



How to change front  
suspension strut on  
**SKODA Octavia I Combi**  
**(1U5)** – 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:

SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5) 1.6, SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5) 1.8 20V, SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5) 1.9 SDI, SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5) 1.9 TDI, SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5) 1.8 T, SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5) 2.0, SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5) 1.4 16V

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: AUDI A3 Hatchback (8L1) 1.8

**REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – SKODA OCTAVIA I COMBI (1U5). LIST OF THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:**



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Drive socket # 18
- Drive socket # 13
- Combination spanner #18
- Combination spanner #19
- Combination spanner #21
- Drive socket # 19
- HEX bit No.H6.
- Torque wrench
- Copper grease
- Wheel impact socket #17
- 12-point socket 1-3/16"
- Flare nut socket №22
- Pin punch
- Hammer
- Shock absorber socket
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Rubber mallet
- Wheel chock
- Fender cover

**Buy tools**

Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5). Professionals 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.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.
- You might need other tools.

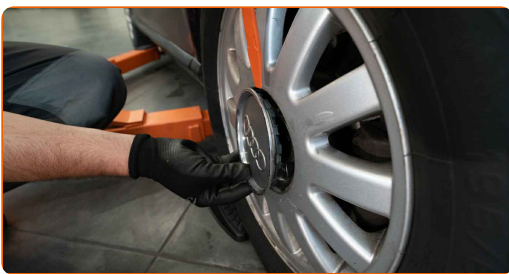
**REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – SKODA OCTAVIA I COMBI (1U5). USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:**

**1** Open the bonnet.

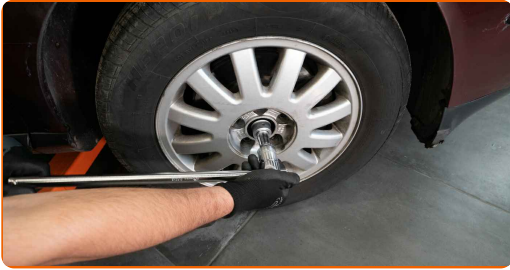
**2** Secure the wheels with chocks.

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

**4** Remove the wheel rim cover.



**5** Unscrew the hub lock nut. Use 1-3/16" drive 12-point socket.



Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5). AUTODOC recommends:

- Do not unscrew the fastener by more than 90 degrees.

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

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

**8** Unscrew the wheel bolts.



Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5). AUTODOC experts recommend:

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

**9** Remove the wheel.

**10** Disconnect the wiring and the brake hose from the bracket on the shock strut.



**11** Unscrew the fastener connecting the drive shaft to the wheel hub. Use 1-3/16" drive 12-point socket.



**12** Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Clean the fasteners connecting the ball joint to the suspension control arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

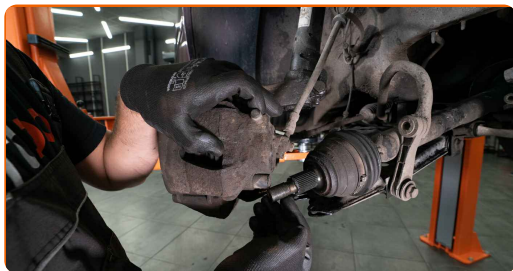


**13** Unscrew the fastener connecting the ball joint to the suspension control arm. Use a drive socket #13.



**14** Disconnect the spherical joint from the arm.

**15** Pull the drive shaft out of the steering knuckle and lifting it, tie to the body. Use a hammer. Use a pin punch.



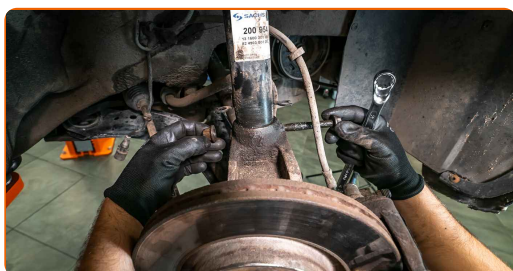
**AUTODOC recommends:**

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

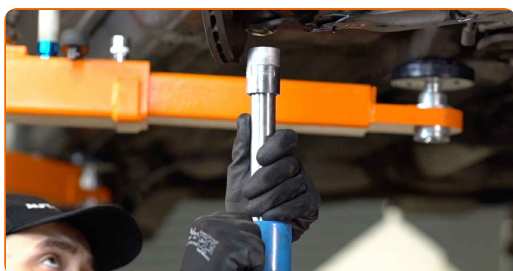
**16** Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



