



How to change rear  
shock absorbers on **VW**  
**Passat Saloon (3C2)** –  
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 Saloon (3C2) 1.6 FSI, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 2.0 FSI, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 1.9 TDI, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 2.0 TDI 16V, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 2.0 TDI, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 1.6, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 3.2 FSI 4motion, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 2.0 TDI 16V 4motion, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 2.0 FSI 4motion, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 2.0 TDI 4motion, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 3.6 R36 4motion, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 3.6 FSI 4motion, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 3.6 FSI, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 1.4 TSI, VW Passat Saloon (3C2) 1.8 TSI, (+ 2)

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 Saloon (362) 2.0 TDI

**REPLACEMENT: SHOCK ABSORBERS – VW PASSAT SALOON (3C2). TOOLS YOU MIGHT NEED:**



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #18
- Combination spanner #21
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 17
- Drive socket # 18
- Drive socket # 21
- Torx bit T25
- Shock absorber socket #DD5,2
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Vice
- Crow bar
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

**Buy tools**

Replacement: shock absorbers – VW Passat Saloon (3C2). AUTODOC recommends:

- 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 Saloon (3C2) – should be done with the engine switched off.

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

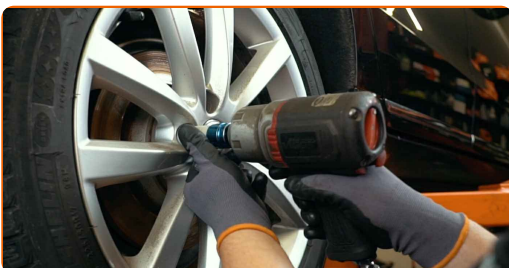
**1** Secure the wheels with chocks.

**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.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts. VW Passat Saloon (3C2)

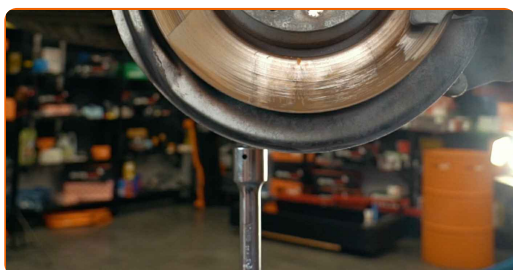
5

Remove the wheel.



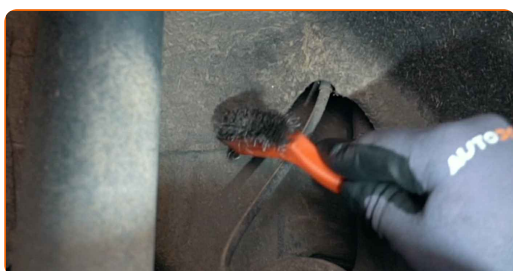
6

Support the arm. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



7

Clean the fasteners of the locker. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



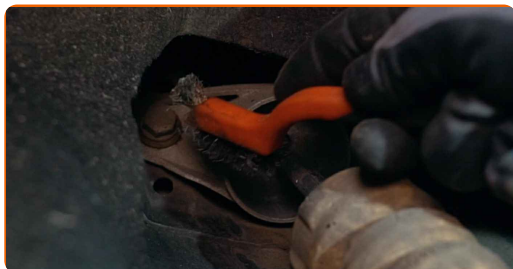
8

Unscrew and remove the wheel arch cover fasteners. Use Torx T25.



9

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



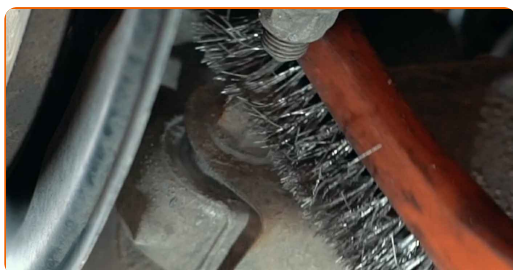
10

Unscrew the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #21.



