



How to change front
suspension strut on
**VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I
(A) (X03)** – 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:

VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03) 1.7 DTI, VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03) 1.6 i, VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03) 1.6 i 16V, VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03) 1.8 i 16V, VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03) 1.7 CDTI, VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03) 1.3 CDTI, VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03) 1.4 16V Twinport, VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03) 1.6 i 16V Twinport

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 C Hatchback (X01) 1.3 CDTI (F08, F68)

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – VAUXHALL MERIVA MK I (A) (X03). TOOLS YOU MIGHT NEED:



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

Buy tools

Replacement: suspension strut – VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03). Tip from AUTODOC:

- 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.

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – VAUXHALL MERIVA MK I (A) (X03). TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

1 Open the bonnet.

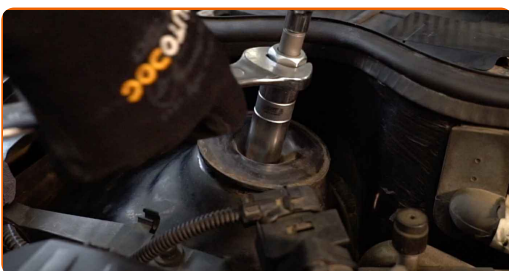
2 Use a fender protection cover to prevent damaging paintwork and plastic parts of the car.

3 Remove the shock strut mount cap. Use a flat screwdriver.



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

5 Loosen the upper fastener of the shock strut mount. Use a shock absorber socket DDN[®]8. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



6 Secure the wheels with chocks.



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



8 Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

9 Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts. VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03)

10 Remove the wheel.



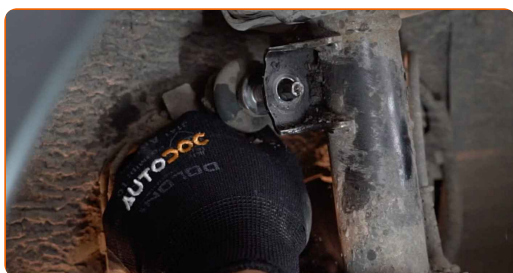
11 Clean the stabiliser link fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



12 Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #8. Use a ratchet wrench.



13 Remove the stabilizer rod.



Replacement: suspension strut – VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03). AUTODOC recommends:

- Examine stabiliser bushes. Replace them if needed.

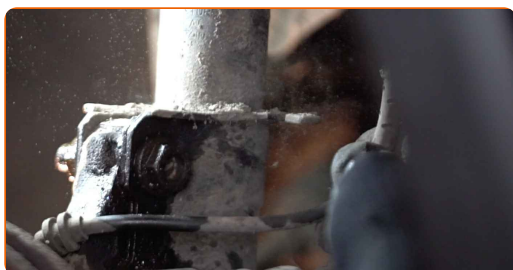
14

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



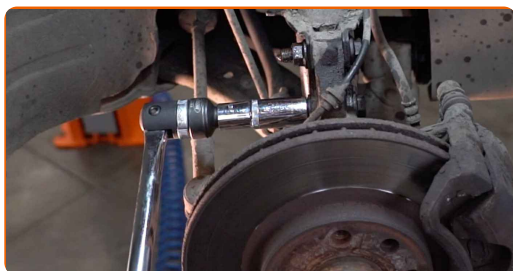
15

Disconnect the fastener of the ABS sensor cable from the shock absorber strut.

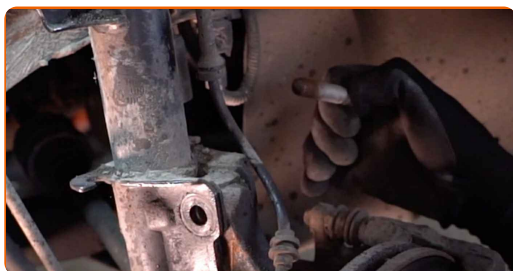


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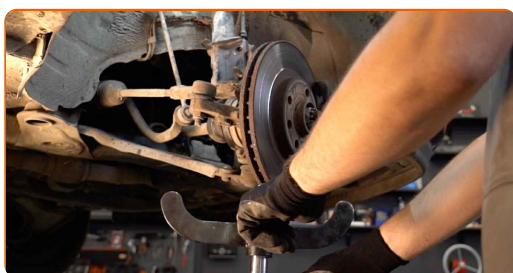
Unscrew the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a tap wrench.



