



How to change front  
strut mount on **VW**  
**Passat B3/B4 Saloon**  
**(3A2, 35i)** – 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 B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 1.8, VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 2.0, VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 1.6 TD, VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 1.9 D, VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 1.9 TD, VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 1.9 TDI, VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 1.8 G60 Syncro, VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 2.0 16V, VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 2.8 VR6, VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 1.6, VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) 2.0 Syncro

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 Golf III Hatchback (1H1) 1.9 D

**REPLACEMENT: STRUT MOUNT – VW PASSAT B3/B4 SALOON (3A2, 35I). TOOLS YOU'LL NEED:**



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #18
- Combination spanner #21
- Drive socket # 10
- 14.5-mm strut nut socket
- Drive socket # 18
- Drive socket # 21
- HEX bit No.H6.
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Tap wrench
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

**Replacement: strut mount – VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i).  
Professionals recommend:**

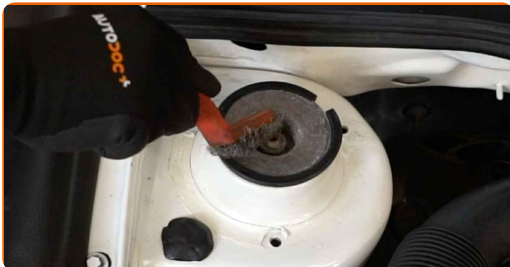
- The replacement procedure is identical for the mounts of the left and right shock struts of the front suspension.
- All mounts of the front shock struts should be replaced simultaneously.
- Please note: all work on the car – VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) – should be done with the engine switched off.

**CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:**

**1** Open the bonnet.

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

**3** Clean the fasteners of the shock strut upper mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



**4** Loosen the upper fastener of the shock strut mount. Use HEX No.H6. Use a drive socket #21. Use a ratchet wrench.



5

Secure the wheels with chocks.



6

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



7

Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

8

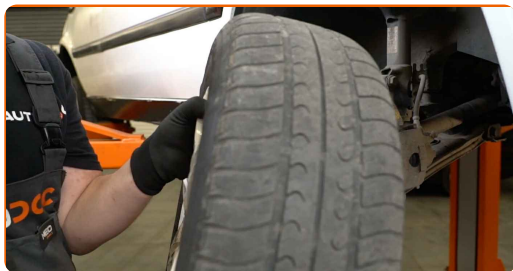
Unscrew the wheel bolts.



Replacement: strut mount – VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i). Tip from AUTODOC experts:

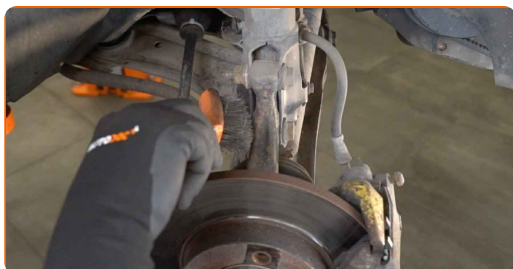
- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when unscrewing the bolts.

**9** Remove the wheel.

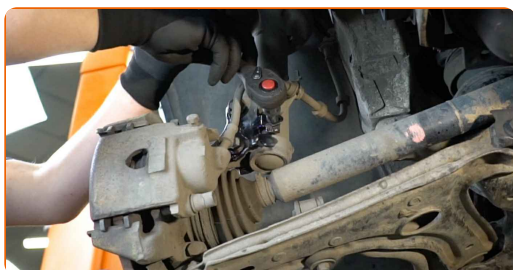


**10** Clean the fastener of the bracket that connects the brake hose to the shock strut.

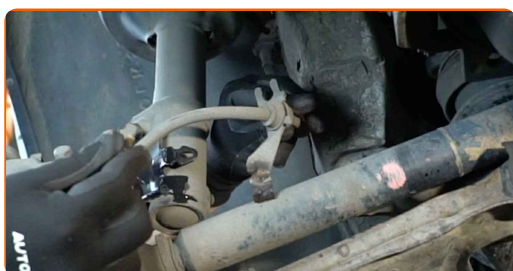
**11** Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



