



How to change front
strut mount on **VW**
California T5 Minibus
(7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF) –
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:

VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF) 2.0 TDI, VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF) 2.0 TDI 4motion, VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF) 1.9 TDI, VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF) 2.5 TDI, VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF) 2.5 TDI 4motion, VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF) 2.5 TDi, VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF) 2.0 TSI, VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF) 2.0 TSI 4motion

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 Multivan V (7HM, 7HN, 7HF, 7EF, 7EM, 7EN) 1.9 TDI

**REPLACEMENT: STRUT MOUNT – VW CALIFORNIA T5
MINIBUS (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF). LIST OF THE TOOLS
YOU'LL NEED:**



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Ceramic grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #19
- Combination spanner #21
- Drive socket # 18
- Drive socket # 19
- Drive socket # 21
- Drive socket # 30
- HEX bit No.H5
- HEX bit No.H7
- Torx bit T30
- Wheel impact socket #19
- Ratchet wrench
- Flat Screwdriver
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Crow bar
- Flat chisel
- Hammer
- Pin punch
- Ball joint puller
- Clic-R collar pliers
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

Buy tools

Replacement: strut mount – VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF).
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.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: STRUT MOUNT – VW CALIFORNIA T5 MINIBUS (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF). USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

1

Secure the wheels with chocks.



2

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



3

Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

4 Unscrew the wheel bolts.



Replacement: strut mount – VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF).
AUTODOC experts recommend:

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

5 Remove the wheel.



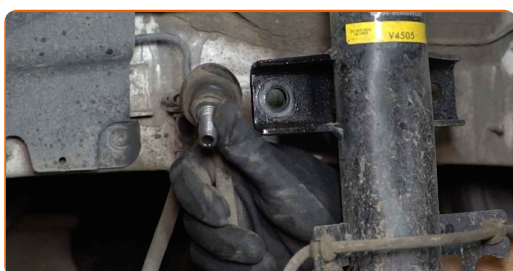
6 Clean the sway bar link fastener. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



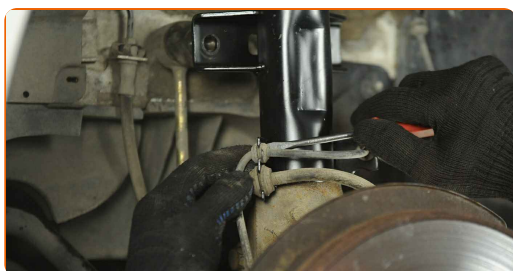
- 7 Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #19. Use HEX No.H5. Use a ratchet wrench.



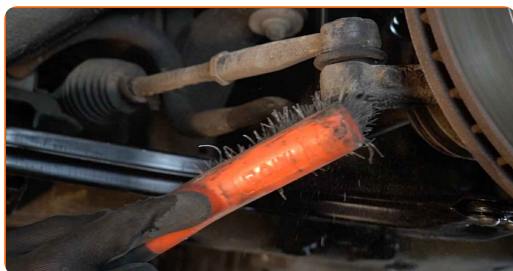
- 8 Remove the stabilizer rod.



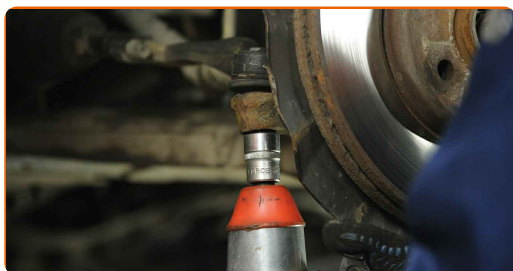
- 9 Disconnect the wiring and the brake hose from the bracket on the shock strut. Use a crowbar.