11

Clean the control arm fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



12

Unscrew the lower arm fastener. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



**13** Remove the fastening bolt.



**14** Lower the hydraulic transmission jack by 10-15 cm.

**15** Remove the fastening bolt.



**16** Unscrew the upper fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Hold the shock absorber while unscrewing the fastening bolts. VW Passat Saloon (3C2)

**17** Remove the shock absorber.



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



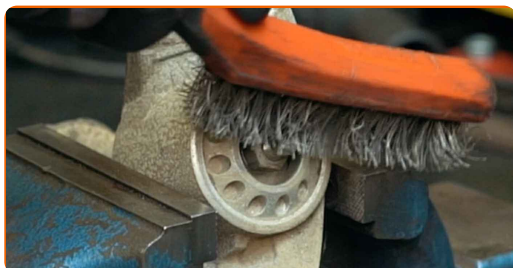
**19** Grip the shock absorber in a vice.



**20** Remove the protective cap of the shock absorber mount. Use a crowbar.



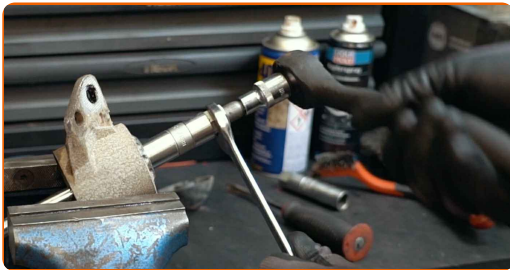
**21** Clean the shock absorber rod fastener. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.





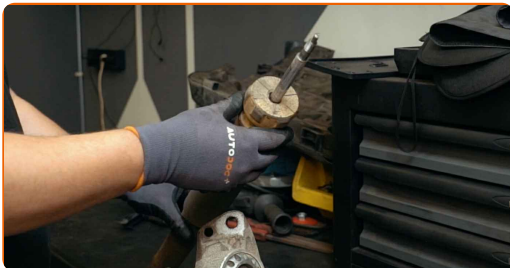
**22**

Remove the shock absorber piston rod fastening. Use a drive socket #17. Use a shock absorber socket DD#5,2. Use a ratchet wrench.



**23**

Remove the shock absorber mount, boot and bump stop.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: shock absorbers – VW Passat Saloon (3C2). Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.
- Before installing a new shock absorber you should pump it manually 3-5 times.

**24**

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



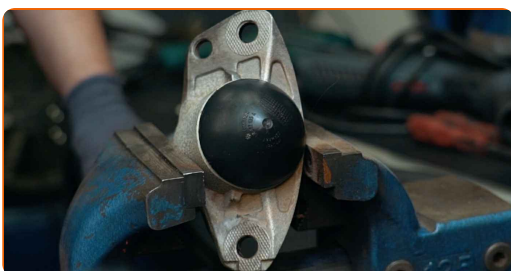
- 25 Screw the shock strut piston rod upper fastening. Use a drive socket #17. Use a shock absorber socket DD#5,2. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 25 Nm torque.



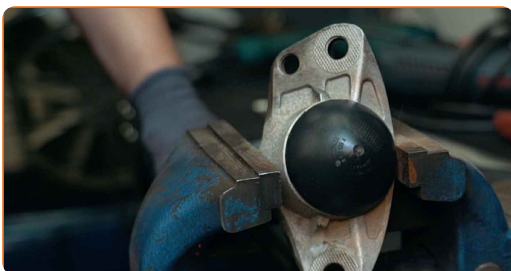
- 26 Treat the shock absorber rod fastener. Use copper grease.



- 27 Install the protective shock absorber mounting cap.



- 28 Release the vice and take out the shock absorber.



