

Vorderachse

Front axle

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Framaxel

Vooras

31 Front Axle

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Specifications

Front axle

Model	320/6 320/6 A	323 i 323 i A *
31 10 . . . Front axle and suspension		
Track (in normal-load position) mm (in)	1382 ¹⁾ (54.41 ¹⁾)	1384 ¹⁾ (54.49 ¹⁾)
(at max. permitted axle load) mm (in)	1387 (54.61)	1388 (54.65)
Body height (from lower edge of wheel arch to wheel rim shoulder)		
– in normal-load position mm (in)		542 ± 8 (21.3 ± 0.3)
– equivalent to mean value mm (in)		560 ± 10 (22 ± 0.4)
– at unladen weight mm (in)		580 ± 10 (22.8 ± 0.4)
Wheel travel		
– suspension bump movement mm (in)		100 (3.94)
– suspension rebound movement mm (in)		–110 (–4.33)
31 12 . . . Suspension arms and struts		
Torque of ball joint in wishbone – Mfr. Lemförder Nm kpm lf.ft		
		1.5 . . . 5 0.15 . . . 0.5 1.1 . . . 3.7
– Mfr. Ehrenreich Nm kpm lb.ft		
		1.5 . . . 5 0.15 . . . 0.5 1.1 . . . 3.7

*) Version for Sweden

¹⁾ Normal-load position: 2 × 68 kg (2 × 150 lb) on front seats, 1 × 68 kg (1 × 150 lb) on rear seat, 21 kg (46 lb) in luggage compartment, tank full

Specifications

Front axle

Model	320/6 320/6 A	323 i 323 i A *)
31 12 . . . Suspension arms and struts – (continued)		
Permissible axial spring travel of ball joint in guide at max. wear limit	mm (in)	1.4 (0.055)
31 20 . . . Wheel bearings		
Wheel bearing play, axial ¹⁾	mm (in)	$\leq 0 \dots 0.05$ (0 . . . 0.002)
Wheel bearing lubrication per wheel ²⁾		see Service Information
Space between outer and inner wheel bearing	g (oz)	50 (17.7)
Wheel hub end cap	g (oz)	20 (7.1)
31 21 . . . Stub axles, wheel bearings and hubs		
Taper roller bearings Inner	mm	$\varnothing 31.75 \times 59.131 \times 15.875$
Outer	mm	$\varnothing 19.05 \times 45.237 \times 15.494$
Max. runout of wheel hub at brake disc contact surface (permissible deviation from plane surface when held at bearing seat)	mm (in)	0.05 (0.002)

*) Version for Sweden

1) Note assembly instructions; see job No. 31 20 004 in Workshop Manual

2) Renew complete lubricant content of wheel bearings if grease has to be added

Specifications

Front axle

Model	320/6 320/6 A	323 i 323 i A*)
31 31 . . . Spring-damper struts		
Oil content between spring strut and damper element) all approved engine oil grades)	cm ³	30
31 32 . . . Dampers (shock absorber) ¹⁾		
Make	Boge	
Identification letter stamped on upper hexagon	f	e
Damper element, BMW number	1 120 360.2	1 119 968.2
Extended length (against internal stop)	mm (in)	660 ± 3 (25.98 ± 0.12)
Compressed length (less 5 mm reserve travel in damper)	mm (in)	472.5 (18.60)
Stroke limit on	traction phase	

*) Version for Sweden

¹⁾ Use only dampers of the same make on any axle

Specifications

Front axle

Model		320/6 320/6 A		323 i 323 i A *)			
31 32 . . . Dampers (shock absorbers) ¹⁾ – (continued)							
Damper test ¹⁾ for dampers with BMW number 1 120 360.2							
In new condition							
Test speed	1/min	10	25	50	75	100	200
Test stroke	mm (in)	100 (3,94)					
Traction phase	N	90	220 ± 40	500	590	670 ± 60	920
	kp	9.2	22.4 ± 4.1	51	60.1	68.3 ± 6.1	93.8
	lb.ft	20.3	49.4 ± 9.0	112	132.5	150.6 ± 13.4	206.8
Compression phase	N	80	130 ± 40	230	330	460 ± 40	1220
	kp	8.1	13.2 ± 4.1	23.4	33.6	46.9 ± 4.1	124.4
	lb.ft	17.7	29.1 ± 9.0	51.6	74.1	103.4 ± 9.0	274.2

Damper test ¹⁾
for dampers with
BMW number 1 119 968.2

In new condition

Running speed	1/min	25	50	75	100
Test stroke	mm (in)	100 (3.94)	100 (3.94)	100 (3.94)	100 (3.94)
Traction phase	N	220 ± 40	470	630	740 ± 60
	kp	22.4 ± 4.1	47.9	64.2	75.4
	lb.ft	49.9 ± 9.0	105.6	141.5	166.2 ± 13.4
Compression phase	N	140 ± 40	230	380	490 ± 40
	kp	14.3 ± 4.1	23.4	38.7	49.9 ± 4.1
	lb.ft	31.5 ± 9.0	51.6	85.3	110.0 ± 9.0

*) Version for Sweden

¹⁾ If dampers fail to meet test specifications by more than 50%, renew both dampers on the affected axle

Specifications

Front axle

Model	320/6 320/6 A	323 i 323 i A*)
3133 . . . Spring with mounting – standard version –		
Coil spring ¹⁾ Part number (shown at end of spring)	1 121 290	
Length, relaxed	mm (in)	386 (15.20)
Pitch, relaxed	mm (in)	
Wire thickness	mm (in)	13.2 (0.52)
Extl. coil diameter	mm (in)	165 ± 1.5 (6.5 ± 0.06)
Color code on 3 turns of spring (paint stripes)	grey	
According to spring rating, on 2 turns of spring (paint stripes)	red or none	
Number of effective turns	5	
Total number of turns	6.5	

*) Version for Sweden

1) Use only coil springs of the same length and rating on any axle

Front axle

Specifications

Model	320/6 320/6 A	323 i 323 i A *)
31 33 ... Spring with mounting – standard version (continued)		
Coil spring rating color code red	N kp lb.ft	3080 ... 3188 314 ... 325 692 ... 716
no color code	N kp lb.ft	3189 ... 3316 326 ... 338 717 ... 745
Auxiliary spring (bump stop) Length	mm (in)	95 ± 1 (3.74 ± 0.04)
Extl. diameter	mm (in)	60 (2.36)
Spring underlay (upper and lower) Identification for coil spring color coded red)		2 lugs
Identification for coil spring without color code		no lugs

*) Version for Sweden

Specifications

Front axle

Model	320/6 A 320/6 A	323 i 323 i A*)
31 33 . . . Spring with mounting (special version)		
Coil spring ¹⁾ HD suspension for heavy duty operation ²⁾ Part number (shown at end of coil spring)	1 116 023	
Length, relaxed	mm (in)	400.5 (15.77)
Pitch, relaxed	mm (in)	72.6 (2.86)
Wire thickness	mm (in)	13.2 (0.52)
Extl. dia. of coil	mm (in)	165.2 ± 1.5 (6.5 ± 0.06)
Color code (paint stripe along entire spring)		blue
– according to spring rating	1 ×	red, white or green
Number of effective turns	1 ×	5
Total number of turns		6.5

*) Version for Sweden

¹⁾ Use only coil springs of same length and rating on any axle

²⁾ See also Group 33: Rear Axle

Front axle Specifications

Model	320/6 320/6 A	323 i 323 i A *)
31 33 . . . Spring with mounting (special version) – continued		
Spring rating Color code red	N kp lb.ft	3060 . . . 3145 312 . . . 320 688 . . . 706
Color code white	N kp lb. ft	3146 . . . 3230 321 . . . 329 707 . . . 725
Color code green	N kp lb.ft	3231 . . . 3315 330 . . . 338 726 . . . 745
Spring underlay (upper and lower) for special version (HD suspension) Identification for coil spring with white or green color code		no lugs
Identification for coil spring with red color code		2 lugs
31 35 . . . Stabilizer (anti-roll bar) – standard version		
External diameter	mm (in)	23 (0.91)
Color code (paint stripe)		white

*) Version for Sweden

Specifications

Front axle

Model	320/6 320/6 A	323 i 323 i A*)
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Tightening torques

31 11 . . . Front axle beam		
Front axle beam to body	Nm kpm lb. ft	43 . . . 48 4.4 . . . 4.9 32 . . . 35
Wishbone to front axle beam	Nm kpm lb. ft	81 . . . 90 ¹⁾ 8.3 . . . 9.2 ¹⁾ 60 . . . 66 ¹⁾
31 12 . . . Suspension arms and struts		
Wishbones (guide pivot) to steering knuckles	Nm kpm lb. ft	60 . . . 70 6.1 . . . 7.1 44 . . . 52
31 32 . . . Shock absorbers (dampers)		
Spring-damper strut threaded ring	Nm kpm lb. ft	120 . . . 140 12.2 . . . 14.3 88 . . . 103

*) Version for Sweden

¹⁾ In normal-load position: 2 × 68 kg (2 × 150 lb) on front seats, 1 × 68 kg (1 × 150 lb) on rear seat, 21 kg (46 lb) in luggage compartment, tank full

Specifications

Front axle

Model	320/6 320/6 A	323 i 323 i A *)
Tightening torques (continued)		
31 33 ... Spring with mounting		
Spring-damper strut at support bearing	Nm kpm lb. ft	78 ... 86 8.0 ... 8.8 58 ... 63
Spring-damper strut at wheel arch	Nm kpm lb. ft	22 ... 24 2.2 ... 2.4 16 ... 18
31 35 ... Stabilizer (anti-roll bar)		
Stabilizer to body	Nm kpm lb. ft	47 ... 52 ¹⁾ 4.8 ... 5.3 ¹⁾ 35 ... 38 ¹⁾
Stabilizer to wishbone ¹⁾	Nm kpm lb. ft	70 ... 90 7.1 ... 9.2 52 ... 66

*) Version for Sweden

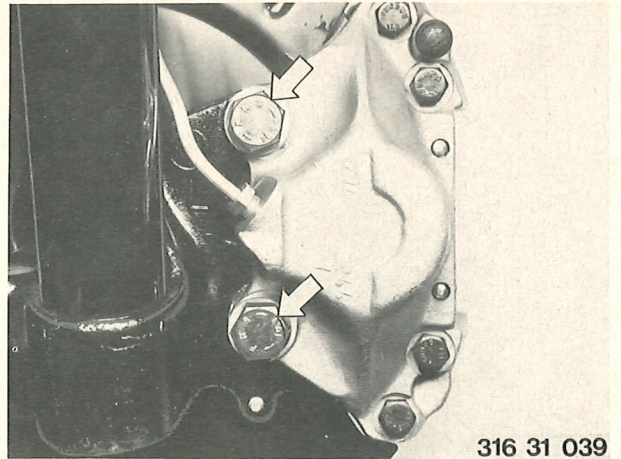
¹⁾ In normal-load position: 2 × 68 kg (2 × 150 lb) on front seats, 1 × 68 kg (1 × 150 lb) on rear seat, 21 kg (46 lb) in luggage compartment, tank full

31 10 000 Complete front axle – removing and installing

**Remove and install front wheels – 36 10 340.
Detach brake calipers.**

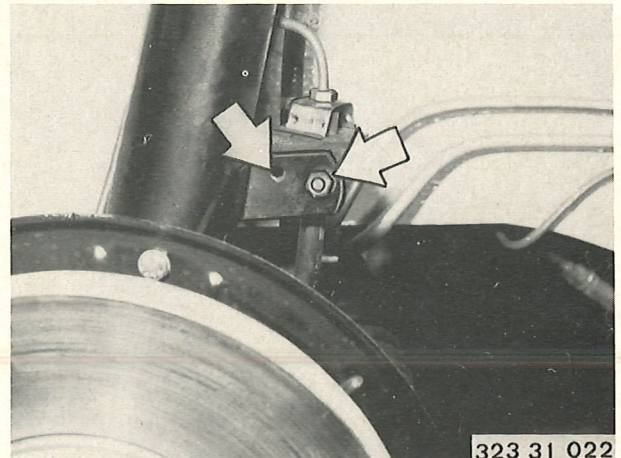
The brake pipe remains attached.

