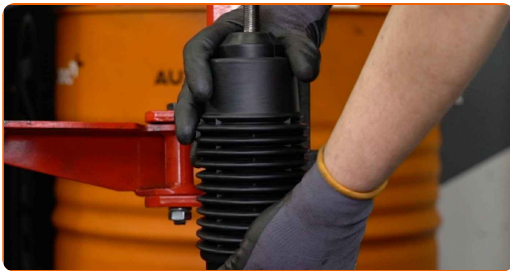


Replacement: suspension strut – SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9). Professionals recommend:

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

50

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



51

Install the spring on the shock absorber.



52

Compress the spring.



53

Install the upper strut mount and the strut mount bearing.



- 54** Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a 21-mm strut nut socket. Use HEX No.H7. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 nm torque.



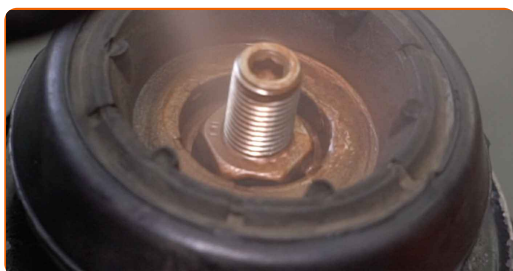
AUTODOC recommends:

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

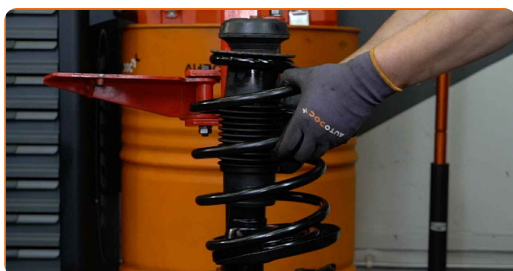
- 55** Decompress the spring.



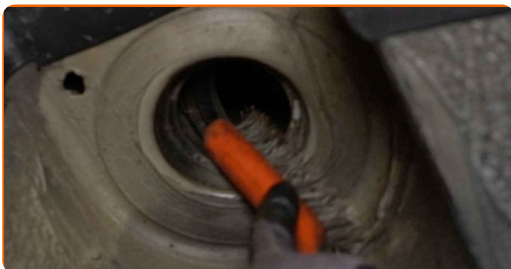
- 56** Treat the shock strut rod. Use copper grease.



- 57** Remove the assembled shock strut.

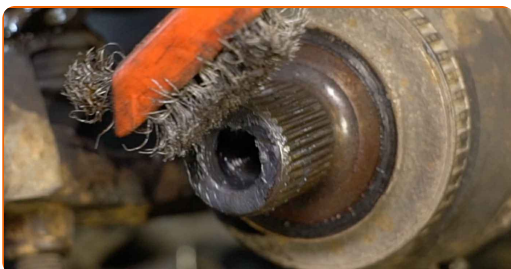


58 Clean the mounting seats of the shock strut. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

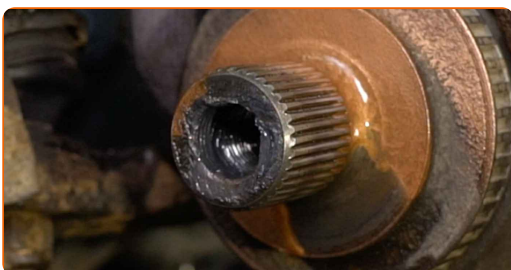


59 Clean the fasteners that connect the ball joint to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

60 Clean the splines of the drive shaft CV joint. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



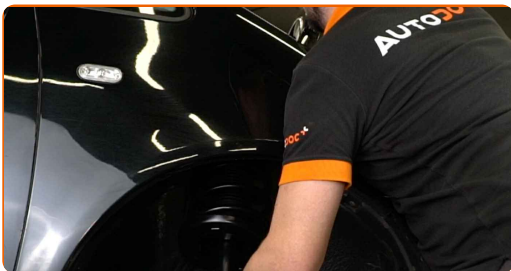
61 Treat the splines of the driveshaft CV joint. Use copper grease.



62 Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.