**17** Unscrew the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18.

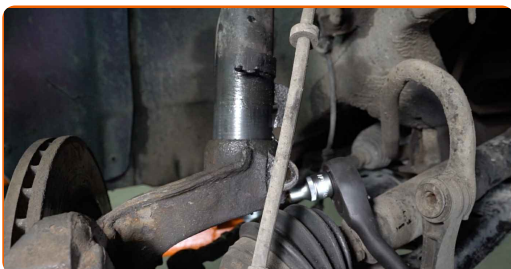


**18** Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.

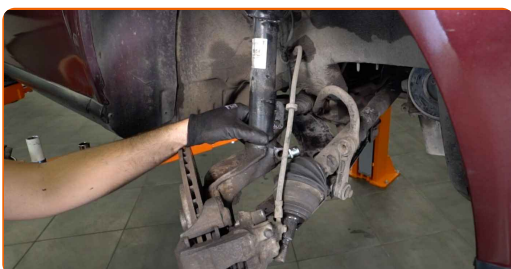




- 19** Release the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a special drive socket to remove the shock absorber.



- 20** Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut.



Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5). Tip:

- If necessary, use a rubber mallet.

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



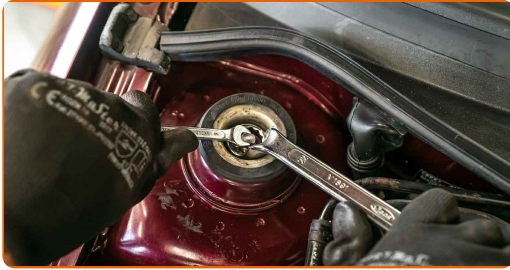
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Make sure that the steering knuckle is not released from load.



**22**

Unscrew the upper fastening of the shock absorber strut. Use a combination spanner #21. Use HEX No.H6.

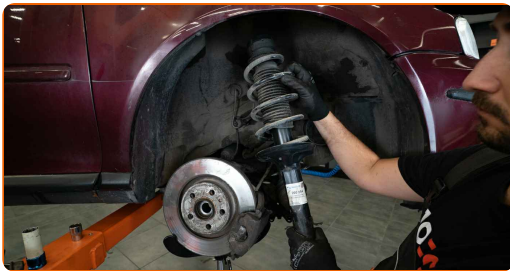


**Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5). Tip from AUTODOC experts:**

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

**23**

Remove the suspension strut. Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.



**Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5). 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.

**24** Compress the spring.



**25** Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use flare nut socket #22. Use HEX No.H6.



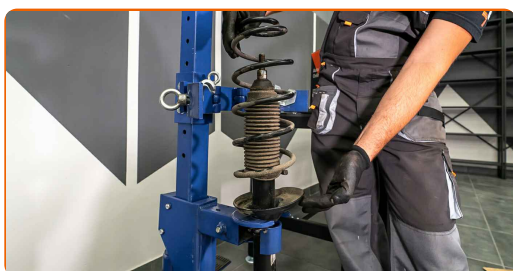
**26** Remove the top strut mount.



**27** Release the coil spring.



**28** Remove the spring.



**29** Remove the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop.



**30** Remove the old shock absorber from the hydraulic coil spring compressor.

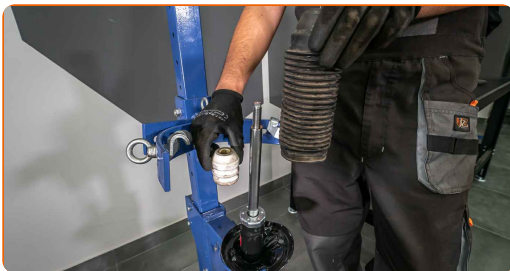
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5). Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.
- Before installing a new shock absorber you should pump it manually 3-5 times.