17 Remove the fastening bolt.



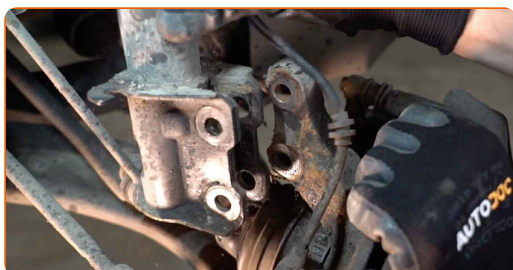
18 Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



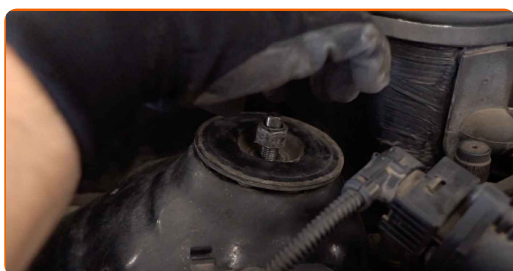
19 Remove the fastening bolt.



20 Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut. Use a crowbar.



21 Unscrew the top fastening of the shock strut mount.

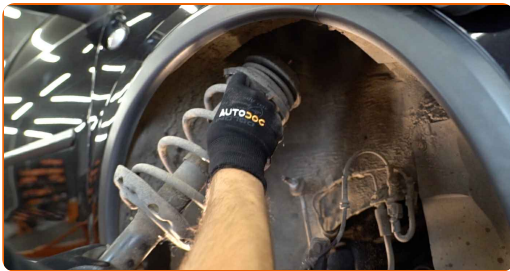


Replacement: suspension strut – VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03).
Professionals recommend:

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

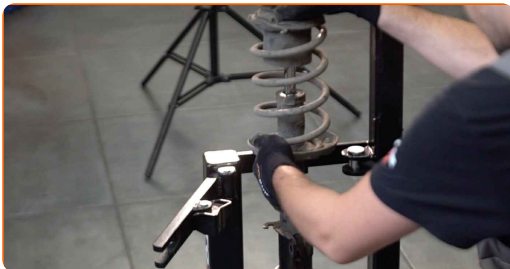
22

Remove the suspension strut.



23

Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.



Replacement: suspension strut – VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- 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.

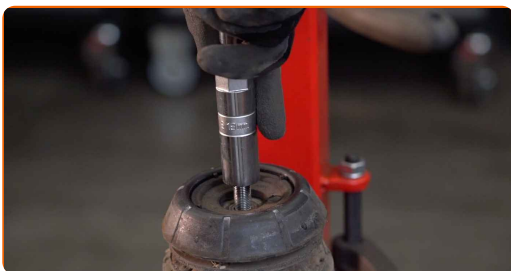
24

Compress the spring.



25

Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a drive socket #19. Use a shock absorber socket DDN#8. Use a ratchet wrench.



26

Remove the shock absorber mount, boot and bump stop.