When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



Detach the angle bracket at the spring-shock absorber. Tie up the brake caliper.

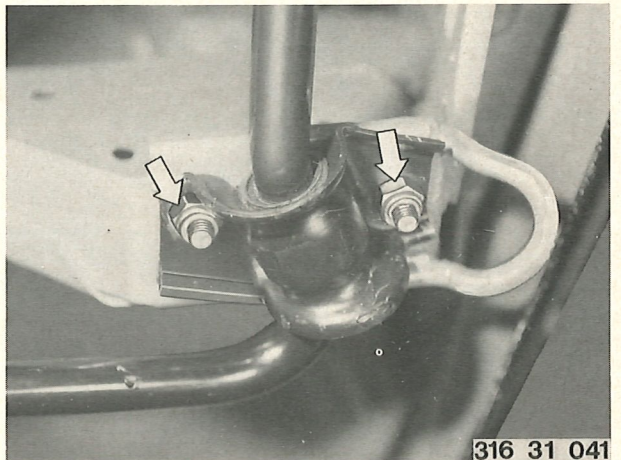
*When installing: Pressed recess on holder must engage in hole on angle bracket.
Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.*



Detach the stabilizer retaining clamp.

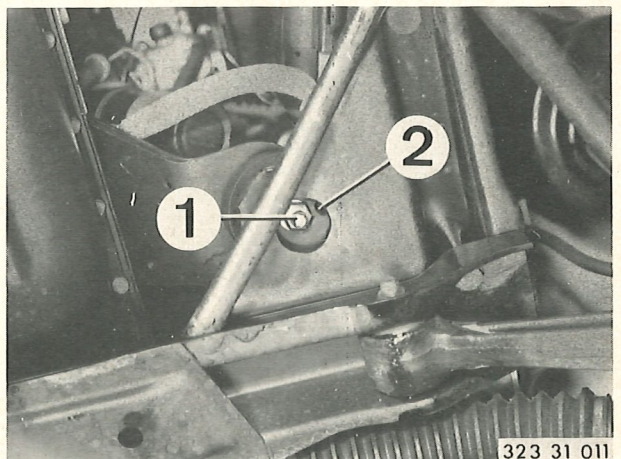
*When installing: Use new self-locking nuts.
Check condition of rubber bushing and renew if necessary.*

Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.

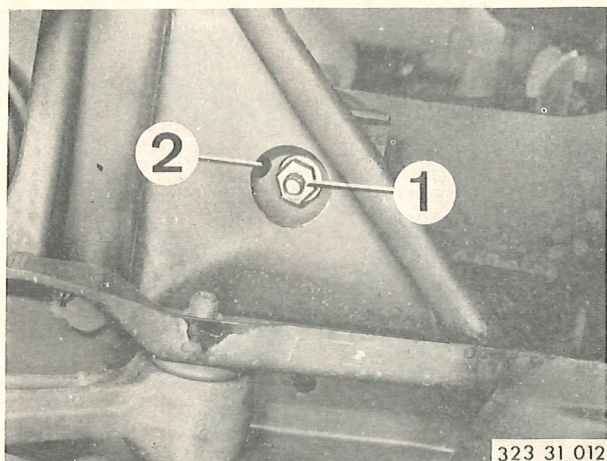


Detach the left engine mounting (1).

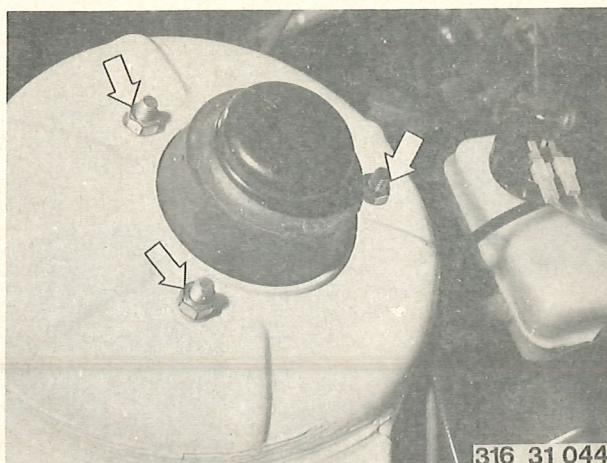
*When installing: Use a new self-locking nut.
The step (2) on the engine mounting must engage in the cutout provided.
Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.*



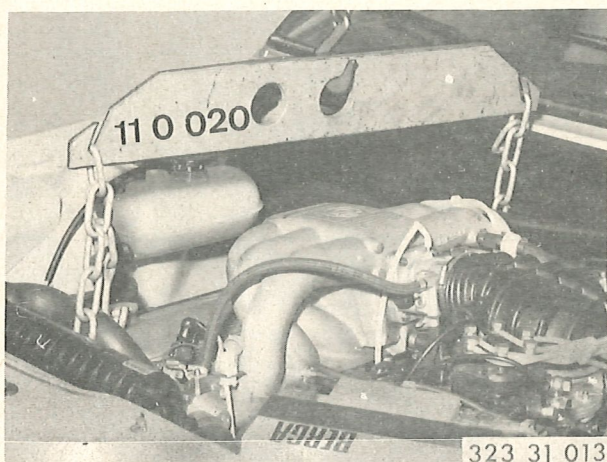
¹⁾ See specifications



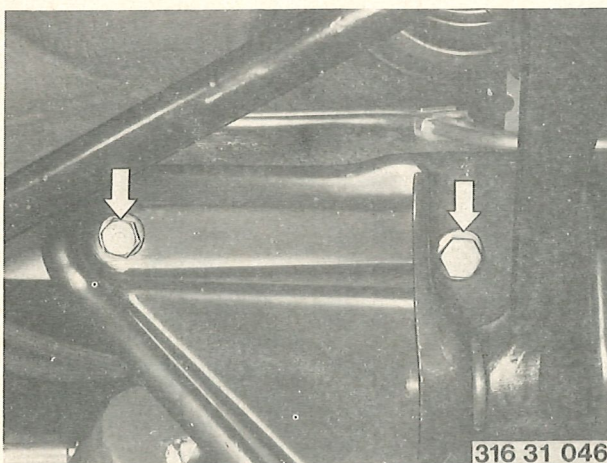
Detach the right engine mounting (1).
When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾. Make sure that the step (2) on the engine mounting engages in the cutout provided.



Detach the spring-shock absorber mounting from the wheel arch.
When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



Suspend the engine from a hoist with lifting beam BMW 11 0 020.

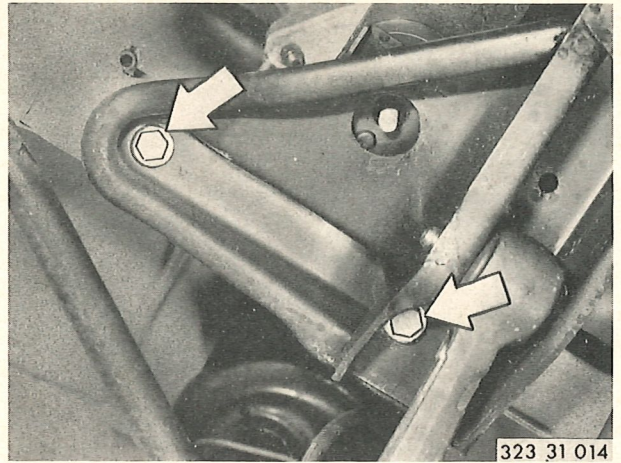


Support the front axle beam with a jack.
Detach the front axle beam from the chassis side member on the left.
When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.

¹⁾ See specifications

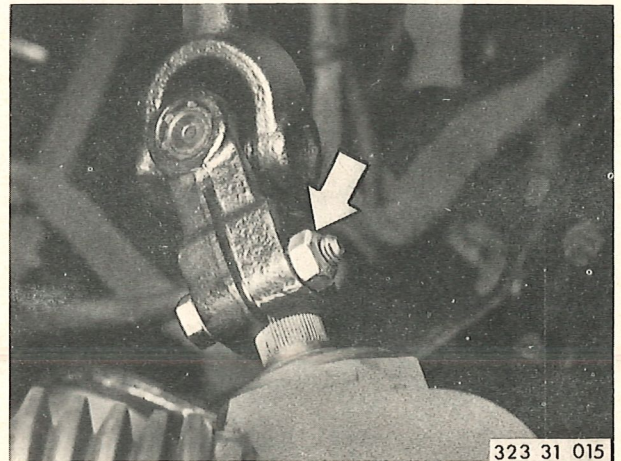
Detach the front axle beam from the right frame side member.

When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.

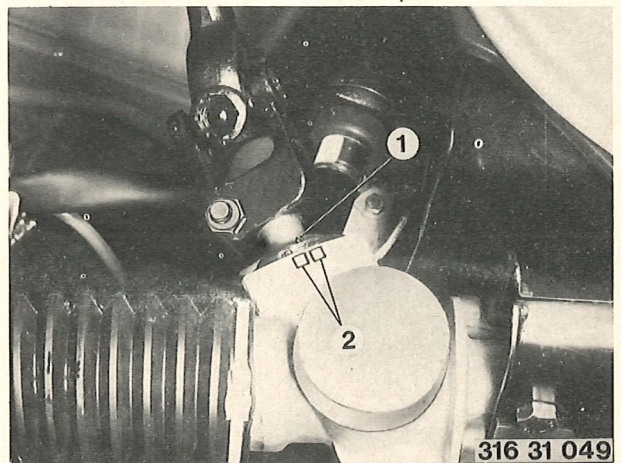


Unscrew the nut and remove the bolt. Lower the front axle slowly with the jack, and push the universal joint away from the steering rack.