**31** Install the new shock absorber on the hydraulic coil spring compressor.



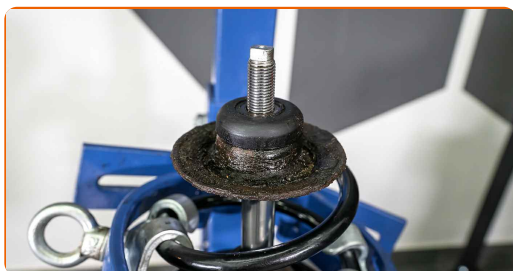
**32** Install the dust sleeve and the bump stop on the new shock absorber.



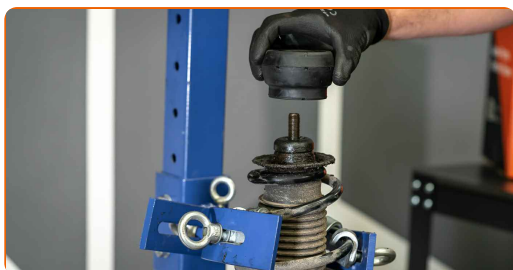
**33** Install the spring on the shock absorber.



**34** Compress the spring.



**35** Install the upper strut mount and the strut mount bearing.



**36** Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a combination spanner #19. Use HEX No.H6. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.



Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5). Professionals recommend:

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

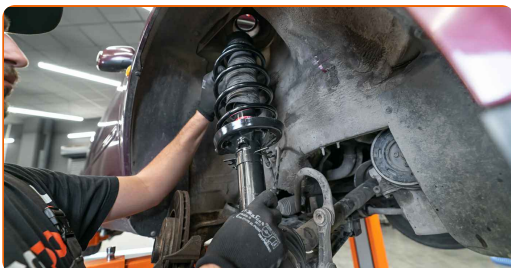
**37** Decompress the spring.



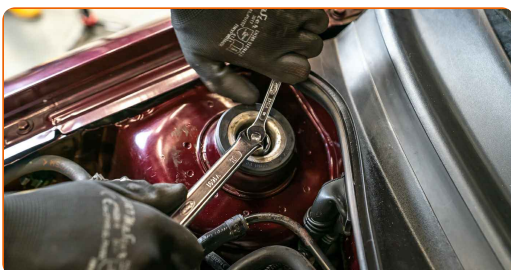
**38** Remove the assembled shock strut.



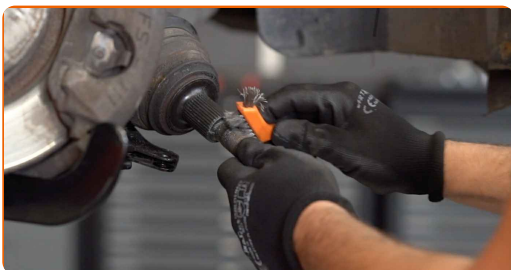
**39** Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.



**40** Tighten the upper fastening nut of the shock absorber strut. Do not tighten it.



**41** Clean the splines of the drive shaft CV joint. Use a wire brush.





**42**

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

**43**

Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle.



**Replacement: suspension strut – SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5). AUTODOC recommends:**

- If necessary, use a rubber mallet.

**44**

Install and tighten a new bolt of the steering knuckle. Important! Be sure to use new fasteners. Use a drive socket #18. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.+90°

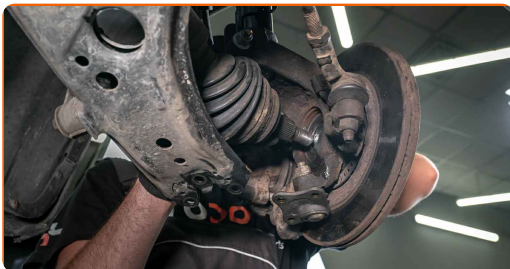


**45**

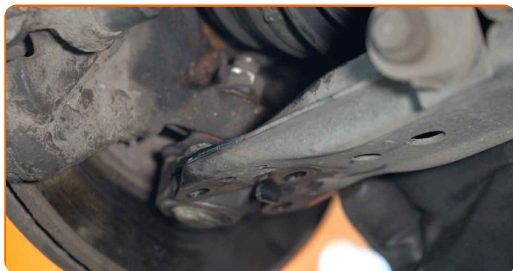
Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.