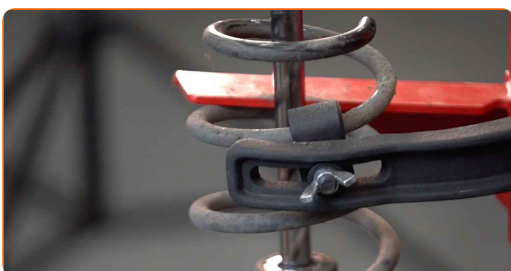


AUTODOC recommends:

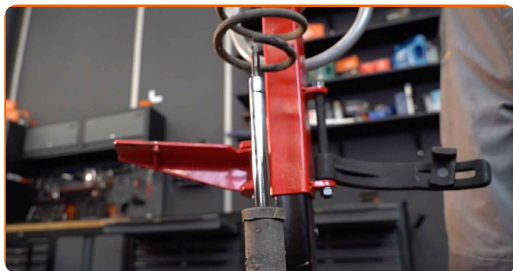
- Replacement: suspension strut – VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03). Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

27

Release the coil spring.



28 Remove the spring.



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



Replacement: suspension strut – VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03). AUTODOC experts recommend:

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

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



31 Install the spring on the shock absorber.



32 Compress the spring.



33 Install the mount, the boot and the bump stop on the shock absorber.



34 Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a drive socket #19. Use a shock absorber socket DDN[®]8. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 55 Nm torque.



Replacement: suspension strut – VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

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

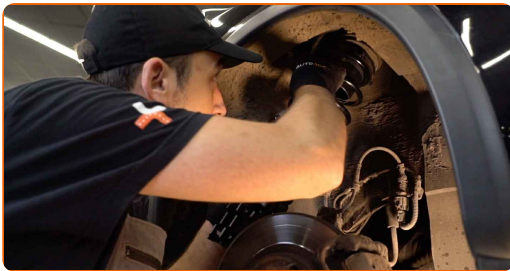
35 Decompress the spring.



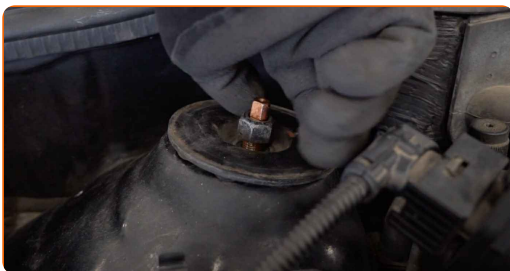
36 Remove the assembled shock strut.



37 Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.



38 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.
VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03)

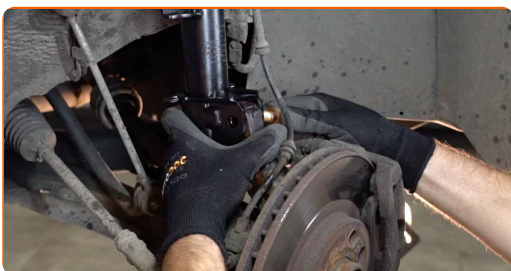
39

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



40

Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle.



41

Install the fastening bolts.



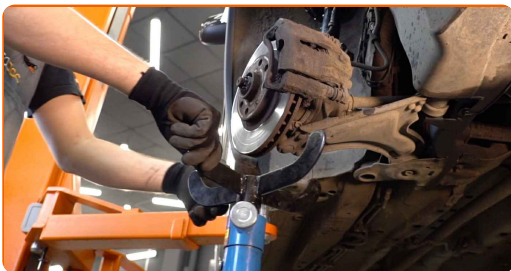
42

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



43

Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

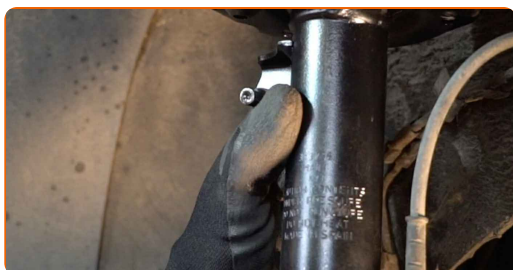
44

Connect the fastener of the ABS sensor cable to the shock absorber strut.



45

Install the transverse stabilizer link.



46

Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #8. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.