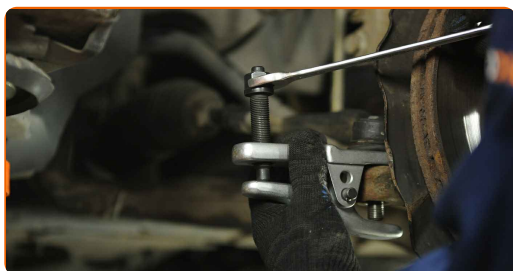
- 10 Clean the fastener connecting the tie rod end to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



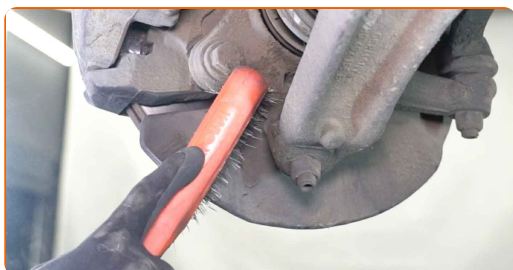
11 Unscrew the end fastening nut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #21. Use a ratchet wrench.



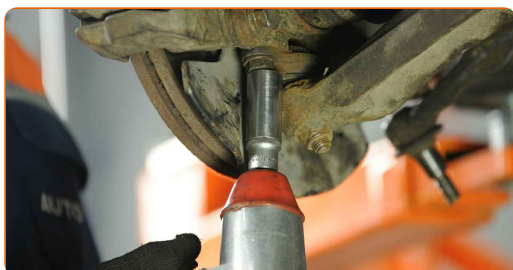
12 Disconnect the tie rod end from the steering knuckle. Use a ball joint puller.



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



14 Unscrew the ball joint fasteners from the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #19. Use a ratchet wrench.



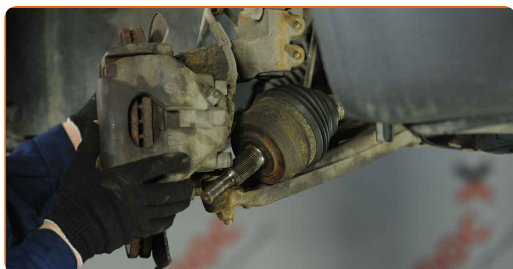
15 Remove the fastening bolts.

16 Unscrew the fastener connecting the drive shaft to the wheel hub. Use a drive socket #30. Use a ratchet wrench.



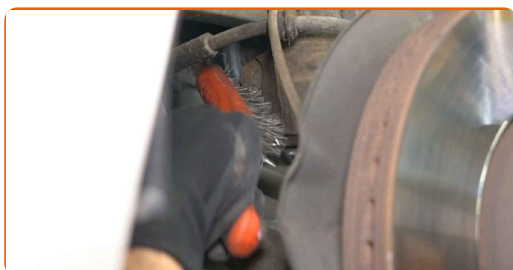
17 Remove the fastening nut.

18 Detach the driveshaft from the steering knuckle. Use a pin punch. Use a hammer.

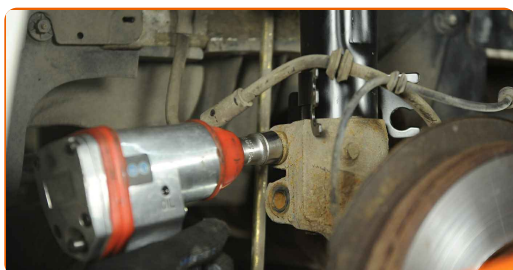


19 Disconnect the ball joint from the steering knuckle.

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



21 Unscrew the fasteners connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



22

Remove the fastening bolts.

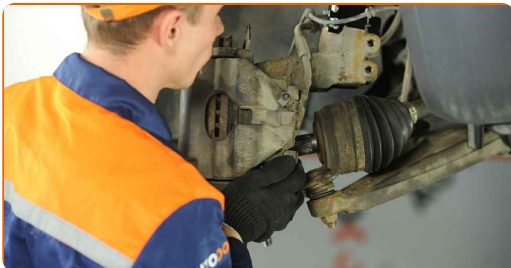
23

Release the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a flat metal-working chisel. Use a hammer.



24

Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut.



25

Connect the ball joint to the steering knuckle.



26

Lower the car.

27

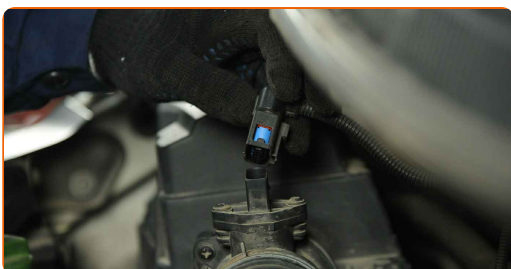
Open the bonnet.

