

SAFETY

- Exterior and interior safety features
- Automatic inertia-lock seat belts
- Telltale and warning lamps
- Heated rear window
- Wiper blades
- Fog lights
- Tires
- Brake fluid

Think of yourself – and others

For your personal safety and that of your passengers, please note the following recommendations:

Before driving all **windows** and the **outside mirror** should be clean, so that good vision is assured in all directions. In addition, make sure that the **headlights and other outside light lenses** are clean – so that you can see and be seen.

If you start the car inside a garage, remember that the exhaust fumes contain an odorless and invisible but highly poisonous gas (carbon monoxide). Always open the garage door first.



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Position the **driver's seat** correctly for a comfortable driving position, good all-round vision and easy access to all controls.

The most suitable driving position is normally with the arms slightly bent.

Warning: do not adjust seat position while driving – this constitutes an accident risk.

For safety reasons, position the **headrests** at head height, not at neck height.

Adjust the settings of the **interior and outside mirrors** to suit the chosen seat position.

Remember to swing down the **sun visors** to shield both driver and passengers from direct sunlight or glare.

The seat belts can only protect you and your passengers if they are worn for every journey, even short trips in town.

Automatic (inertia-lock) seat belts with lap and diagonal straps are standard equipment for the front and rear seats of your BMW.

Children should only occupy the rear seats, and depending on their age and size either wear the seat belts or a special children's seat.



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The seat belts have been snug designed to simplify fastening and wearing. Place the upper strap across the shoulder and chest, the lower strap round the hips. Pull the locking catch section of the belt after insertion to ensure that the lock has engaged correctly, and check that the straps are not twisted.

Special attention should be paid to correct belt length, as this can greatly influence effective accident protection.

The lap section should be a snug fit, with any slack passed back to the reel via the shoulder section of the belt.

Attention:

Check position of the swinging link, it always must be in line with the seat belt.

The length of the shoulder section is automatically adjusted, but the belt remains free during normal driving to permit the necessary degree of movement at the controls.

To release the seat belt, press the red release button ("PRESS") on the lock unit.

If you should be unfortunate enough to be involved in an accident, the seat belts may be subjected to unusually high loadings and stretch beyond permissible limits. In this case, they must be renewed together with their fastenings as a safety precaution.

At intervals, reel lock units, anchorage points and straps should be examined for signs of damage or wear.

Instructions for the routine care of seat belts are given under the heading "CARE AND MAINTENANCE".



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A reminder on the dashboard consisting of a warning buzzer and a visual warning signal "FASTEN SEAT BELTS" will be actuated for a time of about 6 sec. when the ignition is switched on.

The buzzer will not sound, when the driver's belt is put on before switching on the ignition.

Also, the buzzer is actuated when the ignition key is left in the lock and the driver's door is opened.

After 30.000 miles or 48.000 km a visual warning signal "Oxygen-SENSOR" will light up on the dashboard. This signifies that the Emission Control System needs maintenance.

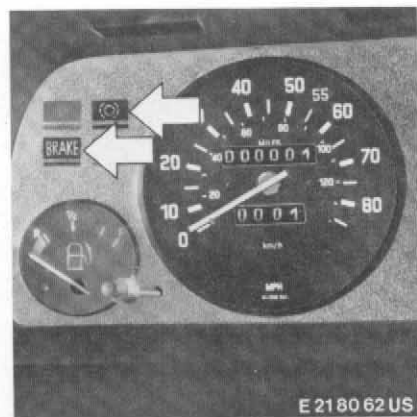
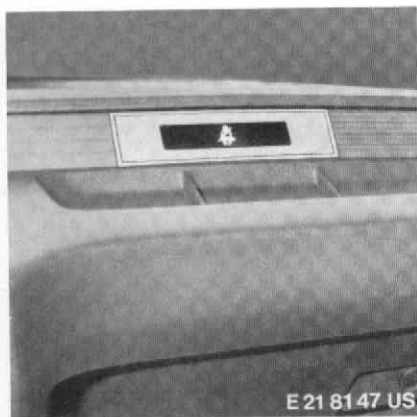
Every 30.000 miles or 48.000 km the oxygen sensor must be replaced.

When the maintenance is carried out the workshop mechanic extinguishes the warning light and resets the milage recorder.

After the engine has started, the **battery charge, oil pressure light and brake pad wear warning light** will extinguish. If either of these lights remains on, or comes on again during the journey, see instructions in "DRIVING HINTS, MINOR DEFECTS".

The **brake warning light** should go out when the handbrake is released. However, this light also indicates low brake fluid level in the reservoir by remaining on or coming on during a journey. In this event, see instructions in "DRIVING HINTS, MINOR DEFECTS".

As a test the **brake pad wear warning light** comes on while operating the starter. If this warning light comes on during a journey see "DRIVING HINTS, MINOR DEFECTS".



Brake fluid is a hygroscopic substance, and thus absorbs moisture from the atmosphere over a period of time. In order to maintain the brakes in a fully operational condition, the **brake fluid always be changed at least once a year.**

Add fluid up to the "MAX" mark.
Tested and approved brake fluid grades:

USE ONLY DOT 4 BRAKE FLUID

The **electric heating elements on the rear window** ensure unobstructed rearward vision and remove or prevent misting or ice formation during cold-weather driving. Never clean the inside of the rear window with a sharp object or a powerful solvent, or the heating elements may be damaged.

Rear vision should not be obstructed by articles placed on the shelf below the rear window, as these may fly forwards during an emergency brake application and increase the risk of occupant injury.

Examine the **wiper blades** at frequent intervals. If they tend to smear or leave areas of glass unwiped, there is a risk the driver's vision will be impaired. Wiper blades should therefore be renewed at least twice a year.

Fog lights (optional) improve your range of vision just ahead of the car, and are a useful 'active safety' factor.

Your BMW Dealer will gladly install them if necessary. However, note that many countries have statutory regulations governing the use of these lights.

The factory-approved **steel belted tires** on your BMW have been carefully chosen to match its performance and handling characteristics, and to offer not only maximum safety but also the desired level of ride comfort. Steel belted tires should always be fitted to all four wheels to retain these advantages.

The condition of the tires and maintenance of the **specified tire pressure** can greatly affect both useful tire life and road safety. At regular intervals, and before starting a lengthy journey (but at least once a week) have the tire pressures checked. Tables showing the specified pressures are given inside the back cover of this handbook.

Inspect the tires frequently for signs of damage, stones or other objects in the treads, excessive or uneven wear and tread depth.

If your car is equipped with an outside mirror on the right hand side (optional on US-vehicles only) please take into consideration that the glass of the mirror is convex. **The objects you see in the mirror are closer than they appear.**



Tread Wear Indicators

Your BMW is fitted with steel-belt radial tires, which incorporate built-in tread wear indicators. These are molded into the bottom of the tread grooves and will appear as approx. 1/2" (13 mm) wide bands when the depth of the tread becomes 1/16" (1,6 mm). The indicators help you to visually determine when your tires have been worn down so far that they need replacing. If they appear in two or more adjacent grooves, tire replacement due to tread wear is recommended.

If you are forced to drive over obstacles such as curbs or potholes, do so with great care and at low speed in order to prevent damage to the tire carcass which might not be evident from the outside.

At high speeds, the load on the tires is extremely high, in particular during hot weather and when the car is loaded to the full weight limit. Note that increased tire pressures are specified for these driving conditions. Do not exceed **maximum permissible gross weights**.