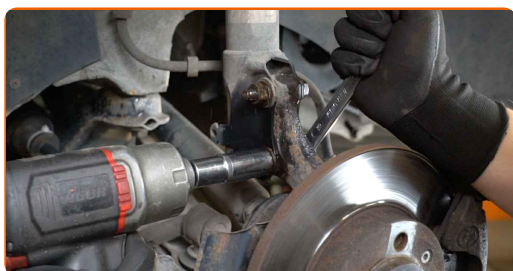
**12** Unscrew the brake hose fastening bracket from the shock strut. Use a drive socket #10. Use a ratchet wrench.



**13** Disconnect the brake hose mounting bracket.



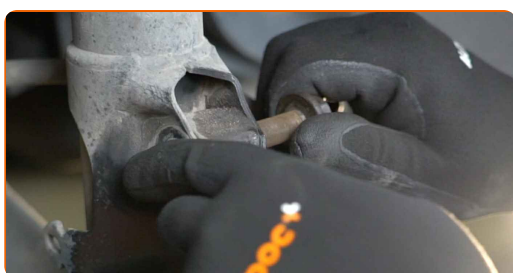
- 14** Unscrew the fasteners connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



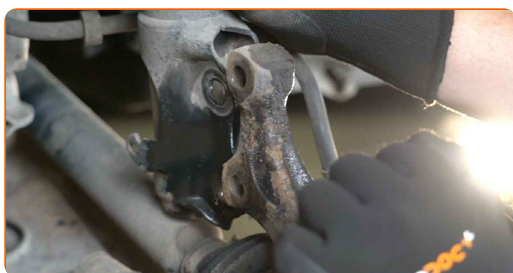
- 15** Support the arm. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



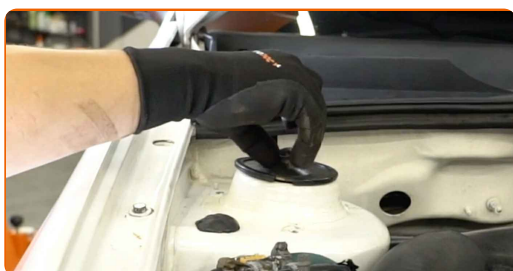
- 16** Remove the fastening bolts.



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



- 18** Unscrew the top fastening of the shock strut mount.

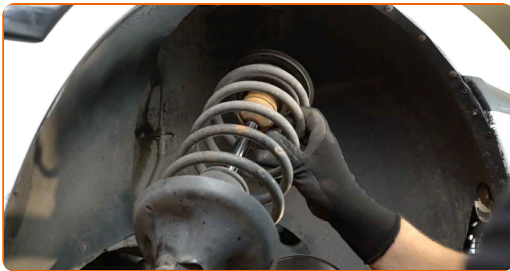


Replacement: strut mount – VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i). AUTODOC recommends:

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

19

Remove the suspension strut.



20

Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.

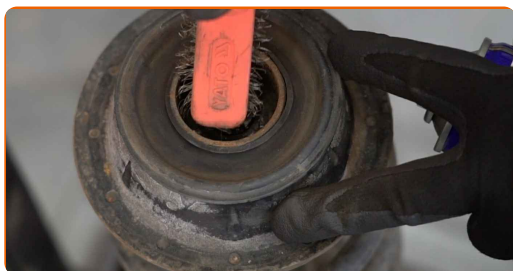


Replacement: strut mount – VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i). Tip:

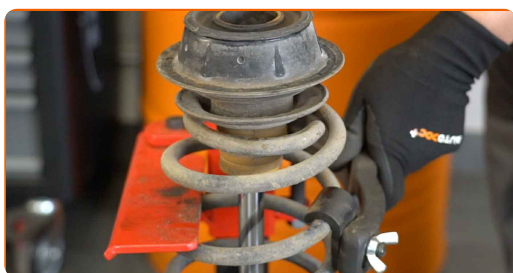
- Note that when using a spring compressor, spring coils need to be securely gripped, compressing the spring on the opposite sides.
- Ensure the correct position of the spring in the retainer.
- Make sure that the spring coils tightly entered the lock handles.