**29** 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 Saloon (3C2)

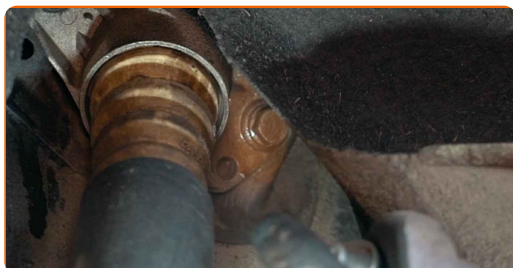
**30** Tighten the top shock absorber fastening. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 50 Nm torque.+45°



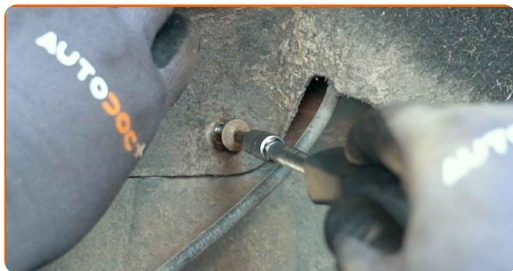
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

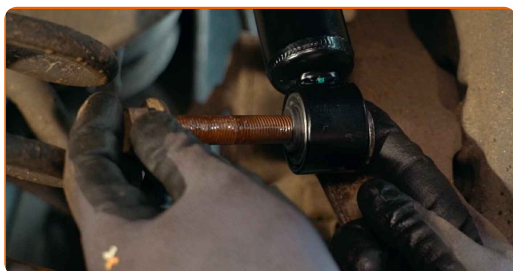
**31** Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Use copper grease.



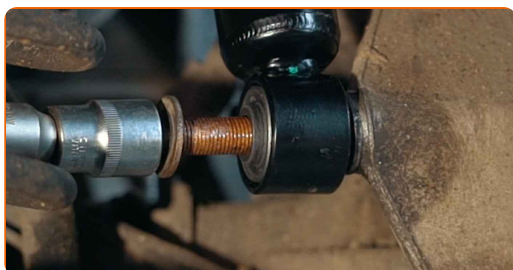
**32** Install and tighten the wheel arch cover fasteners. Use Torx T25.



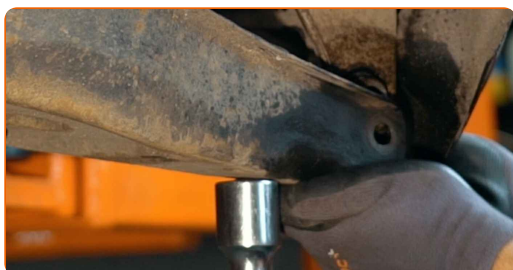
**33** Install the fastening bolt.



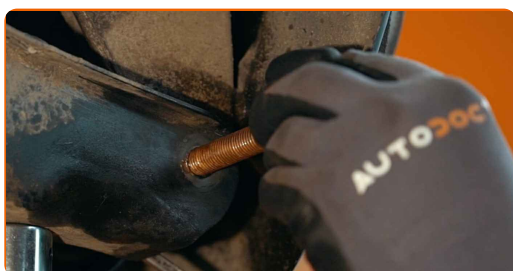
**34** Screw in the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a drive socket #21. Use a ratchet wrench.



**35** Raise the hydraulic transmission jack by 10-15 cm.



**36** Install the fastening bolt.

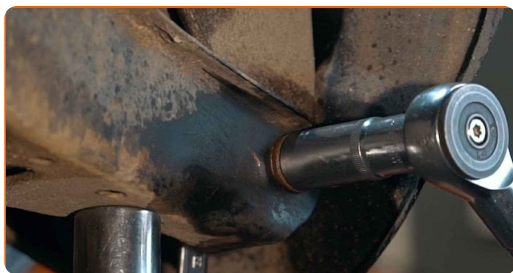


**37** Raise the hydraulic transmission jack by 10-15 cm.

**38** Tighten the lower fastener of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #21. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 180 Nm torque.