**46**

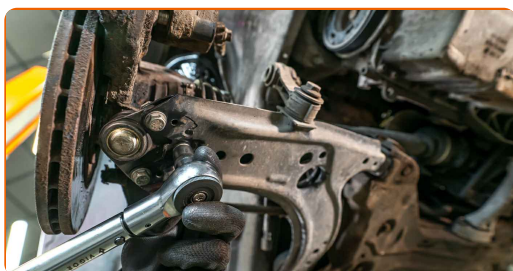
Mount the drive shaft into the wheel hub.



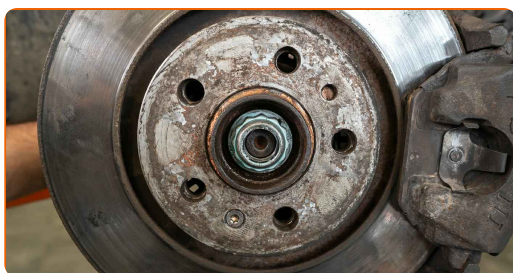
**47** Attach the ball joint to the control arm.



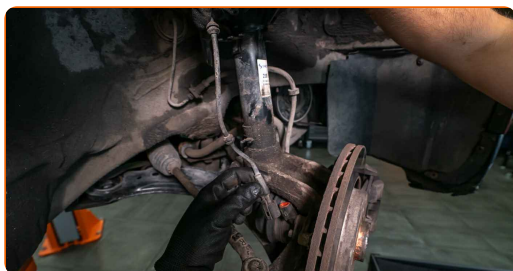
**48** Screw in the fasteners of the ball joint lock plate (3 pieces). Important! Be sure to use new fasteners. Use a drive socket #13. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 20 Nm torque.+90°



**49** Screw the nut of the drive shaft.



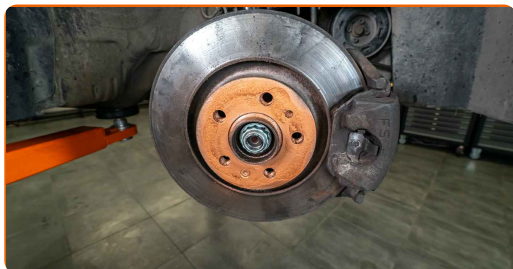
**50** Fasten the brake hose on the strut. Connect the fastener of the ABS sensor cable to the shock absorber strut.





51

Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush. Treat the contacting surface. Use copper grease.



52

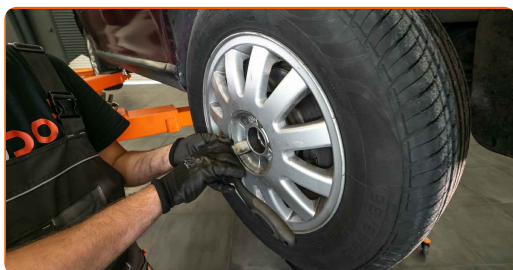
Install the wheel.

**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. SKODA Octavia I Combi (1U5)

53

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

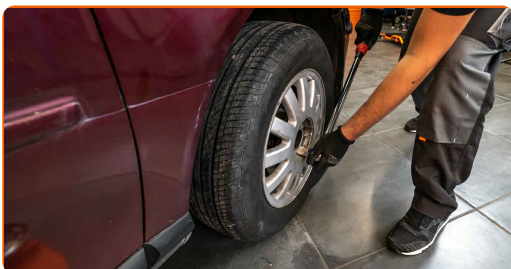


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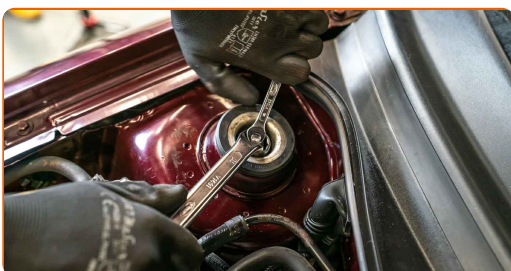
Tighten the drive shaft nut. Use 1-3/16" drive 12-point socket. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 180 Nm torque.



- 55 Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 Nm torque.



- 56 Tighten the shock strut top mount. Use a drive socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.



- 57 Remove the fender protection cover.

- 58 Close the hood.

- 59 Remove the jacks and chocks.

**WELL DONE!** 

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