When installing: Use a new self-locking nut.



When installing: The steering wheel should be in the straight-ahead position. The mark (1) on the dust seal must be between the marks (2) on the housing. In this position, push the steering shaft onto the steering box.

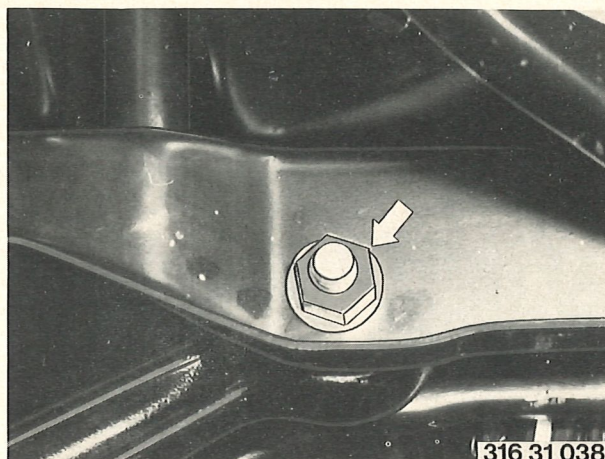


¹⁾ See specifications

31 11 001 Front axle beam – renewing

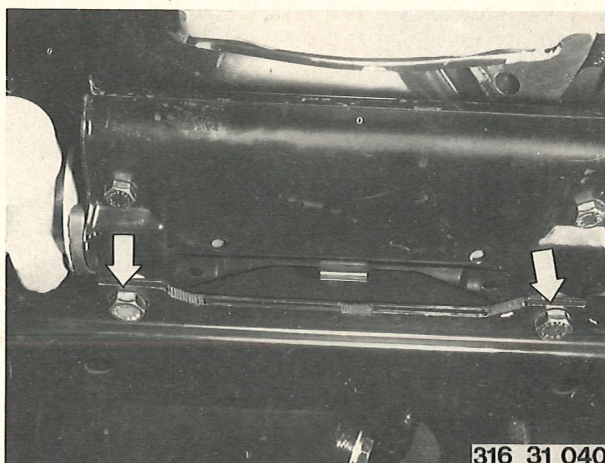
Remove and install the stabilizer 31 35 000.
Detach the left and right wishbones from the front axle beam.

When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾. Insert the bolt from the back.



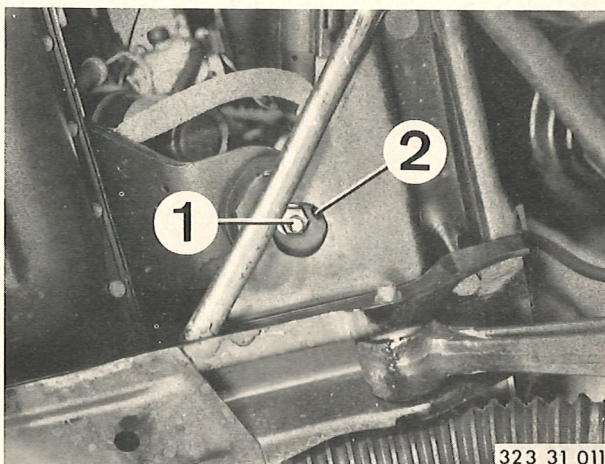
Detach the steering rack from the front axle beam.

When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾. Use new self-locking nuts.



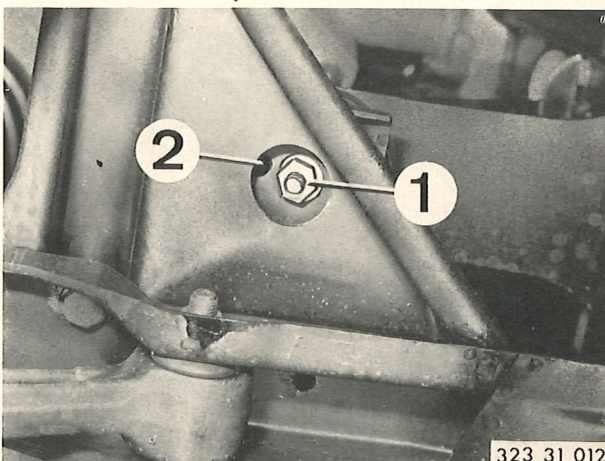
Detach the left engine mounting (1).

When installing: Use a new self-locking nut.
Make sure that the step (2) on the engine mounting locates in the cutout provided.
Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.

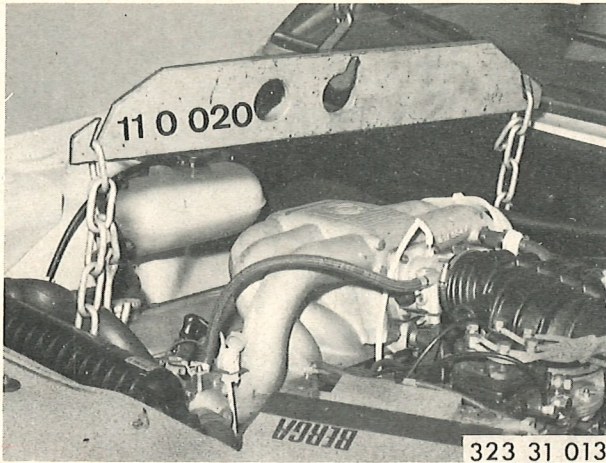


Detach the right engine mounting (1).

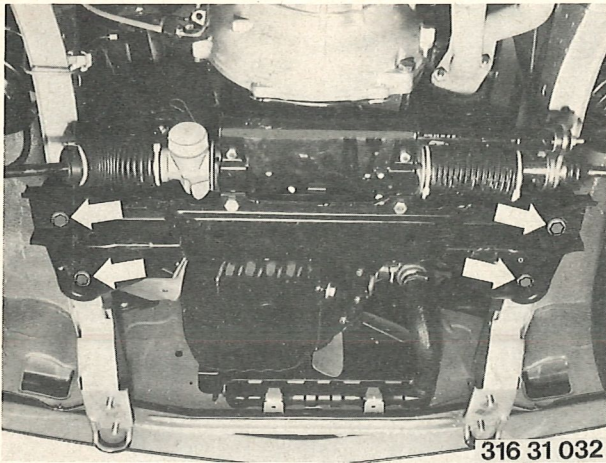
When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾. Make sure that the step (2) on the engine mounting locates in the cutout provided.



¹⁾ See specifications



Suspend the engine from a hoist with lifting beam BMW 11 0 020.



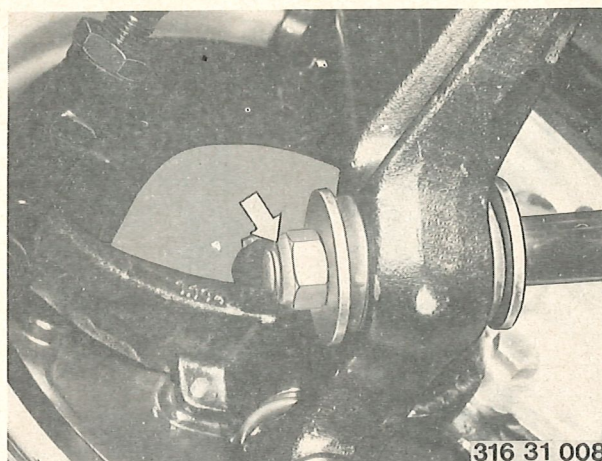
Detach the front axle beam from the left and right chassis side members.
When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.

¹⁾ See specifications

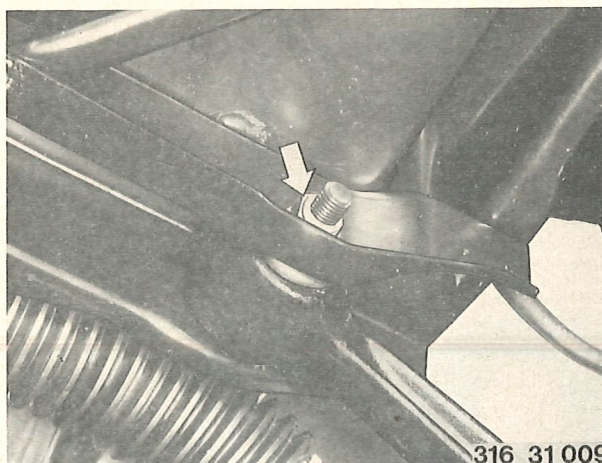
31 12 000 Wishbone – removing and installing

Detach the stabilizer at the wishbone.

When installing: Use a new self-locking nut. Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.

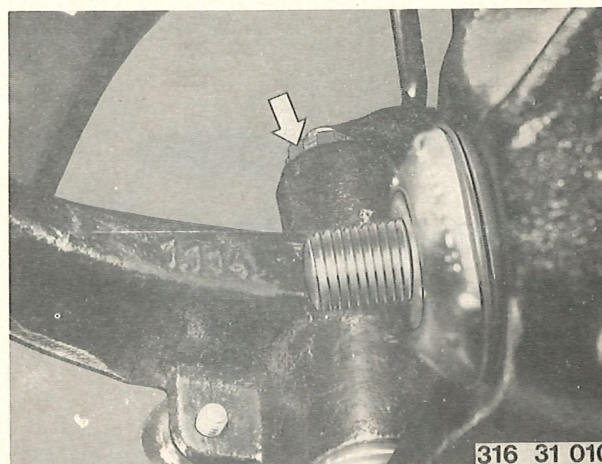


Detach the wishbone from the front axle beam.
When installing: Use a self-locking nut. Note correct tightening torque¹⁾. Insert the bolt from the back.



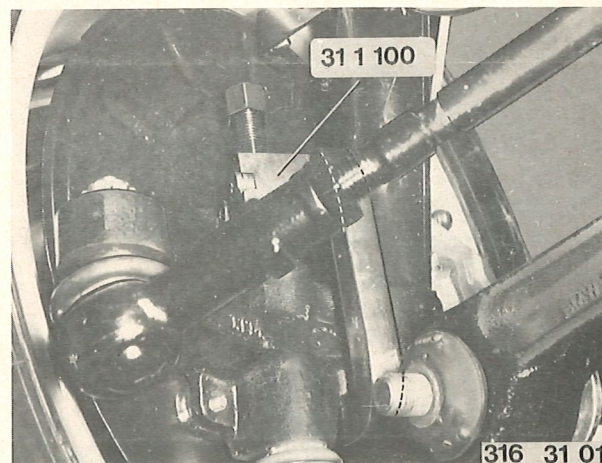
Remove split pin from castellated nut, and unscrew nut.