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



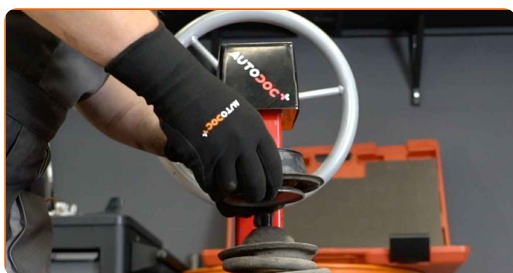
**22** Compress the spring.



**23** Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a combination spanner #21. Use a 14.5-mm strut nut socket. Use a ratchet wrench.



**24** Remove the top strut mount.



Replacement: strut mount – VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i). Tip from AUTODOC:

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

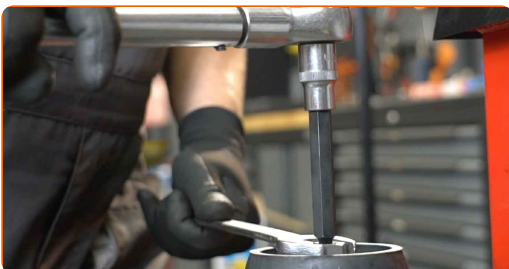
25

Install the upper strut mount and the strut mount bearing.



26

Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a combination spanner #21. Use a 14.5-mm strut nut socket. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.



Replacement: strut mount – VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i). Tip:

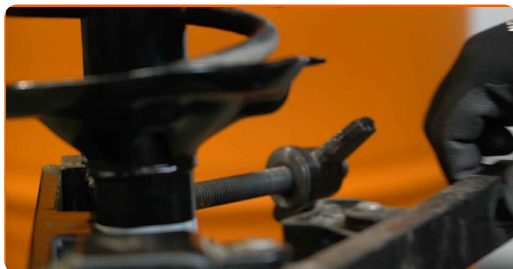
- Check to make sure the spring is positioned correctly. Avoid its misalignment.

27

Treat the shock strut rod. Use copper grease.



**28** Decompress the spring.



**29** Remove the assembled shock strut.

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



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



**32** Screw the top fastening of the shock strut mount. Do not tighten it.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

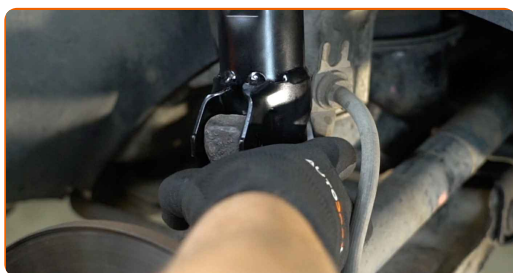
- VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) – To avoid injury, hold the suspension strut while screwing in the fastening bolts.

**33**

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

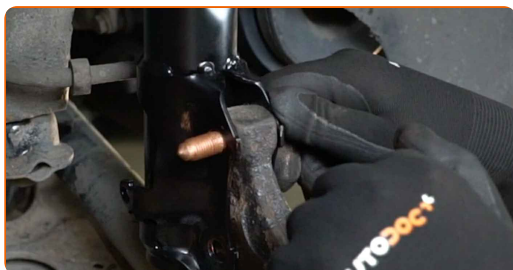
**34**

Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle.



**35**

Install the fastening bolts.



**36**

Screw in the fasteners connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a tap wrench.



- 37** 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 95 Nm torque.



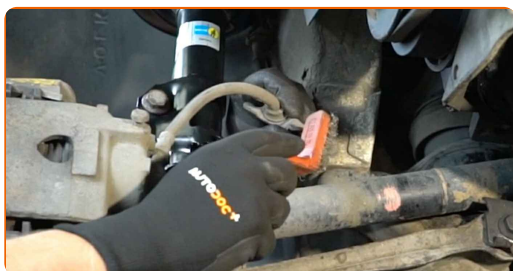
- 38** Remove the support from under the arm.



