



How to change rear
shock absorbers on **VW**
PASSAT (3B3) –
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 PASSAT (3B3) 1.6, VW PASSAT (3B3) 1.9 TDI, VW PASSAT (3B3) 2.3 V5, VW PASSAT (3B3) 2.0, VW PASSAT (3B3) 2.5 TDI, VW PASSAT (3B3) 1.8 T 20V, VW PASSAT (3B3) 1.8 T, VW PASSAT (3B3) 2.0 TDI, VW PASSAT (3B3) 2.8

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 PASSAT Variant (3B6) 1.9 TDI

REPLACEMENT: SHOCK ABSORBERS – VW PASSAT (3B3). TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 17
- Combination spanner #16
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Locking pliers
- Shock absorber socket №5
- Vice
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

Buy tools

Replacement: shock absorbers – VW PASSAT (3B3). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- 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 – VW PASSAT (3B3) – should be done with the engine switched off.

CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1

Secure the wheels with chocks.



2

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



3

Raise the rear of the car and secure on supports.

4

Unscrew the wheel bolts.

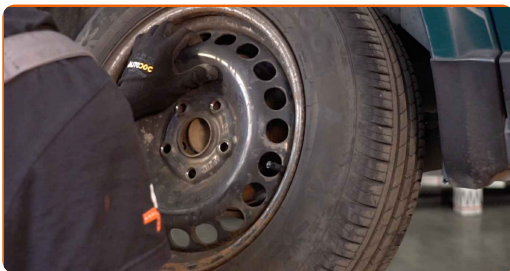


Replacement: shock absorbers – VW PASSAT (3B3). Tip:

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

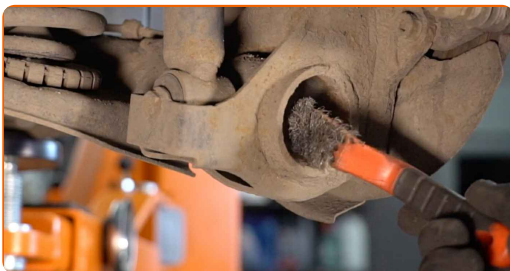
5

Remove the wheel.



6

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

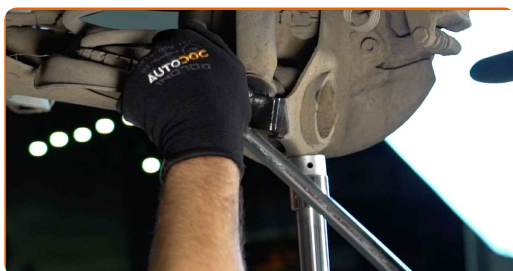


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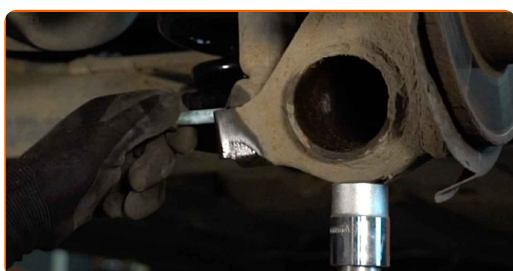
Support the rear suspension beam. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



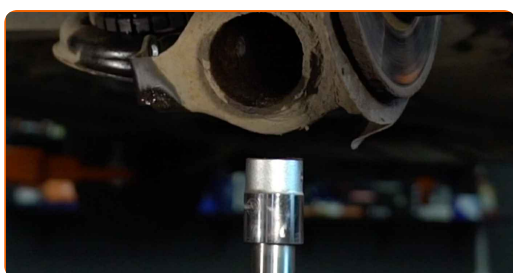
- 8** Unscrew the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 9** Remove the fastening bolt.



- 10** Remove the mounting from under the rear axle beam.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: shock absorbers – VW PASSAT (3B3). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

11

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



12

Unscrew the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



Replacement: shock absorbers – VW PASSAT (3B3). Professionals recommend:

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

13

Remove the shock absorber.



14

Grip the shock absorber in a vice.



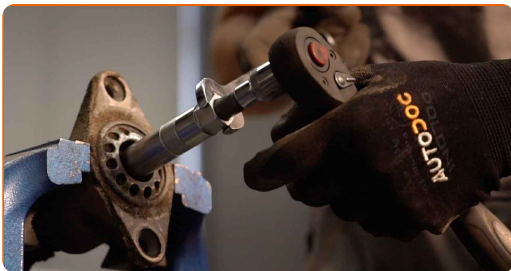
15

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



16

Remove the shock absorber piston rod fastening. Use a shock absorber socket #5. Use a drive socket #17. Use a ratchet wrench.



17

Remove the shock absorber mount, boot and bump stop.



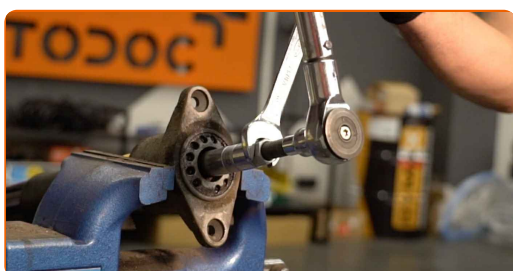
Replacement: shock absorbers – VW PASSAT (3B3). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

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

18 Install the mount, boot and bump stop onto a new shock absorber.



19 Screw the shock strut piston rod upper fastening. Use a combination spanner #17. Use locking pliers. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 25 Nm torque.