When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.

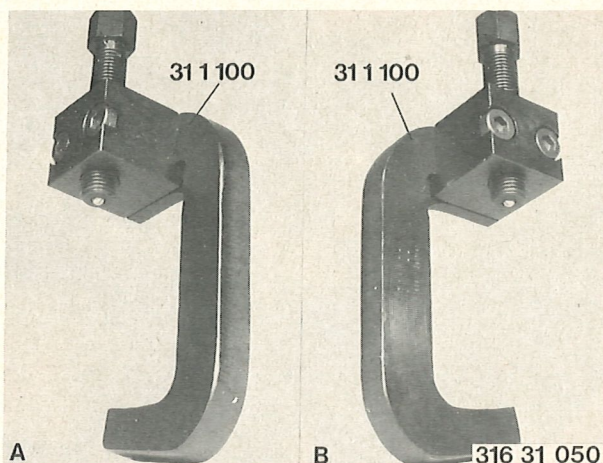


Press wishbone away from the stub axle with 31 1 100 extractor.

When installing: Check condition of joint seal and renew if necessary. The taper and holes must be clean and free from grease.



¹⁾ See specifications

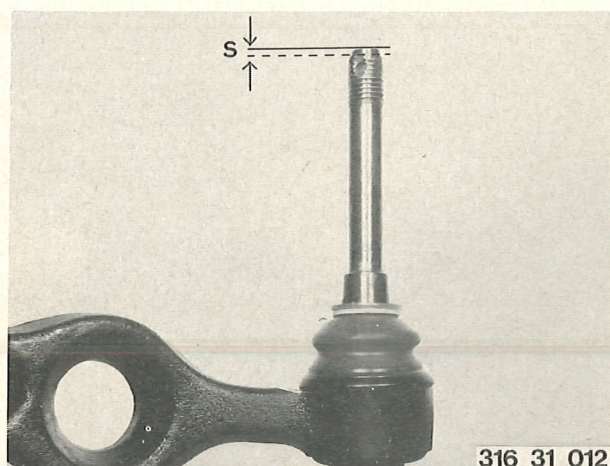


Warning: Extractor 31 1 100 can be used on the right or left wishbone.

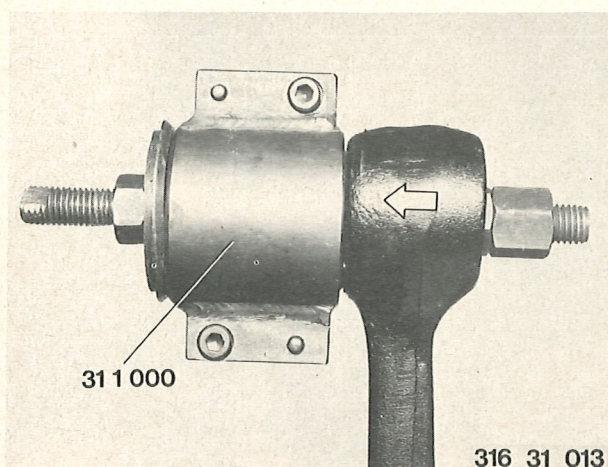
Loosen the Allen screws and transfer the forcing screw from left to right or vice versa.

A = for left wishbone

B = for right wishbone

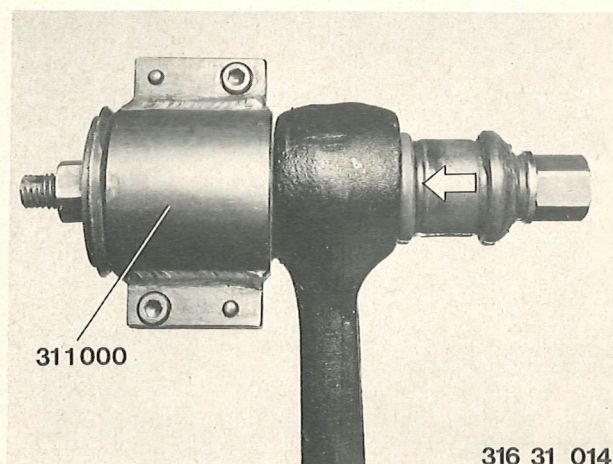


If end play (S) exceeds 1.4 mm (0.055 in), the wishbone must be renewed.



31 12 631 Rubber bushing in wishbone – renewing – Wishbone removed –

Attach special tool 31 1 000 and pull out the rubber bushing.



Coat the bushing with slip agent and insert with 31 1 000 tool.

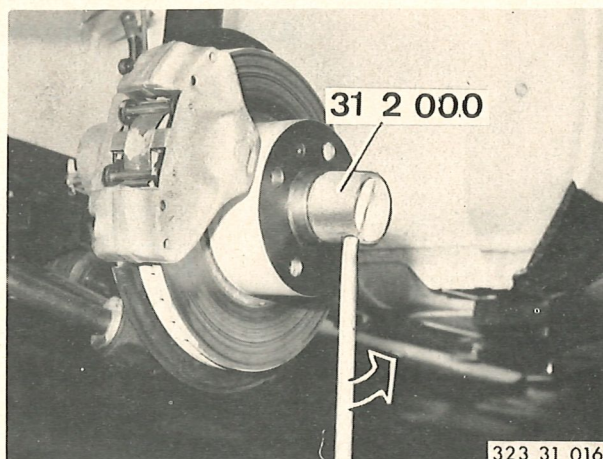
Approved slip agents:

- 1 Cresta, diluted
Cresta SA oil: test gasoline (ratio 1:1)
- 2 Easing oil II
Cirolight Rubber Process Oil: Toluol (ratio 1:4)
- 3 Water with surface tension reduced
Water: detergent (ratio as required)

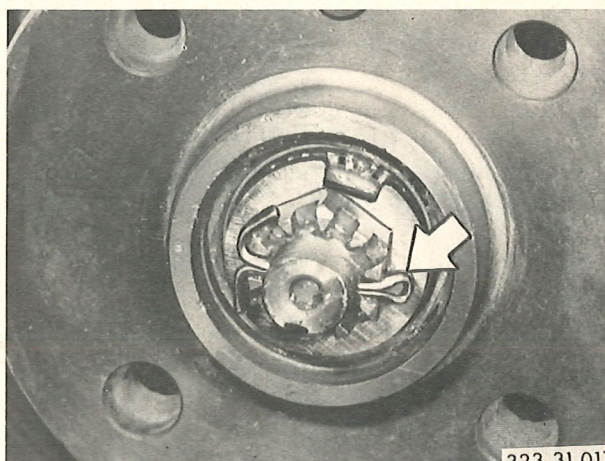
31 20 004 Wheel bearing play – adjusting

Remove and install front wheel – 36 10 300.
Detach end cap 31 21 050 with extractor 31 2 000.

When installing: Check grease packing¹⁾ in end cap and renew if necessary.

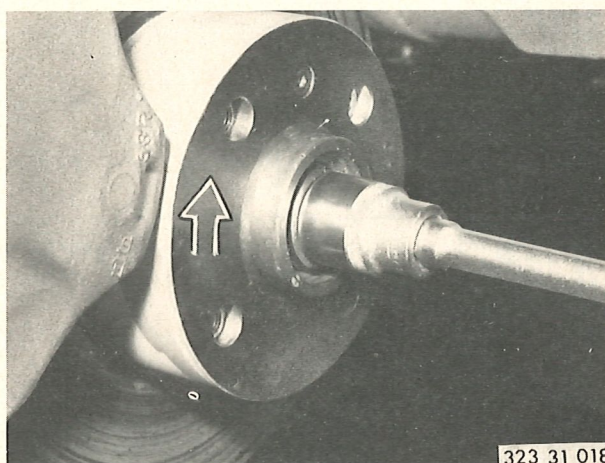


Remove split pin from castellated nut and unscrew nut.



Tighten the castellated nut to 30 ... 33 Nm (3.0 ... 3.3 mkp, 22 ... 24 lb.ft), turning the wheel hub all the time.

This will align the taper roller bearings and inner bearing races. At the same time, the grease which would normally cause excessive play will be forced away from the bearing surfaces. When the bearing cover has been tightened, screw it in at least another two full turns. Do not loosen or tighten the castellated nut at this stage.

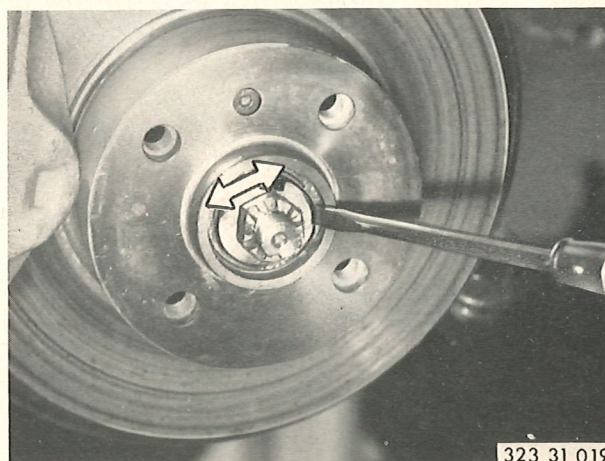


Loosen the castellated nut until axle play develops at the bearing; the hub must continue to turn.

Re-tighten the castellated nut to max. 3 Nm (0.3 mkp, 2.2 lb.ft), and finally turn back to the next hole and insert the split pin.