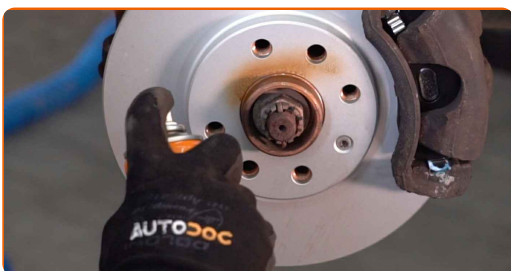
- 47 Tighten the lower fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 80 Nm torque.+60°



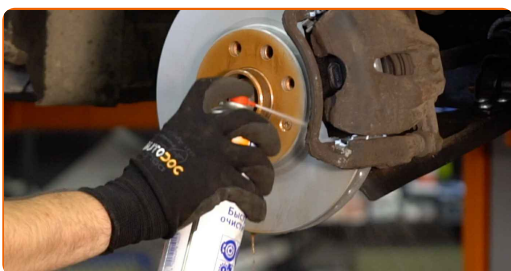
AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

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



- 49 Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



Replacement: suspension strut – VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03). Tip from AUTODOC:

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

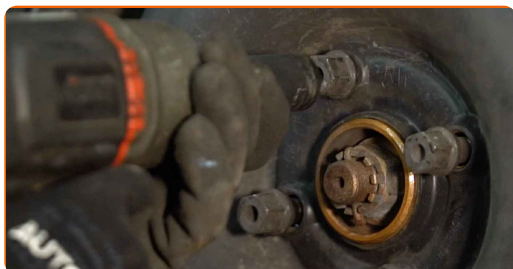
50 Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

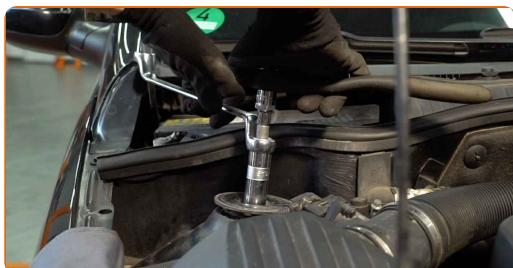
- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. VAUXHALL Meriva Mk I (A) (X03)

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

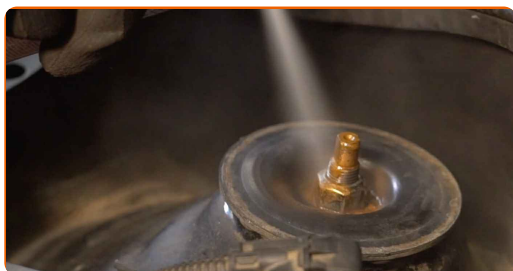


52 Lower the car.

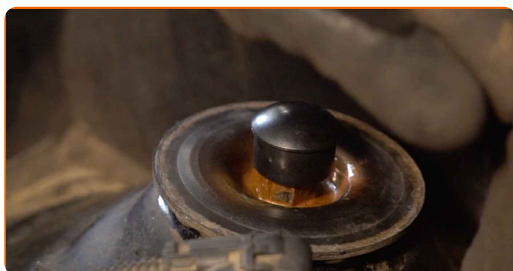
53 Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a shock absorber socket DDN°8. Use a ratchet wrench. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 55 Nm torque.



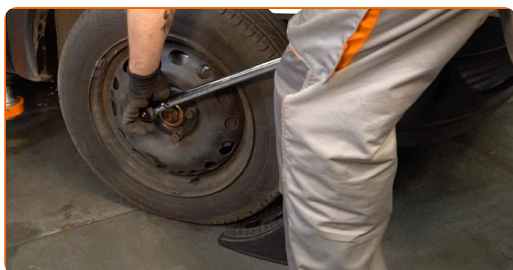
54 Treat the fasteners of the shock strut mount. Use copper grease.



55 Install the shock strut mount cap.



56 Tighten the wheel bolts using a criss-cross pattern. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 110 Nm torque.



57 Remove the fender protection cover.

58 Close the hood.

59

Remove the jacks and chocks.



WELL DONE! 

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