

Transmission ID Codes

On both manual and automatic transmissions, the code letter and transmission type numbers should be located on an ID plate attached to the side of the transmission. Do not rely on numbers cast on the transmission case for identification.

In addition, the transmission lubricant varies between transmissions and model years. Fluid application information should be clearly marked on a label on the transmission.

On manual transmissions, either ATF (orange label reads ATF-Oil!) or a special BMW lubricant (yellow label reads MTF-LT 1) are used. See **230 Manual Transmission**.

Automatic transmissions are filled with either Dexron III ATF (black trans. type plate reads ATF-Oil!), a special life-time oil (green trans. type plate reading Life-Time Öl). See **240 Automatic Transmission**.

CAUTION —

If in doubt as to the type of fluid installed in a particular transmission, consult an authorized BMW dealer service department for the latest in operating fluids.

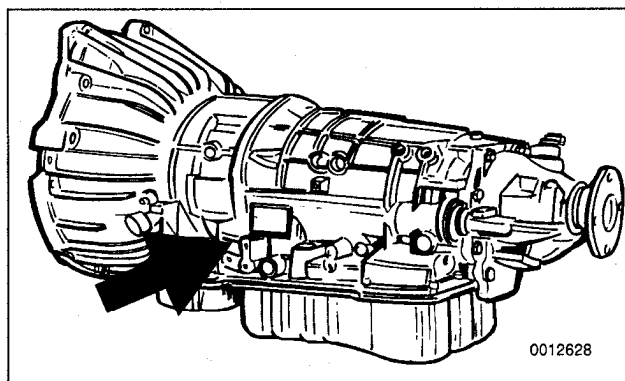


Fig. 2. Typical location of ID plate on automatic transmission housing (arrow). A4S 310R (THM-R1)



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GENERAL

E36 models are equipped with a longitudinal drivetrain. The transmission is bolted directly to the rear of the engine. A driveshaft connects the output shaft of the transmission to the final drive. The final drive is mounted to the rear suspension and the body. Individual drive axles with integrated constant velocity joints transfer rotational power to the rear wheels.

Manual Transmission

Due to different power characteristics and performance requirements, four different manual transmissions are used in the models covered by this manual. Manual transmission applications are given in **Table a**.

For transmission gear ratio information and repair information, see **230 Manual Transmission**.

E36 cars with standard transmission use a single-disc clutch with dual-mass flywheel. For further information, see **210 Clutch**.

Table a. Manual Transmission Applications

Model	Year	Engine	Transmission
318i/is/iC	1992-1995	M42	Getrag S5D 200 G*
	1996-1998	M44	Getrag S5D 250 G
323is/iC	1998	M52	Getrag S5D 250 G
325i/is/iC	1992-1995	M50	Getrag S5D 250 G
328i/is/iC	1996-1998	M52	ZF S5D320 Z
M3	1995	S50US	ZF S5D310 Z
	1996-1998	S52US	ZF S5D320 Z

*The 1992 M42 engine may be fitted with either the Getrag S5D 200 G transmission or S5D 250 Getrag. The S5D 200G was discontinued in production in as of 9/92. This transmission is interchangeable with Getrag S5D 250 G.

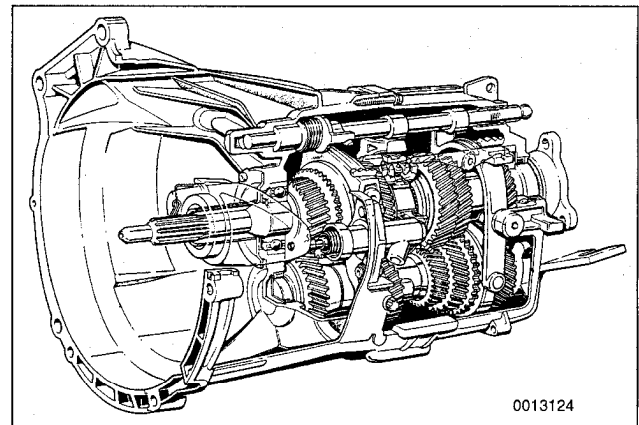


Fig. 1. ZF-manufactured manual transmission.

Automatic Transmission

Four different automatic transmissions are used, depending on model and model year and/or production date. All of the automatic transmissions are electrohydraulically controlled with either four or five forward speeds. Automatic transmission applications are given in **Table b**.

For automatic transmission repair information, see **240 Automatic Transmission**.

Table b. Automatic Transmission Applications

Model	Year	Engine	Transmission
318i/is/iC 323is/iC 325i/is/iC	1992-1995	M42	A4S 310 R
	1998	M52	
	1992-1995	M50	
318i/is/iC 328i/is/iC	1996-1998	M44	A4S 270 R
	1996-1998	M52	
M3	1996-1998	S50US S52US	A5S 310 Z

GENERAL