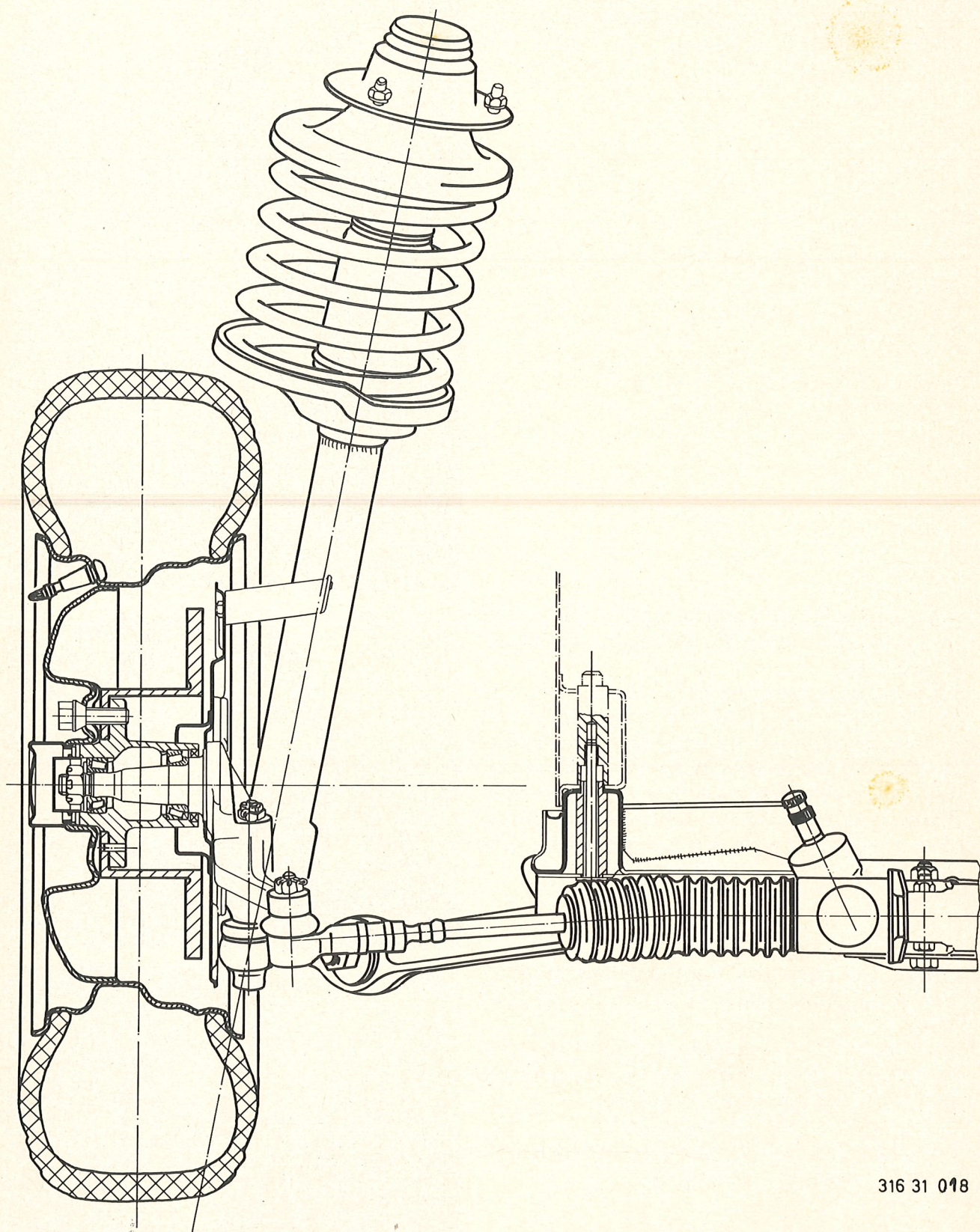
Checking axial play in bearing:

The disc with lug (1) must move freely and without noticeable resistance.



¹⁾ See specifications

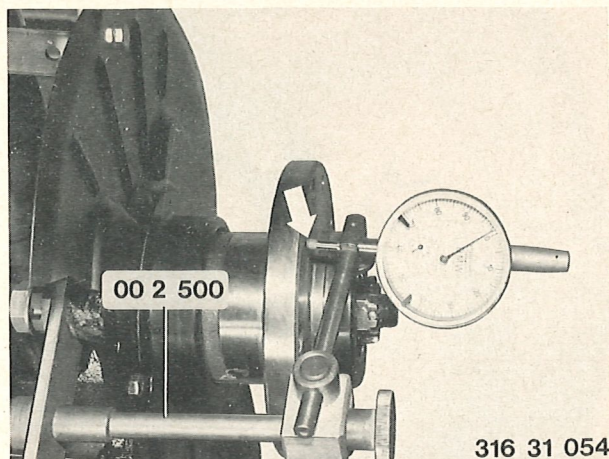
Spring-shock absorber strut – general arrangement



316 31 018

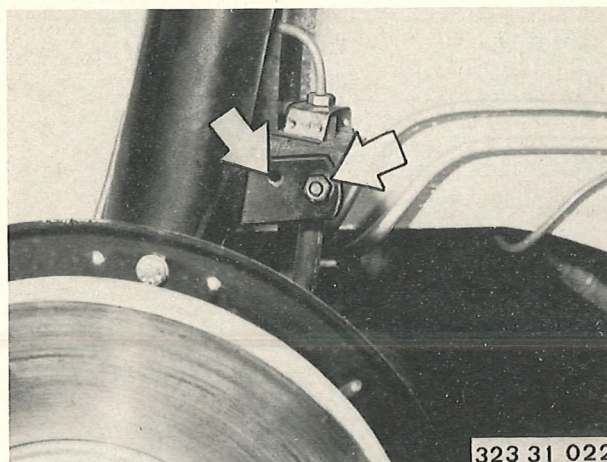
31 21 009 Wheel hub – checking lateral runout

Wheel bearing play must first be correct.
Detach and attach the brake disc – 34 11 200.
Attach dial gauge holder 00 2 500 to spring strut.
Measure lateral runout¹⁾ at extremity of brake disc contact area with dial gauge.

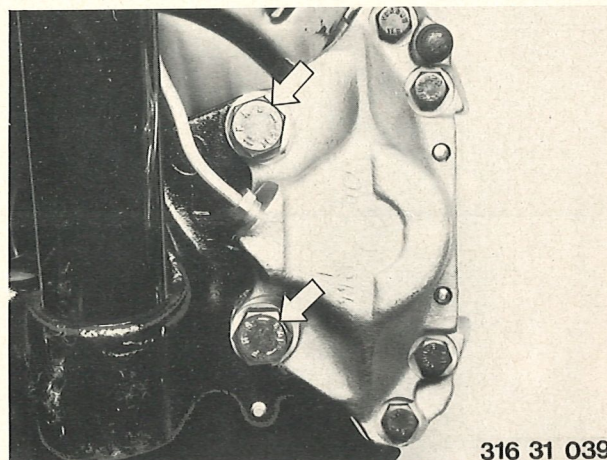


31 21 100 Wheel hub – removing and installing

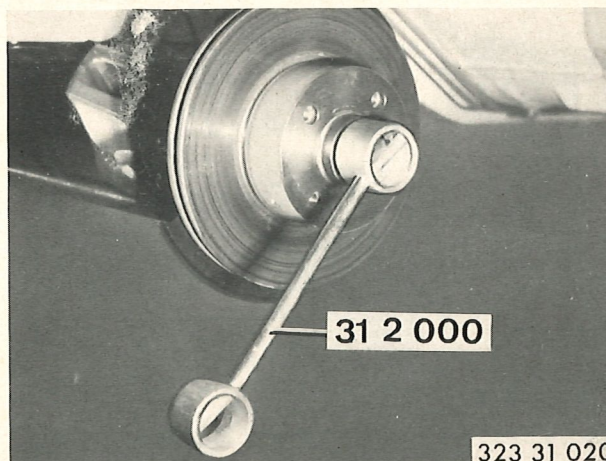
Detach and attach front wheel – 36 10 300.
Detach angle plate at spring/damper strut.
When installing: Recess on holder must locate in hole on angle bracket.
Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



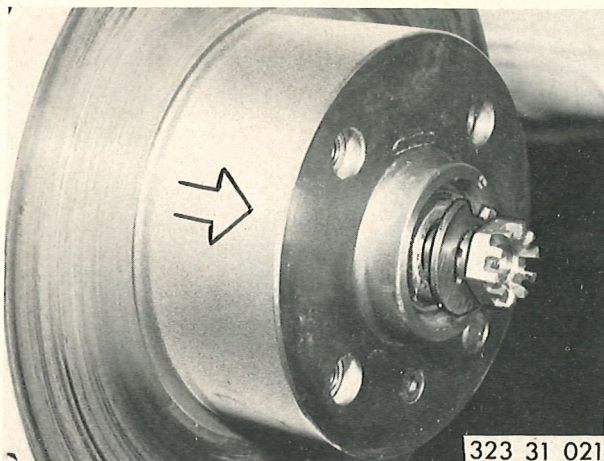
Detach and tie up the brake caliper.
The brake pipe remains attached.
When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



Pull off end cap with extractor 31 2 000.
When installing: check grease packing¹⁾ in end cap and renew if necessary.

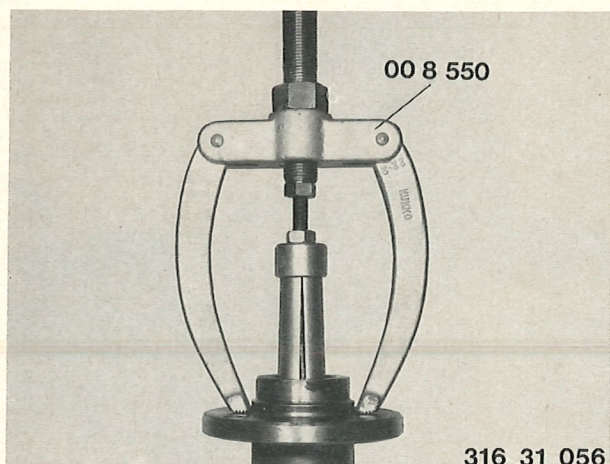


¹⁾ See specifications



Remove split pin from castellated nut and unscrew nut. Pull off locating disc and brake disc with wheel hub.

When installing: Pack the wheel hub with fresh grease¹⁾. Adjust wheel bearing play – 31 20 004.

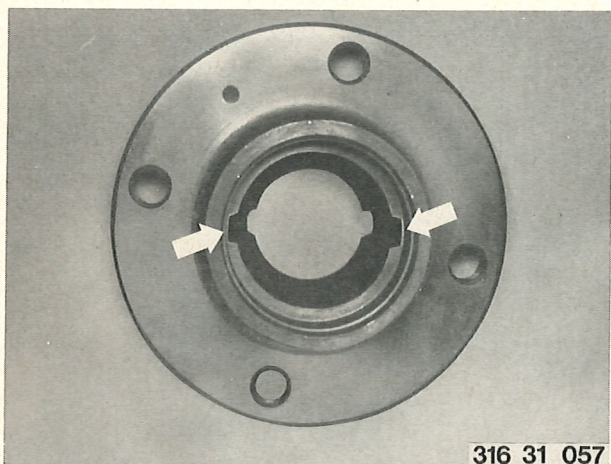


**31 21 621 Taper roller bearing and shaft sealing ring – renewing
– Wheel hub removed –**

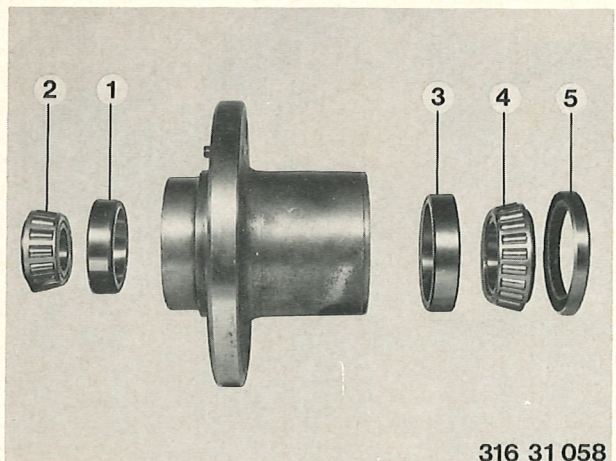
Extract the shaft sealing ring.