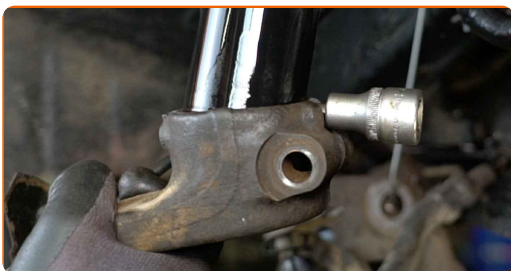
63 Screw in the top fasteners of the suspension strut mount. Do not tighten it.



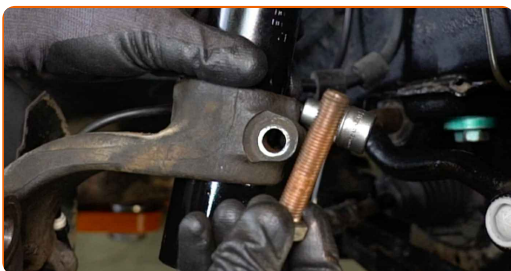
AUTODOC recommends:

- SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9) – To avoid injury, hold the suspension strut while screwing in the fastening bolts.

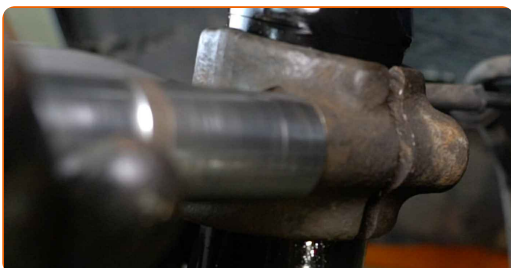
64 Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle.



65 Install the fastening bolt.



66 Screw in the lower fastener of the shock strut. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



67 Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



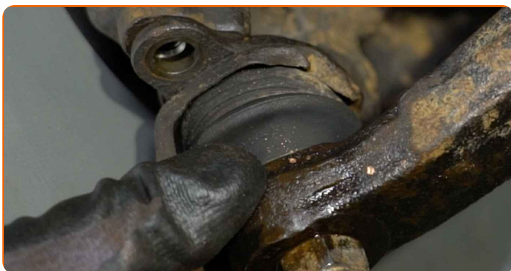
AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

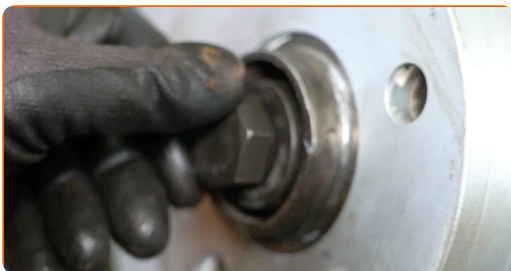
68 Install the steering knuckle on the CV axle.



69 Connect the ball joint to the steering knuckle.



70 Install the fastening bolt.



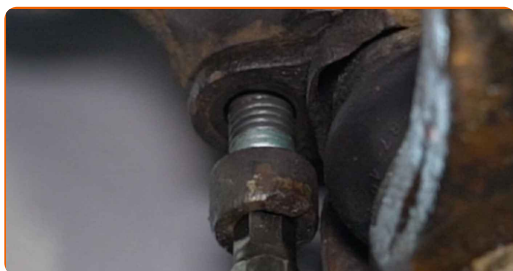
71

Screw in the fastener of the CV axle. Use a drive socket #27. Use a ratchet wrench.



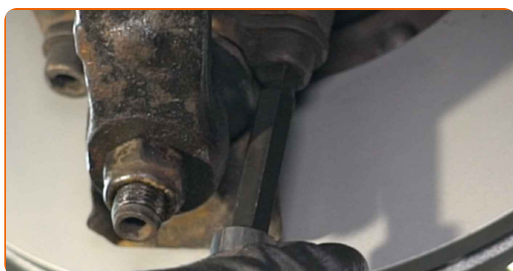
72

Install the fastening bolts.