28

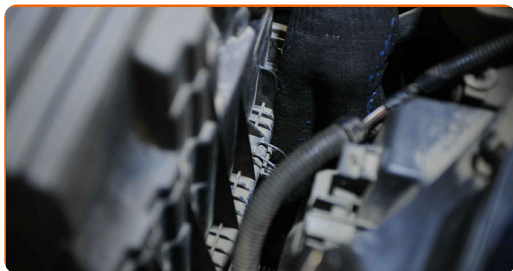
Use a fender protection cover to prevent damaging paintwork and plastic parts of the car.

29

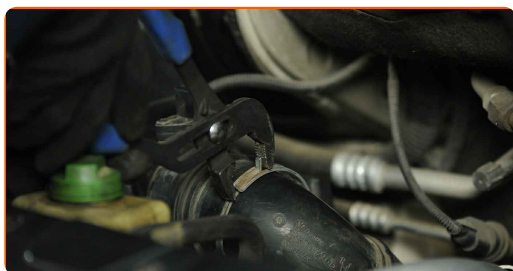
Unplug the mass air flow sensor connector. Use a flat screwdriver.



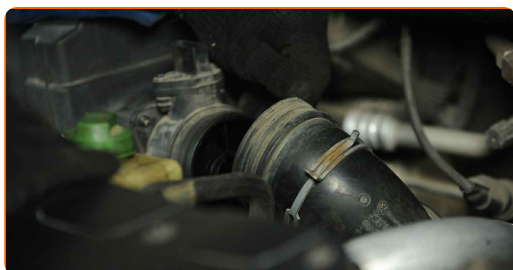
30 Release the air filter cover clips.



31 Detach the air intake hose clamp. Use clic-R collar pliers.



32 Disconnect the air intake pipe from the air filter housing.

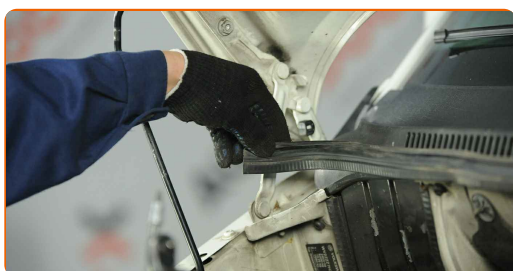


33 Take off the filter lid.

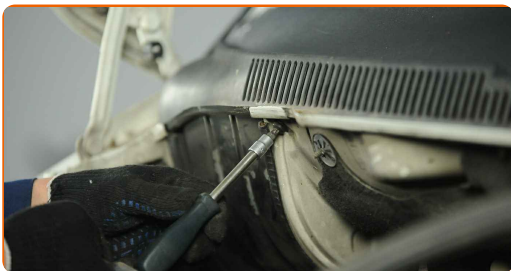


34 Remove the air filter.

35 Remove the cowl grille seal.



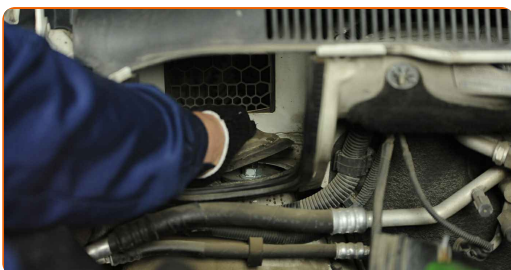
36 Unscrew the mounting bolts of the protective cover. Use Torx T30. Use a ratchet wrench.



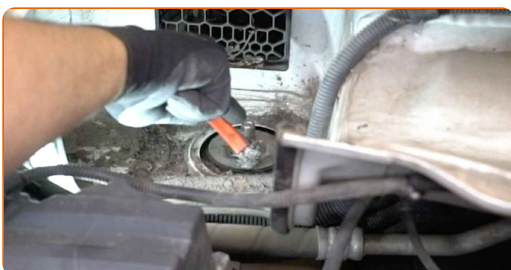
37 Remove the protective cover.