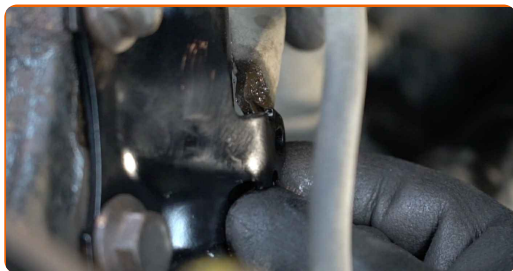
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i) – Do not lower the transmission jack sharply to avoid damaging components and mechanisms of the car.

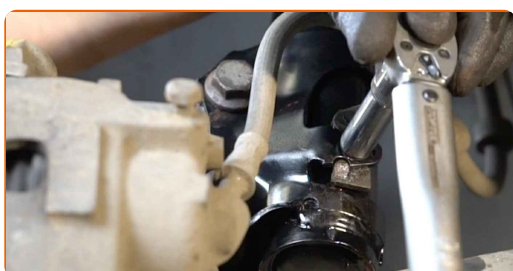
- 39** Clean the brake hose mounting seat. Use WD-40 spray.



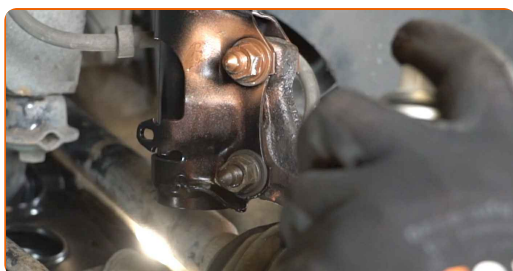
**40** Secure the brake hose fastening bracket.



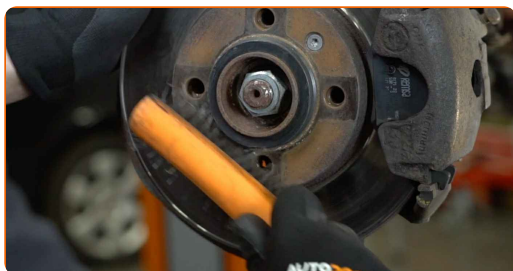
**41** Tighten the brake hose fastening bracket to the shock strut. Use a drive socket #10. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 13 Nm torque.



**42** Treat the shock strut fasteners. Use copper grease.



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



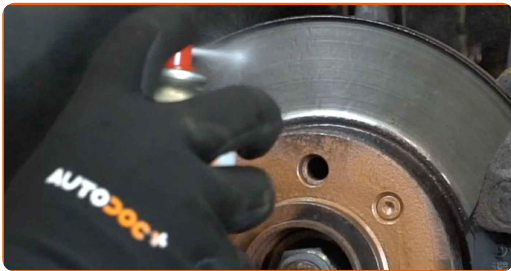
**44**

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



**45**

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: strut mount – VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

**46**

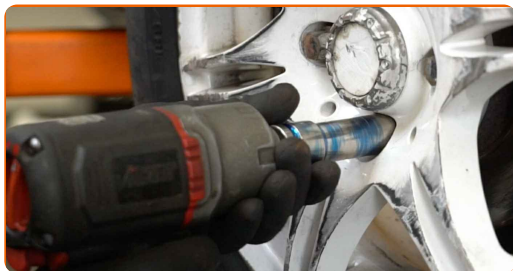
Install the wheel.



**Replacement: strut mount – VW Passat B3/B4 Saloon (3A2, 35i). AUTODOC experts recommend:**

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

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



**48** Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 110 nm torque.



**49** Remove the jacks and chocks.



**50** Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use HEX No.H6. Use a drive socket #21. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 60 nm torque.





**51**

Treat the upper fastener of the suspension strut mount. Use copper grease.

**52**

Remove the fender protection cover.

**53**

Close the hood.

**WELL DONE!** 

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**STRUT MOUNT: A WIDE SELECTION**

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