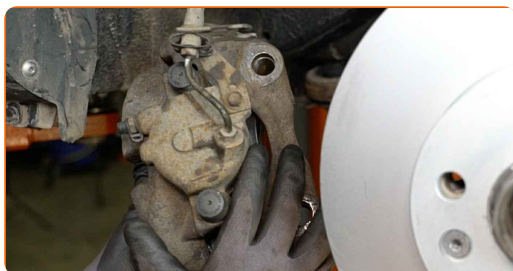
73

Tighten the fasteners that connect the ball joint to the steering knuckle. Use HEX No.H8. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 55 Nm torque.



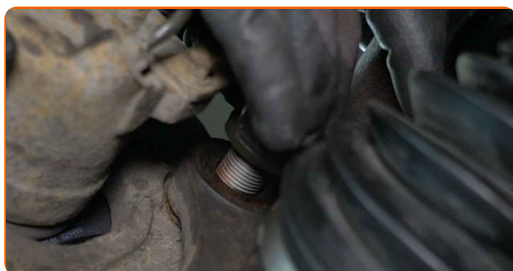
74

Install the brake caliper together with its bracket.

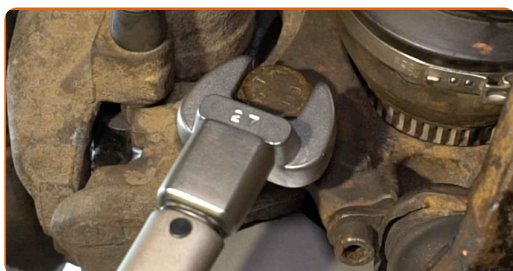


75

Install the fastening bolts.



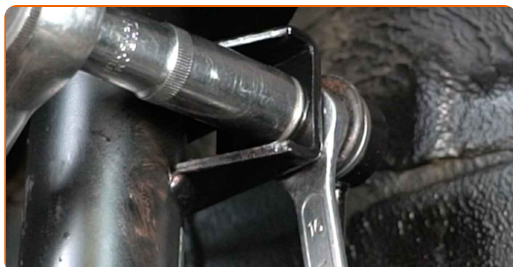
- 76** Tighten the brake caliper bracket fasteners. Use a drive socket #27. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 200 nm torque.



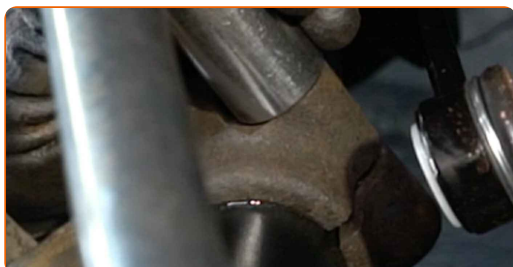
- 77** Install the transverse stabilizer link.



- 78** Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 100 Nm torque.

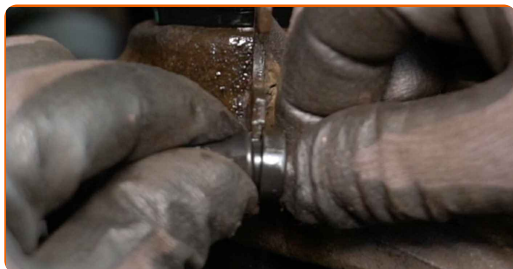


- 79** Tighten the lower fasteners of the suspension strut. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 110 Nm torque.



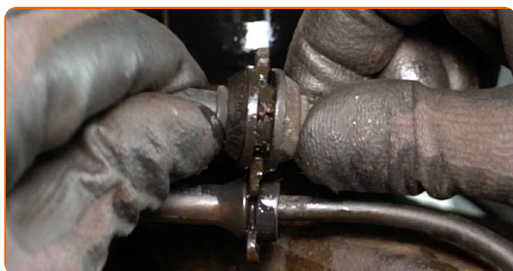
80

Connect the ABS sensor wiring.



81

Attach the brake hose to the suspension strut.



82

Treat the fasteners of the ball joint. Use copper grease.



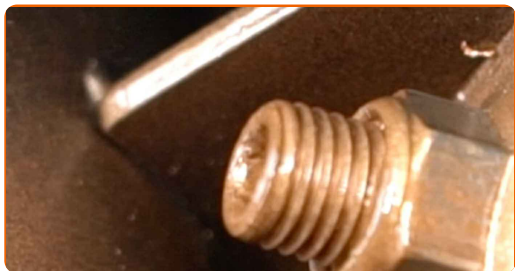
83

Treat the fastener that connects the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use copper grease.