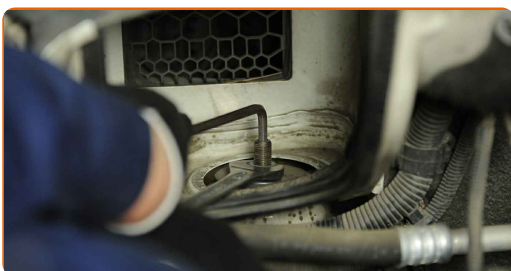
38 Remove the shock strut mount cap. Use a crowbar.



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



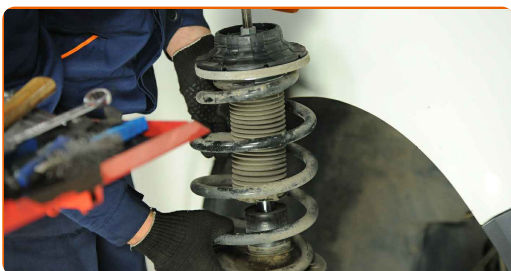
- 40** Unscrew the top fasteners of the suspension strut mount. Use a combination spanner #21. Use HEX No.H7. Use a ratchet wrench.



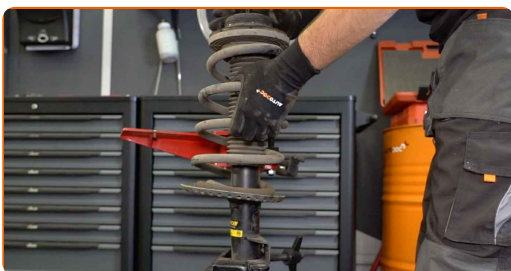
AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the suspension strut while unscrewing the fastening bolts. VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF)

- 41** Remove the suspension strut.



- 42** Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.



Replacement: strut mount – VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF).

Tip:

- 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.

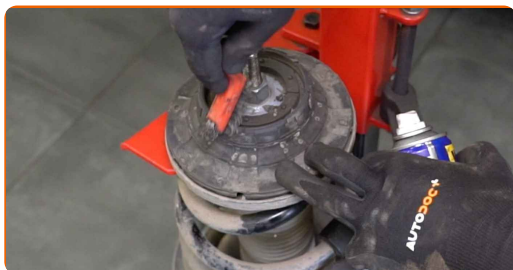
43

Compress the spring.



44

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



45

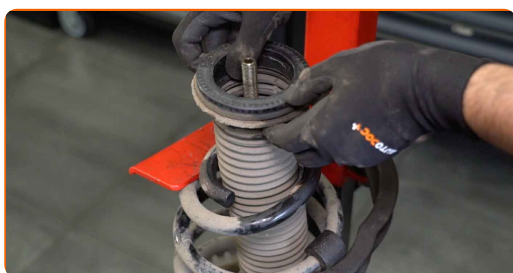
Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a combination spanner #21. Use HEX No.H7. Use a ratchet wrench.



46 Remove the top strut mount. Use a crowbar.



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



Replacement: strut mount – VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF).
AUTODOC recommends:

- Examine the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop. Replace them if necessary.

48 Install the boot and a bump stop onto the shock absorber.



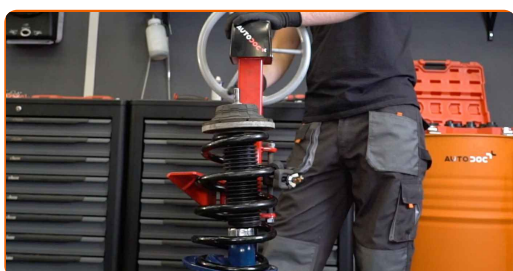
49 Install a new top shock strut mount.



- 50 Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a drive socket #21. Use HEX No.H7. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 80 Nm torque.

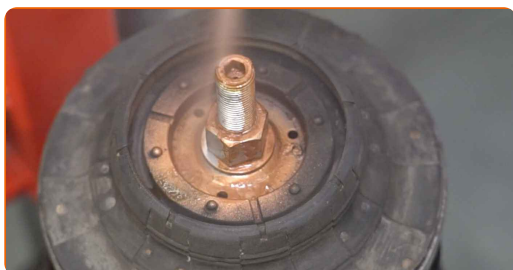


- 51 Decompress the spring.