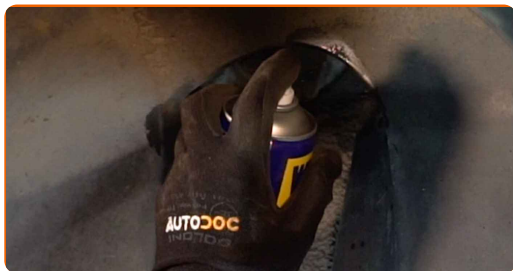
20 Release the vice and take out the shock absorber.



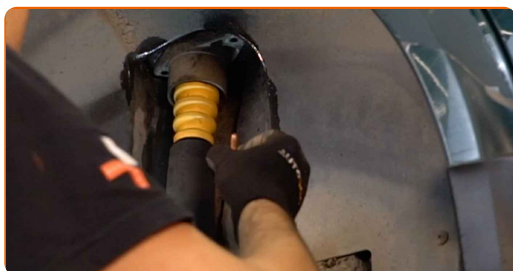
Replacement: shock absorbers – VW PASSAT (3B3). AUTODOC recommends:

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

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



22 Place the shock absorber in the wheel arch and secure it.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the shock absorber while screwing in the fastening bolts. VW PASSAT (3B3)

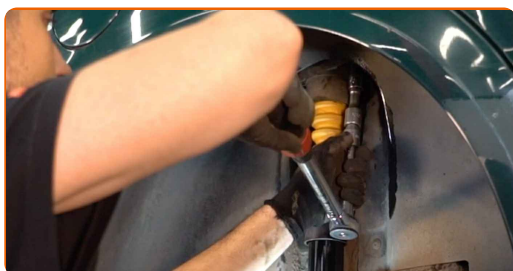
23 Screw the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #13.



Replacement: shock absorbers – VW PASSAT (3B3). Tip from AUTODOC:

- Install the shock absorber mount using the center hole as a guide.

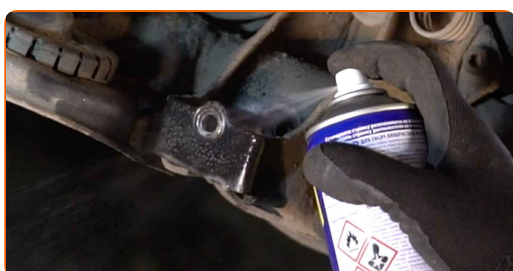
- 24 Tighten the top shock absorber fastening. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 36 Nm torque.



- 25 Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Use copper grease.



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



- 27 Support the rear suspension beam. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



- 28 Install the fastening bolt.

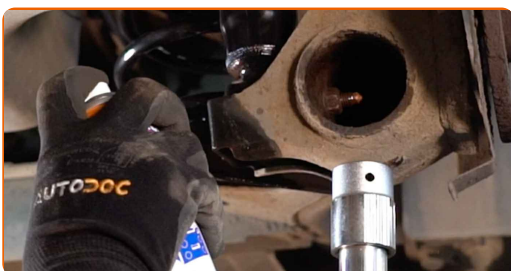
- 29** Tighten the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 50 Nm torque. +90°



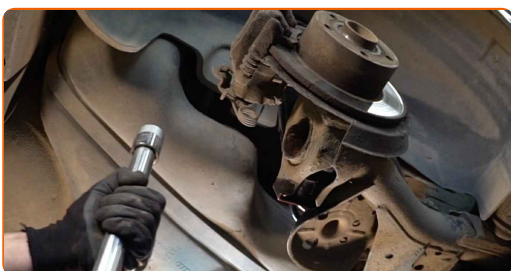
AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

- 30** Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Use copper grease.



- 31** Remove the mounting from under the rear axle beam.



Replacement: shock absorbers – VW PASSAT (3B3). AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Lower the hydraulic transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging assemblies and mechanisms.

32

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



33

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: shock absorbers – VW PASSAT (3B3). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

34

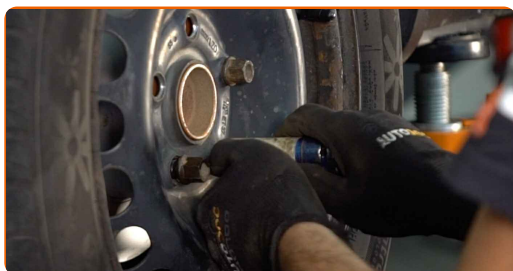
Install the wheel.



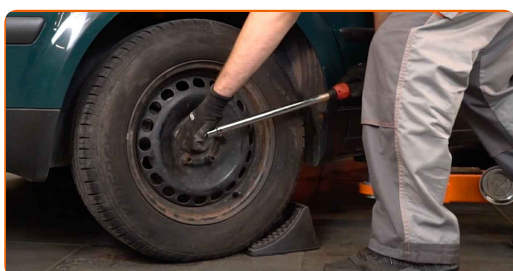
Replacement: shock absorbers – VW PASSAT (3B3). Tip:

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

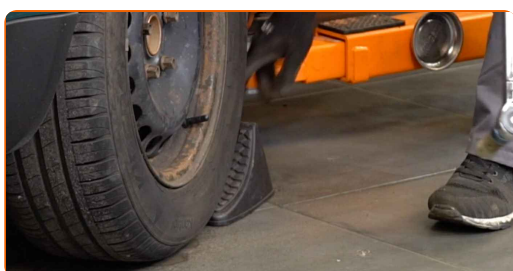
35 Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



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



37 Remove the jacks and chocks.



WELL DONE! 

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