Take out the taper roller bearing.

**Remove the outer bearing races with puller 00 8 550,
or**



Drive the outer bearing races out through the cutouts in the wheel hub.

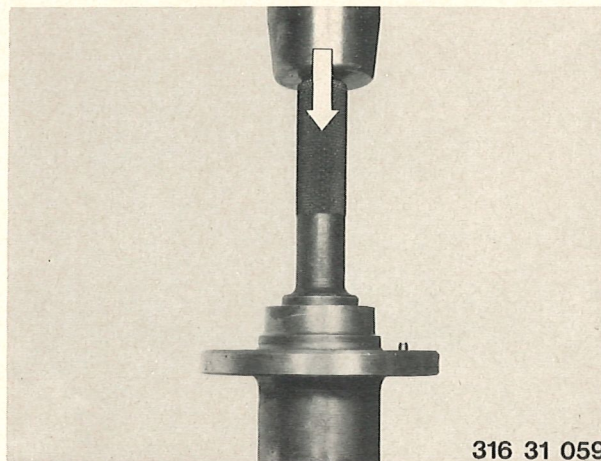


When installing: Note correct order of components

- 1 = Wheel bearing outer race**
- 2 = Wheel bearing inner race**
- 3 = Wheel bearing outer race**
- 4 = Wheel bearing inner race**
- 5 = Shaft sealing ring**

¹⁾ See specifications

**Pack the wheel hub with fresh grease¹⁾.
Press in the outer bearing races to the full extent with a suitable sleeve.
Pack the shaft sealing ring with grease containing graphite.
Both bearings must always be renewed even if only one bearing is defective.
When installing: Adjust wheel bearing play – 31 20 004.**



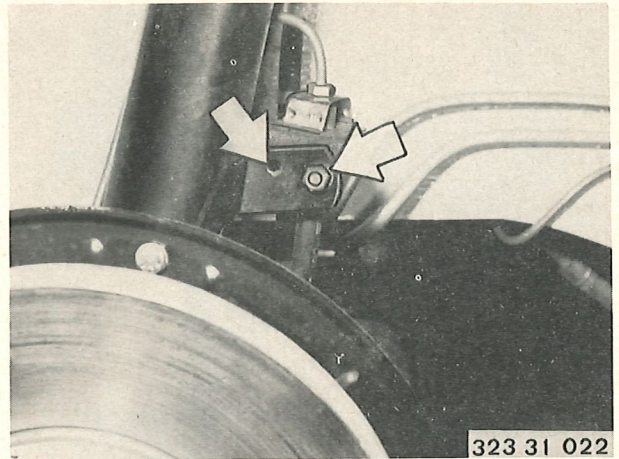
316 31 059

¹⁾ See specifications

31 31 000 Complete spring-shock absorber – removing and installing

Remove and install front wheel – 36 10 300.
Detach angle bracket from spring-shock absorber strut.

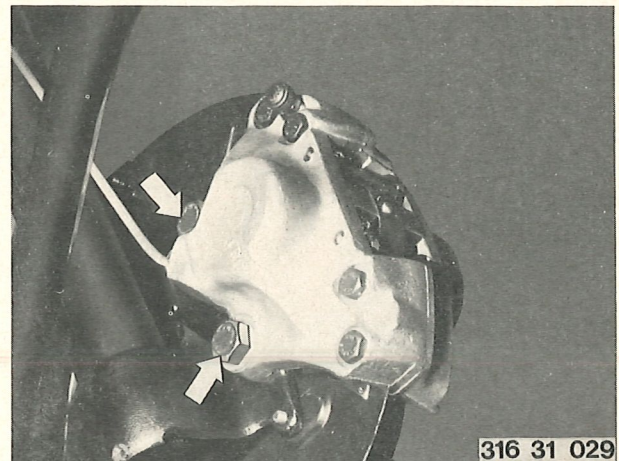
When installing: recess in holder must locate in hole on angle bracket.



Detach and tie up the brake caliper.

Note: Brake pipe remains attached.

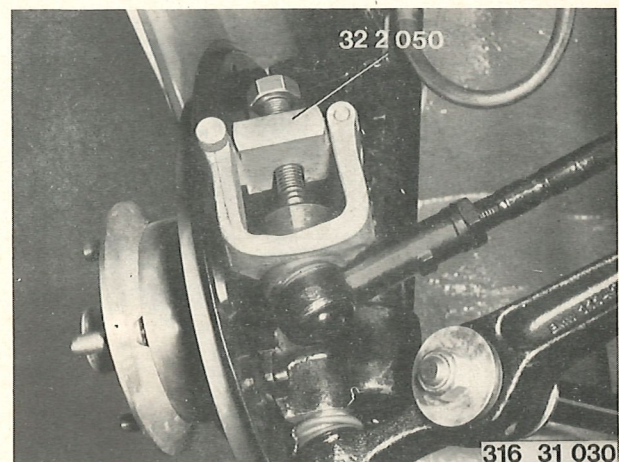
When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



Remove split pin and unscrew castellated nut.
Press the track rod away from the stub axle with extractor 32 2 050.

When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.

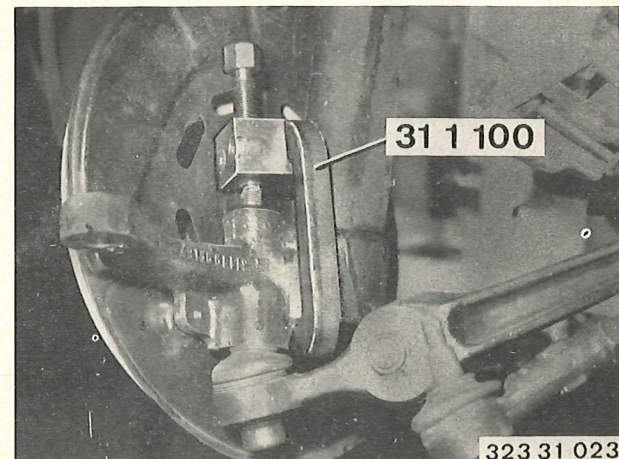
Taper and holes must be clean and free from grease.



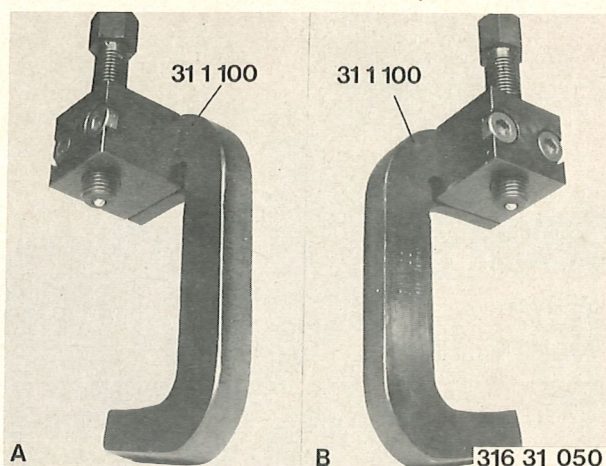
Remove split pin and unscrew castellated nut.
Press wishbone down and detach stub axle from ball joint.

When installing: Check condition of joint seal and renew if necessary.

Taper and holes must be clean and free from grease.



¹⁾ See specifications

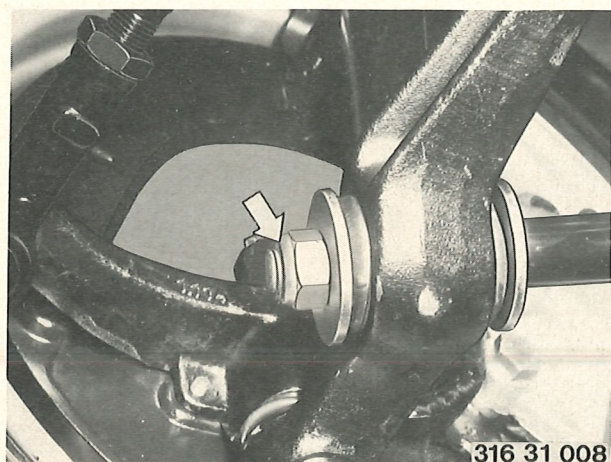


Note: Extractor 31 1 100 can be converted for left or right wishbones.

Slacken the Allen screws and move the pressure screw from left to right or vice versa.

A = for left wishbone

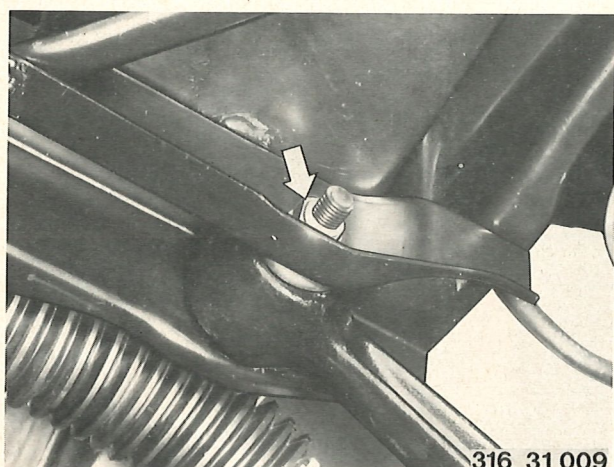
B = for right wishbone



Slacken anti-roll bar on wishbone.