- 52 Remove the assembled shock strut.

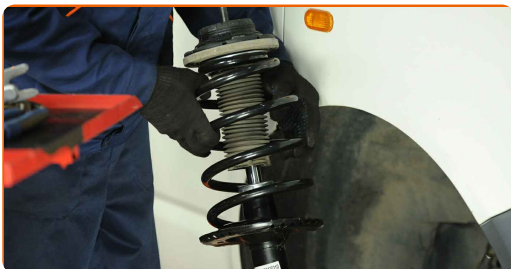
- 53 Treat the shock strut rod. Use copper grease.



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



55 Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.

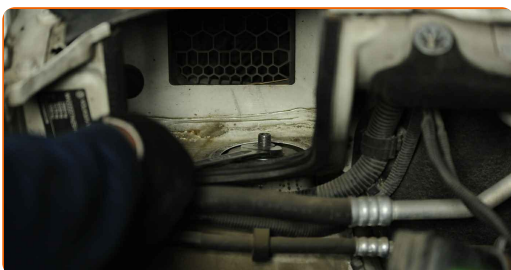


56 Screw in the top fasteners of the suspension strut mount.

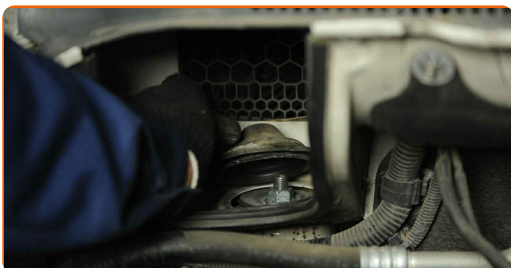
Replacement: strut mount – VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF).
Tip from AUTODOC experts:

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

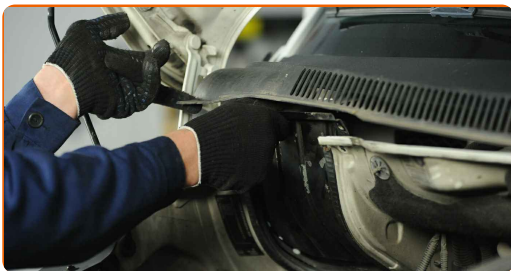
57 Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a combination spanner #21. Use HEX No.H7. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 80 Nm torque.



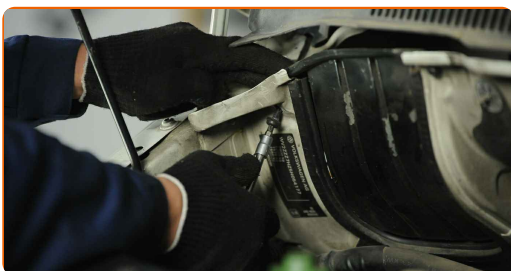
58 Install the shock strut mount cap.



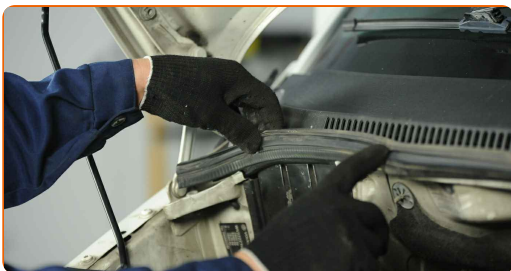
59 Install the protective cover.



60 Tighten the mounting bolts of the protective cover. Use Torx T30. Use a ratchet wrench.



61 Install the cowl grille seal.



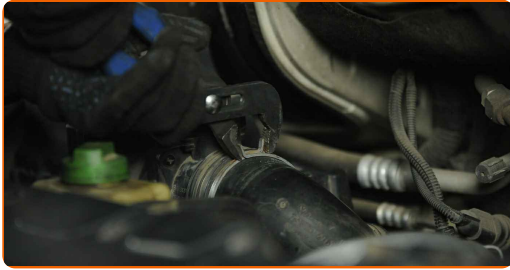
62 Install the air filter.