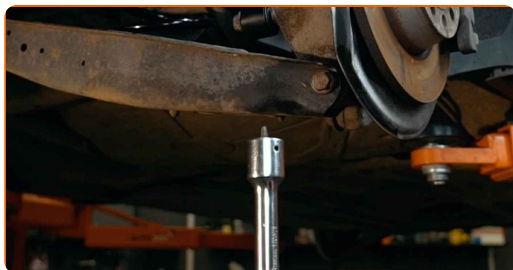
**39** Tighten the lower arm fastener. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 90 Nm torque. +90°



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

**40** Remove the support from under the arm.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: shock absorbers – VW Passat Saloon (3C2). Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

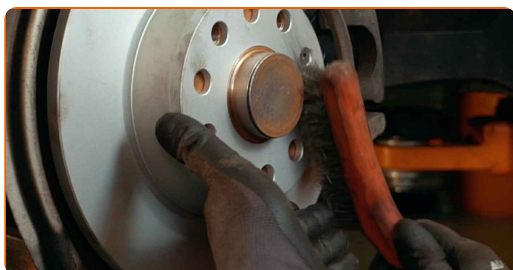
41

Treat the shock absorber fasteners. Treat all joints of the arm. Use copper grease.



42

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



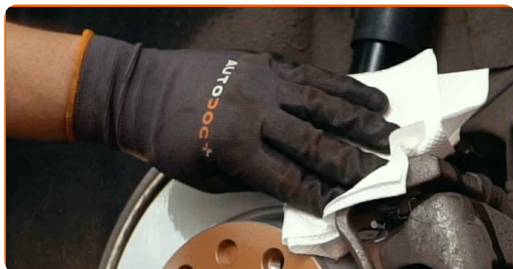
43

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



44

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.

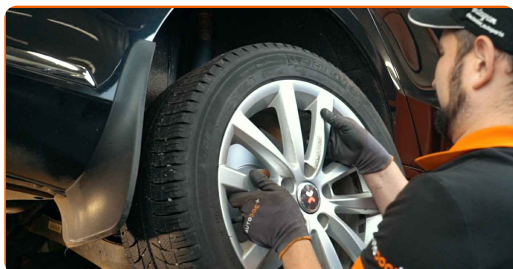


**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: shock absorbers – VW Passat Saloon (3C2). After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

45

Install the wheel.

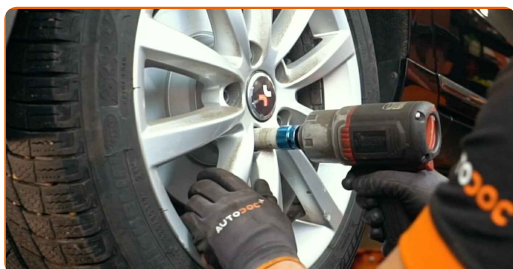


**AUTODOC recommends:**

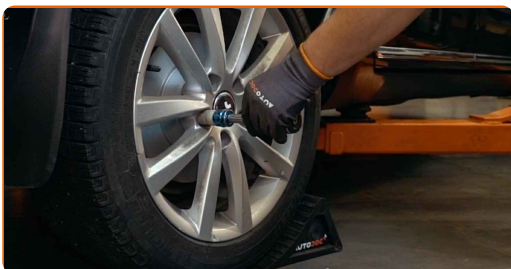
- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. VW Passat Saloon (3C2)

46

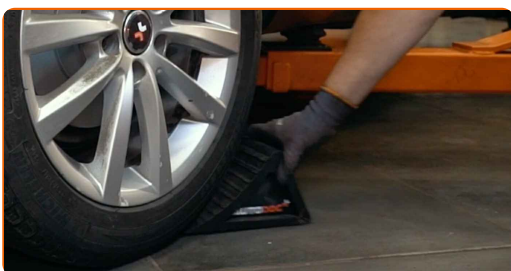
Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



- 47** 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 120 Nm torque.



- 48** Remove the jacks and chocks.



**WELL DONE!** 

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