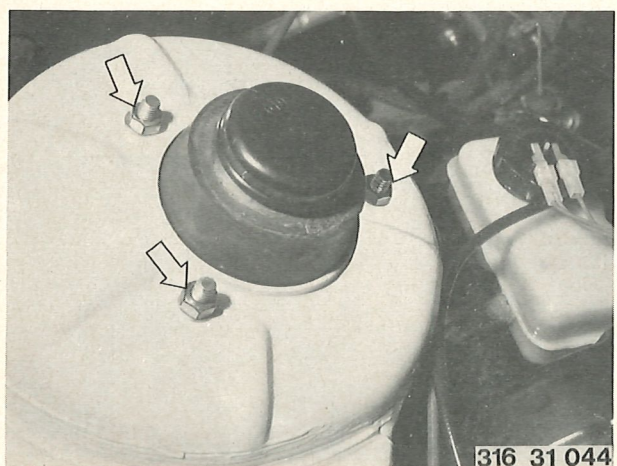
When installing: Use a new self-locking nut.

Note correct tightening torque¹.



Remove wishbone from front axle support. Detach wishbone with spherical joint from steering knuckle.

When installing: Use a new self-locking nut. Note correct tightening torque¹). Screw in bolt from the rear to the front.



Detach the spring support bearing from the wheel arch.

When installing: Note correct tightening torque¹).

¹) See specifications

31 32 001 Shock absorbers – renewing

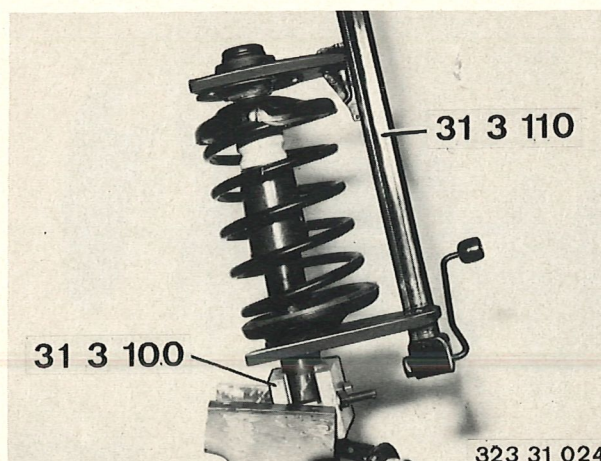
Important: when renewing a shock absorber (damper), always install the same make¹⁾ as before.

The only reliable way to determine when a shock absorber should be renewed is by testing without removal from the vehicle on a 'Shock-Tester' or in removed condition on a shock absorber testing machine.¹⁾

Remove and install complete spring-damper strut – 31 31 000.

Clamp the spring-damper strut into a vise or assembly stand using fixture 31 3 000.

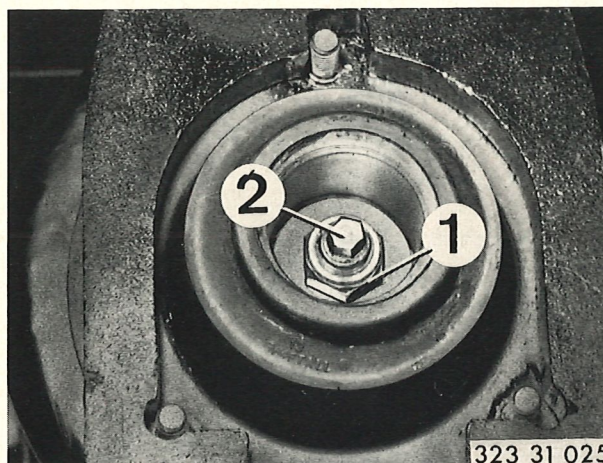
Compress the coil spring with spring clamp 31 3 110.



Take off the end cap.

Unscrew the self-locking nut (1). Hold the piston rod (2) to prevent it from turning.

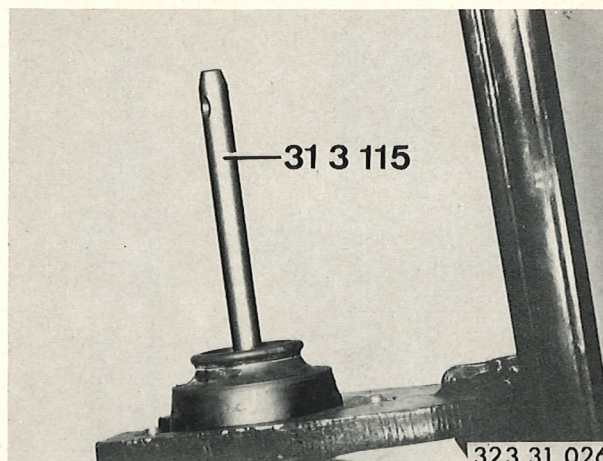
When installing: use a new self-locking nut. Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



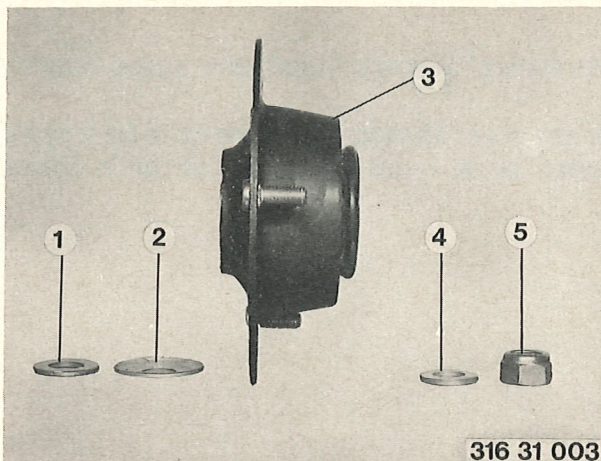
Screw in guide sleeve 31 3 115.

Release and detach the spring clamp.

Important: screw in the guide sleeve by the full length of its thread.



¹⁾ See specifications



Lift off the support bearing.

Installation sequence:

1 = Large-diameter washer

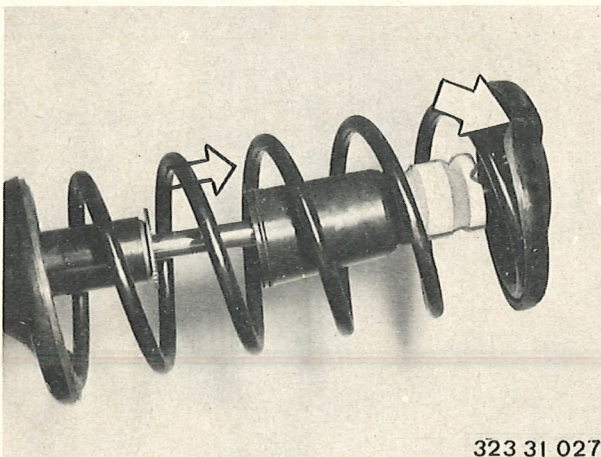
2 = Sealing washer

3 = Support bearing

4 = Small-diameter washer

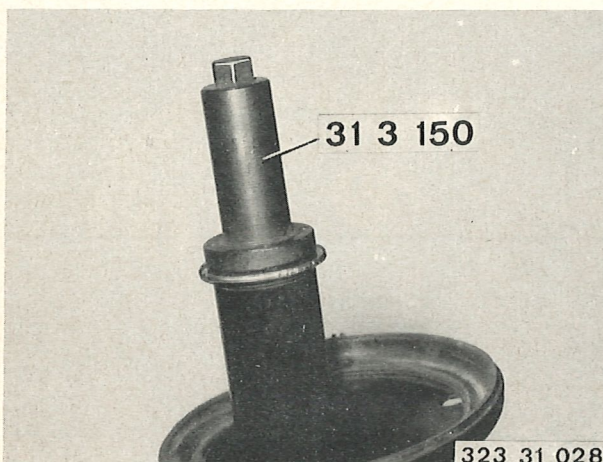
5 = Self-locking nut

The concave face of the sealing washer (2) is towards the support bearing.



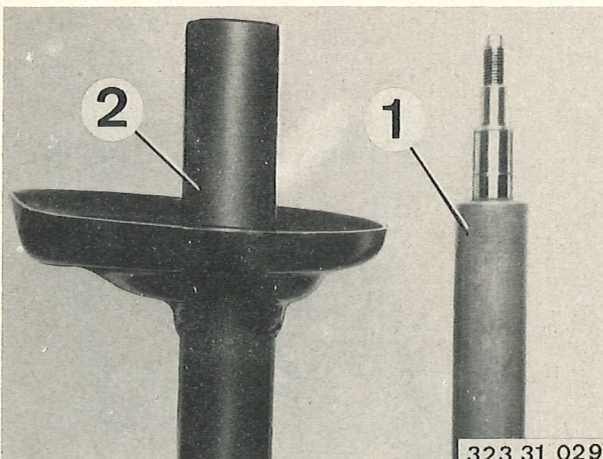
Take off the upper spring plate with underlay, coil spring and auxiliary spring (bump stop).

When installing: check spring underlay, auxiliary spring and protective tube and renew if necessary. The ends of the coil spring must be in contact with the stops on the upper and lower spring plates.



Unscrew the threaded ring with BMW tool 31 3 150.

When installing: note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



Pull out the shock absorber (1).

When installing: remove old oil from spring-damper strut tube (2).

Before installing the new damper, add engine oil¹⁾.

The engine oil transmits heat from the damper to the spring strut.

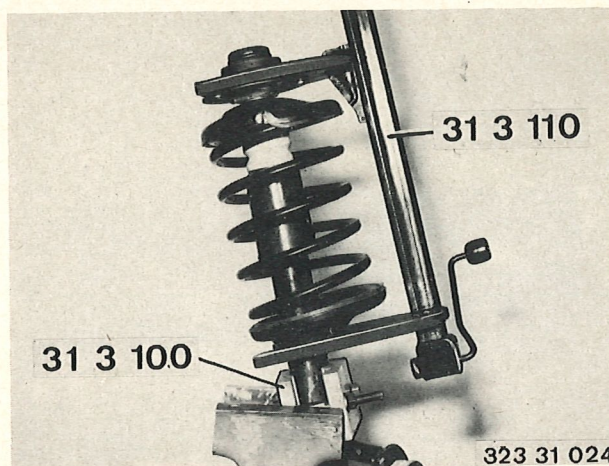
¹⁾ See specifications

33 31 000 Spring strut support bearing – removing and installing

Remove and install the complete spring-shock absorber – 31 31 000.

Mount the spring strut in a vise or assembly stand with fixture 31 3 000.

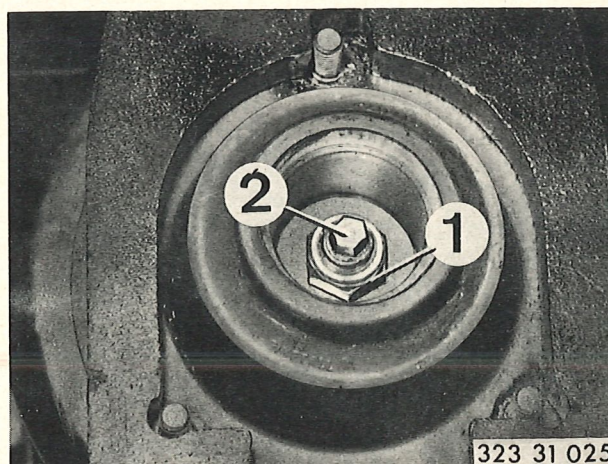
Compress the coil spring with 31 3 110 spring clamp.