63 Reinstall the air filter cover. Fasten it.

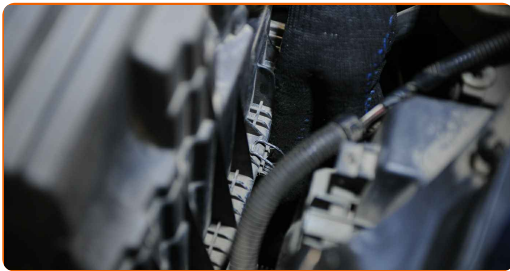


64 Connect the air intake pipe to the air filter housing.

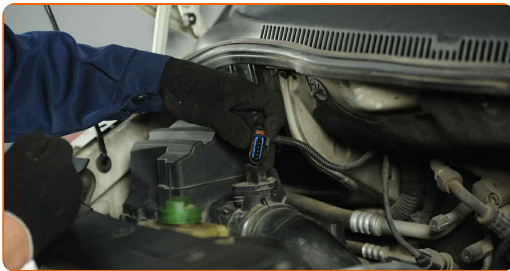
65 Fasten the clamp on the air intake hose. Use clic-R collar pliers.



66 Press the air filter cover clips into place.



67 Plug in the mass air flow sensor connector.

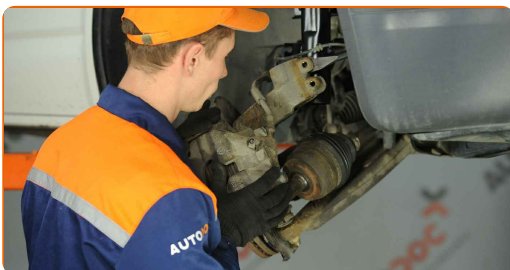


68 Remove the fender protection cover.

69 Close the hood.

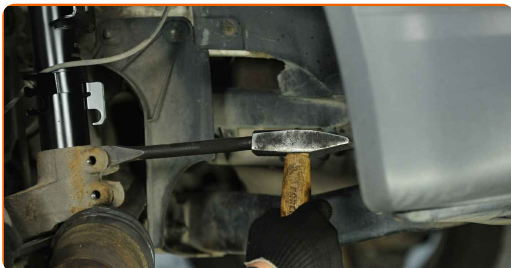
70 Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

71 Release the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a flat metal-working chisel. Use a hammer.



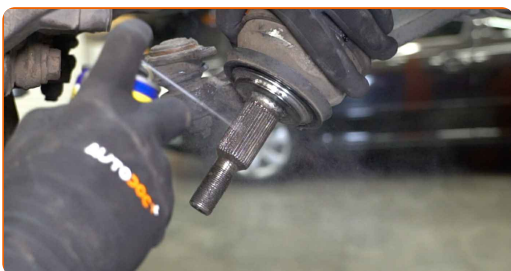
72 Disconnect the ball joint from the steering knuckle.

73 Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle. Use a crowbar. Use a hammer.

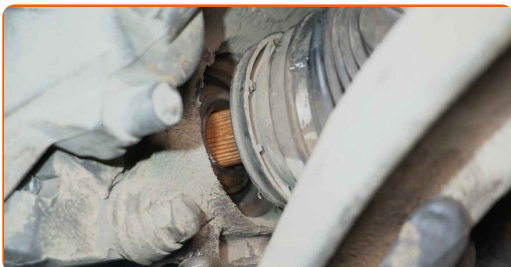


74 Install the fastening bolts.

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



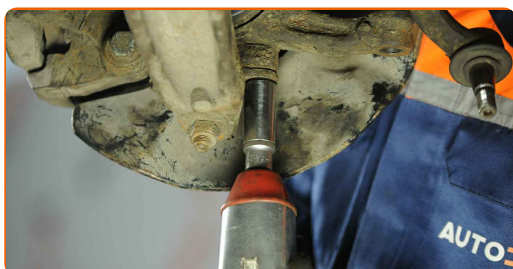
76 Install the steering knuckle on the CV axle.



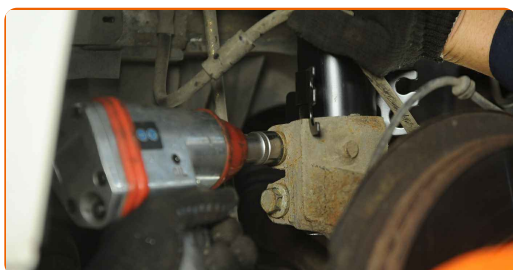
77 Connect the ball joint to the steering knuckle.

