



How to change rear  
shock absorbers on  
**TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_)**  
– 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:  
TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_) 2.0 4WD (SXA11)

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: TOYOTA RAV 4 II (CLA2\_, XA2\_, ZCA2\_, ACA2\_) 2.0 4WD (ACA21, ACA20)

**REPLACEMENT: SHOCK ABSORBERS – TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_). LIST OF THE TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:**



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Ceramic grease
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #6
- Combination spanner #14
- Combination spanner #17
- Drive socket # 14
- Wheel impact socket #19
- Ratchet wrench
- Crow bar
- Plastic trim tool
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

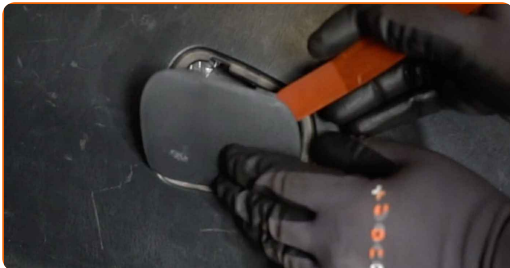
Replacement: shock absorbers – TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Both shock absorbers of the rear suspension should be replaced simultaneously.
- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right shock absorbers of the rear suspension.
- Please note: all work on the car – TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_) – should be done with the engine switched off.

## CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

**1** Open the boot lid.

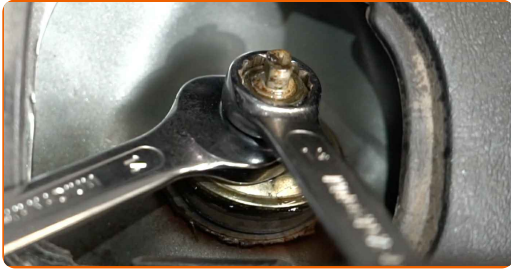
**2** Remove the cover of the boot side lining. Use a plastic trim tool.



**3** Clean the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**4** Loosen the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #14 (2 pieces).



**5** Secure the wheels with chocks.

**6** Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #19.



**7** Raise the car.

Replacement: shock absorbers – TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_). Professionals recommend:

- 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.

**8** Unscrew the wheel bolts.

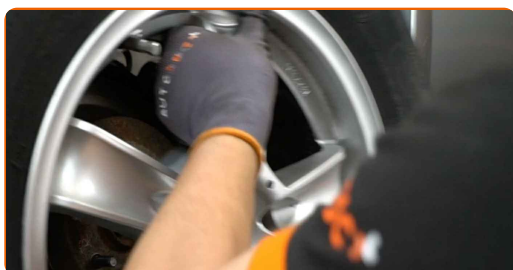


**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.  
TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_)

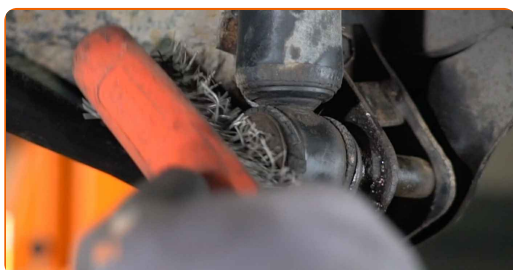
**9**

Remove the wheel.



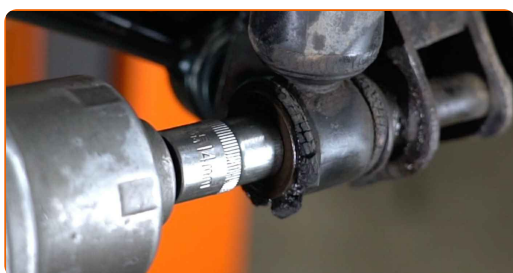
**10**

Clean the lower shock absorber fastener. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



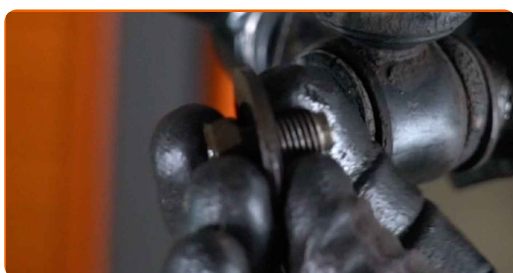
**11**

Unscrew the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #14. Use a ratchet wrench.



**12**

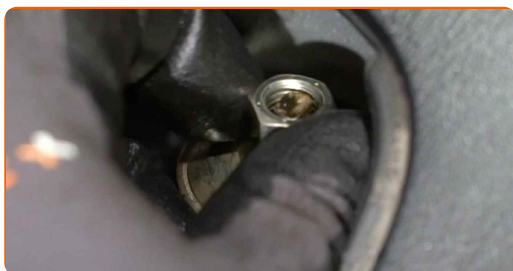
Remove the fastening bolt.