84

Treat the fastener that connects the sway bar link to the suspension strut. Use copper grease.



85

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



86

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



87

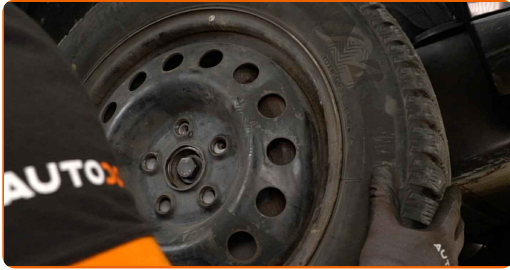
Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

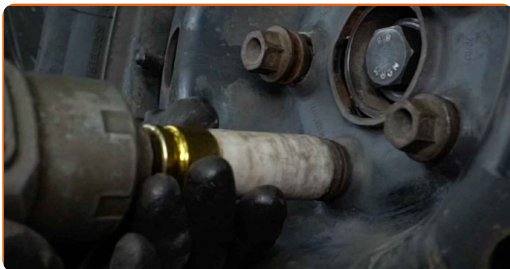
88 Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

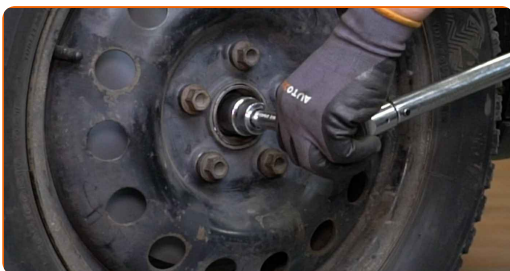
- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9)

89 Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #19.

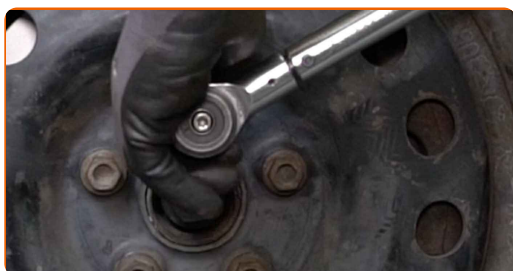


90 Lower the car.

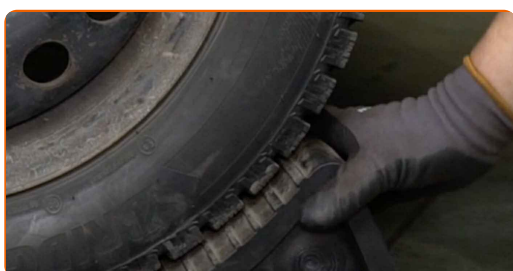
91 Tighten the CV axle fastener. Use a drive socket #27. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 150 Nm torque.+90°



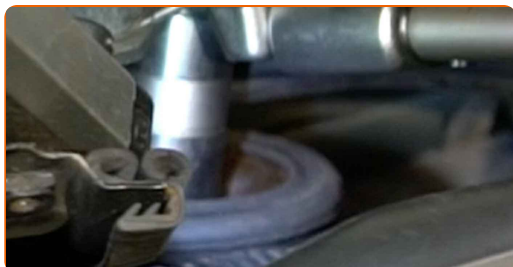
- 92** Tighten the wheel bolts using a criss-cross pattern. Use wheel impact socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 170 Nm torque.



- 93** Remove the jacks and chocks.



- 94** Tighten the upper fasteners of the suspension strut mount. Use a 21-mm strut nut socket. Use HEX No.H7. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 70 nm torque.



- 95** Treat the upper fastener of the suspension strut mount. Use copper grease.



96 Install the plastic panel.



97 Screw on the plastic panel fasteners. Use a drive socket #10. Use a ratchet wrench.



98 Install the cowl grille seal.



Replacement: suspension strut – SEAT Alhambra (7V8, 7V9). Tip:

- Without starting the engine, press the brake pedal several times until you feel significant resistance.
- Check the brake fluid level in the expansion tank and refill if necessary.

99 Tighten the brake fluid reservoir cap.

100 Remove the fender protection cover.

101 Close the hood.

WELL DONE! 

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