78 Install the fastening bolts.

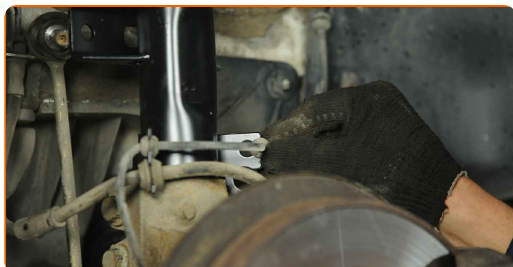
- 79** Tighten the fasteners that connect the ball joint to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 90 Nm torque.+45°



- 80** Tighten the lower fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 75 Nm torque.+180°



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



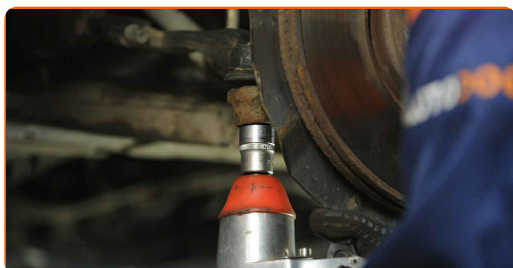
- 82** Install the transverse stabilizer link. Use a crowbar.

- 83** Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #19. Use HEX No.H5. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.+45°



84 Connect the tie rod end to the steering knuckle.

85 Tighten the fastening nut connecting the tie rod end to the steering knuckle. Use a drive socket #21. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque. +90°



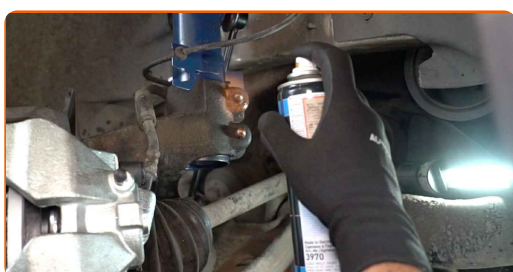
86 Install the fastening nut.



87 Tighten the drive shaft nut. Use a drive socket #30. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 200 Nm torque.



88 Treat all joints of the arm. Treat the shock strut fasteners. Treat all tie rod end connections. Treat all joints of the stabiliser link. Use copper grease.



89

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



90

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.

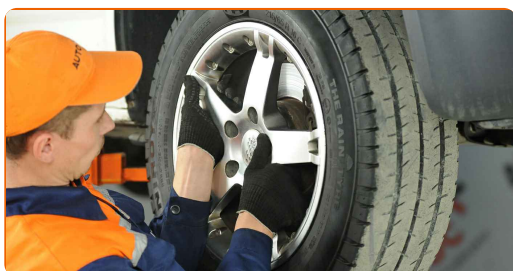


AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: strut mount – VW California T5 Minibus (7EC, 7EF, 7EG, 7HF). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

91

Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when screwing in the fastening bolts.

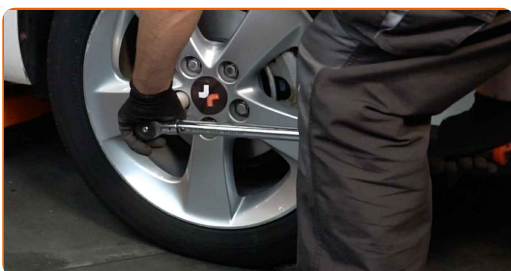
92

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



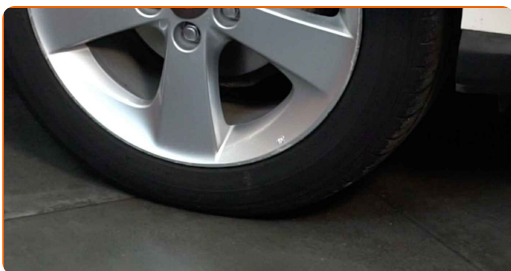
93

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 180 Nm torque.



94

Remove the jacks and chocks.



WELL DONE! 

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