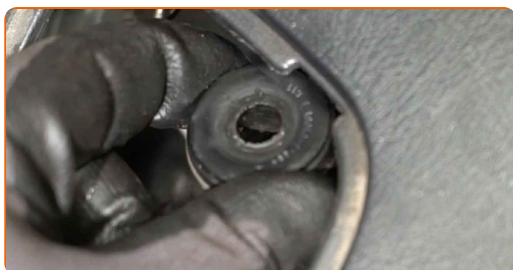
**13** Support the rear knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



**14** Unscrew the upper fastener of the shock absorber.



**15** Remove the elements of the shock absorber upper mount.

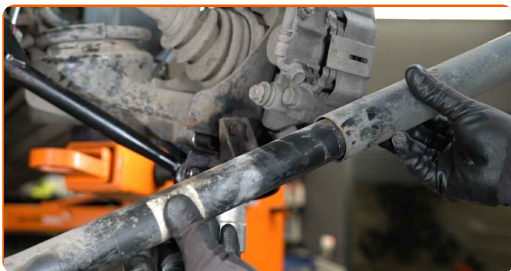


**16** Remove the support from under the rear knuckle.

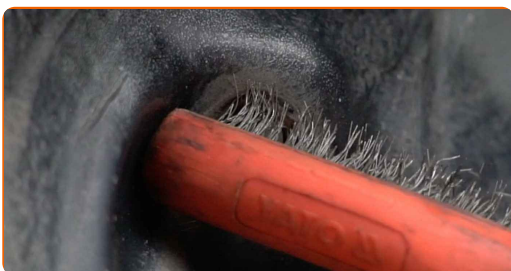
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: shock absorbers – TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

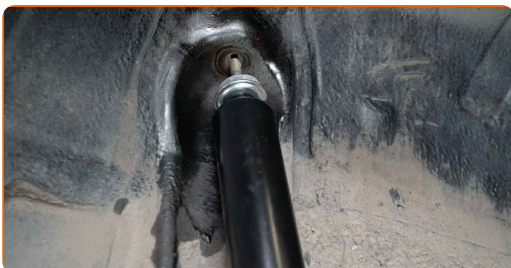
**17** Remove the shock absorber. Use a crowbar.



**18** Clean the shock absorber mounting seats. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**19** Place the shock absorber in the wheel arch and fasten it.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

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

**20** Install the fastening bolt.



**21** Support the rear knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



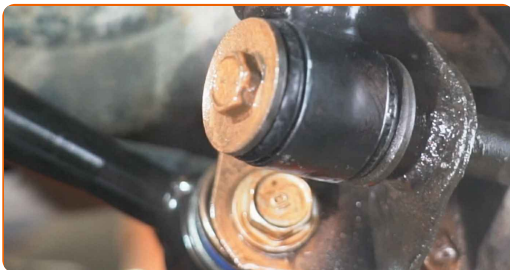
**Replacement: shock absorbers – TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_). Tip:**

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

**22** Tighten the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #14. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 37 Nm torque.



**23** Treat the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use copper grease.



**24** Install the elements of the shock absorber upper mount.



**25** Screw the upper fastener of the shock absorber.

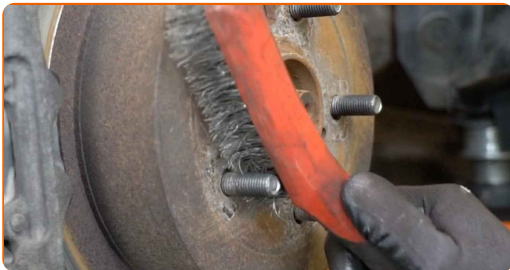


**26** Remove the support from under the rear knuckle.

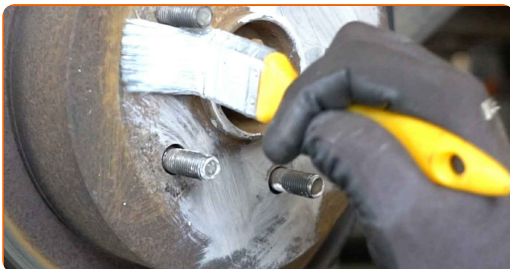
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_) – Do not lower the transmission jack sharply to avoid damaging components and mechanisms of the car.

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

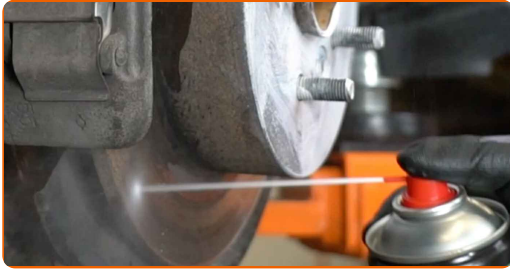


**28** Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use ceramic grease.



29

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

30

Install the wheel.

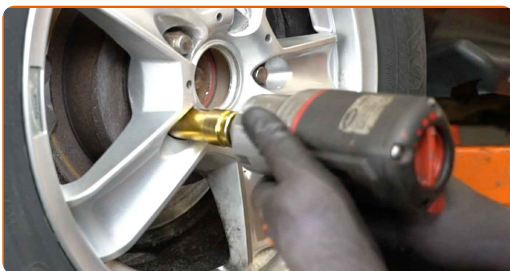


**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. TOYOTA RAV 4 (SXA1\_)

31

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



- 32** Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 103 Nm torque.



- 33** Remove the jacks and chocks.



- 34** Tighten the top shock absorber fastening. Use a combination spanner #17. Use a combination spanner #6. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 15 Nm torque.



- 35** Treat the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use copper grease.



**36** Install the cover of the boot side lining.



**37** Close the lid of the luggage compartment.

**WELL DONE!** 

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