Lift off the end cap.

Unscrew the self-locking nut (1). Hold the piston rod (2) and take off the spring strut support bearing.

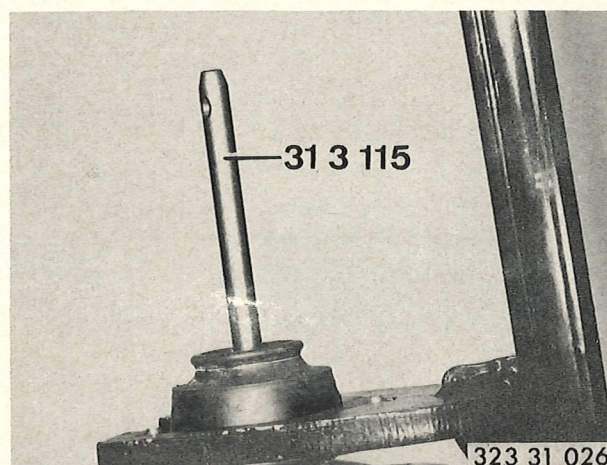
When installing: Use a new self-locking nut. Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



Screw in guide sleeve 31 3 115.

Release and remove spring clamp.

Warning: screw in guide sleeve for full length of thread.



Lift off the support bearing

Installing sequence

1 = Large diameter washer

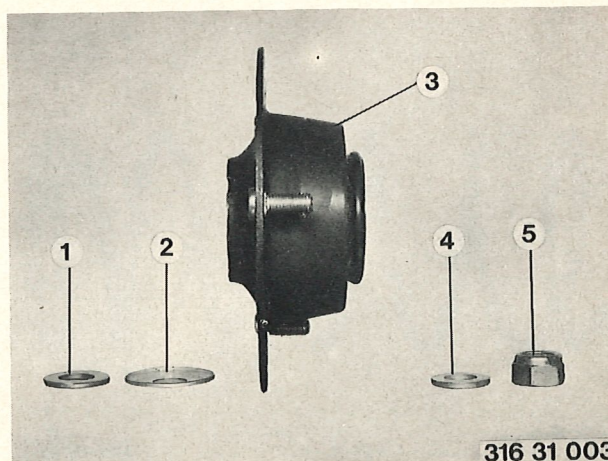
2 = Sealing washer

3 = Support bearing

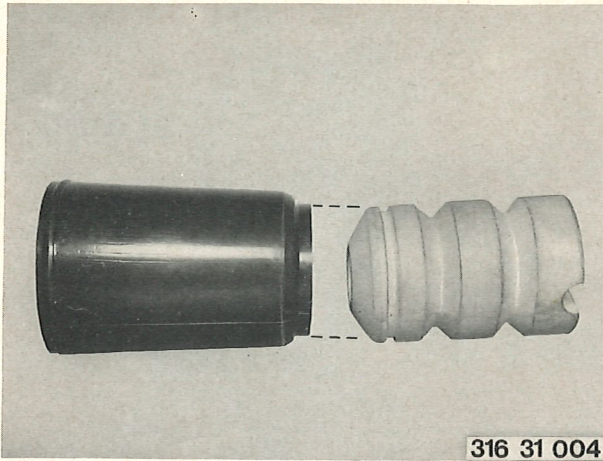
4 = Small diameter washer

5 = Self-locking nut

The concave side of the sealing washer (2) faces the support bearing.



¹⁾ See specifications

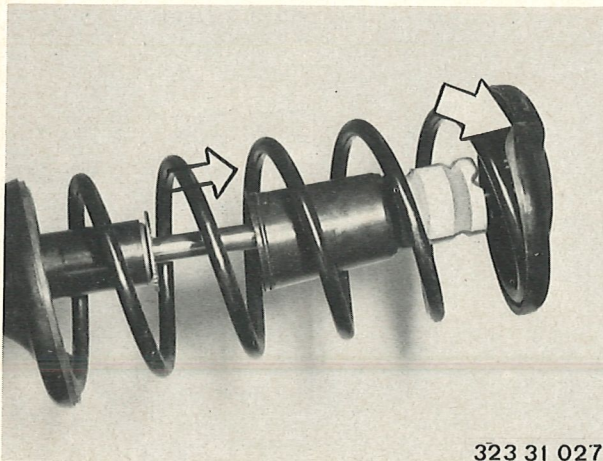


31 33 051 Outer tube – renewing

Remove and install the spring strut support bearing – 31 33 000.

Pull the auxiliary spring with outer tube away from the piston rod.

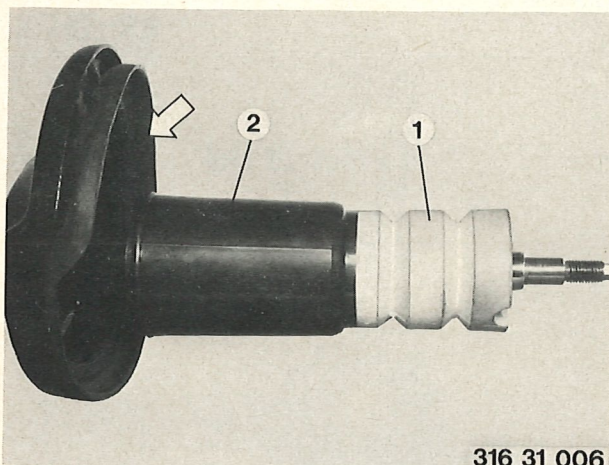
Detach the outer tube from the auxiliary spring.



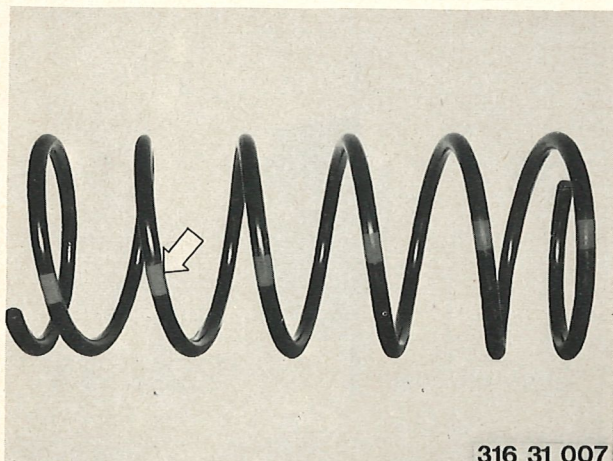
31 33 100 Coil spring – renewing and installing

Remove and install the spring strut support bearing 31 33 000.

Take off the upper spring plate with underlay and the coil spring.



When installing: Check condition of spring underlay, auxiliary spring (1) and outer tube (2), and renew if necessary. The ends of the coil spring must be located against the steps on the upper and lower spring plates.



31 33 101 Coil springs – renewing

Remove and install the coil spring – 31 33 100.

Warning: Renew coil springs only in pairs.

Note correct spring length¹⁾, color code¹⁾ and diameter¹⁾.

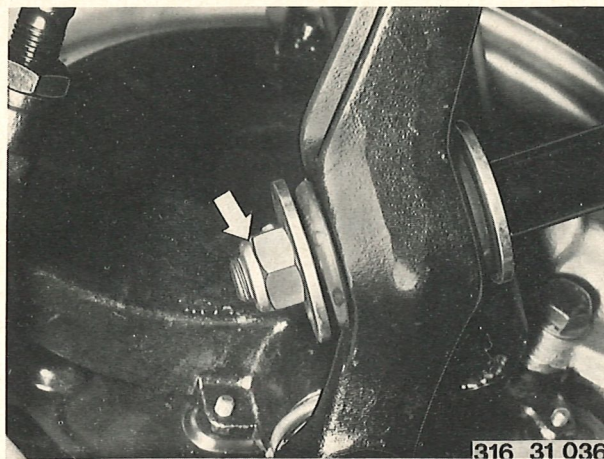
When installing heavy-duty conversion, see notes in Specifications.

¹⁾ See specifications

31 35 000 Stabilizer – removing and installing

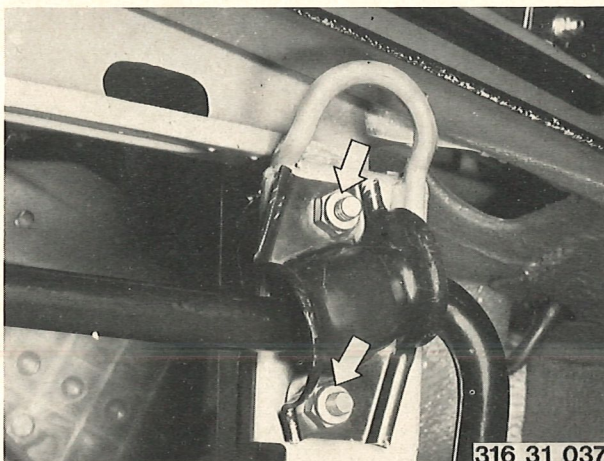
Unscrew self-locking nuts at left and right wishbones.

When installing: Check condition of rubber bushing and renew if necessary. Use new self-locking nuts. Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



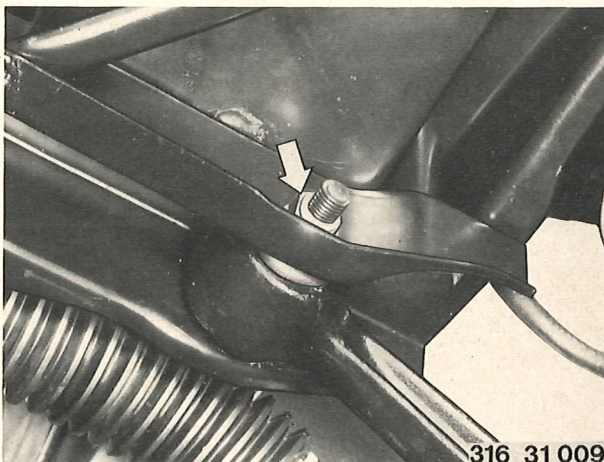
Take off the retaining clamp and left and right rubber bushings.

When installing: Check condition of rubber bushings and renew if necessary. Use new self-locking nuts. Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



Detach wishbone from front axle beam at one side.

When installing: Use a new self-locking nut. Note correct tightening torque¹⁾.



¹⁾ See specifications

