

Deactivating and reactivating airbags/acoustic seat belt reminder

Starting from G-series

Situation: If expressly desired by the customer and at the customer's responsibility, the following airbags can be deactivated and reactivated depending on the vehicle type:

- Front passenger airbag

Important note when travelling with children:

Children younger than 12 years of age or smaller than 150 cm may only travel if they are secured in suitable child restraint systems. Child restraint systems may only be used on the front passenger seat when the airbag is deactivated, as otherwise there is a substantial risk of injury to the children if the airbag is deployed, even if they are seated in a child restraint system. If it cannot be prevented that children lean out of their seat in the direction of the door trim panel, the side airbag in the rear should be deactivated. Otherwise, there is a risk of considerable injury if the side airbag deploys.

Procedure: Deactivating / reactivating airbags

- BMW G-series:

In these vehicles, deactivation/activation of the airbags is only possible using a factory-installed key switch.

The key switch cannot be retrofitted!

It is not possible to deactivate/activate the airbags by means of conversion.

Deactivation/reactivation of acoustic seat belt warning

Deactivate and reactivate the acoustic seat belt warning for the driver and front passenger by conversion with the diagnosis system.

Note:

Deactivating the acoustic seat belt warning is not permitted in Japan.

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Master document for airbag/belt tensioner

All model series

Situation: The volume of information about the airbag/belt tensioner topic has greatly increased in the past few years due to technical innovations. To simplify the targeted search for information, this document contains a summary of all important information about the handling of airbags/belt tensioners at the dealer's operation and can be accessed directly using hotspot.

Procedure: Search for a topic in the table below and select a document with hotspot.

1. Fault memory / airbag indicator light

"Airbag with seat occupancy detection" [SI 65 04 96 \(064\)](#)

Side airbag: Troubleshooting 05/06 (MRS3) or fault code [SI 65 03 00 \(573\)](#)
08/09 (MRS)"

"Airbag fault code 01/0D (MRS3): Driver's airbag" [SI 65 07 00 \(603\)](#)

2. Repair

"Repair of airbag systems that have been activated" [SI 65 09 89 \(126\)](#)

"Airbag, repair instructions for ignition circuits" [SI 61 01 99 \(397\)](#)

"Airbag: Repair instructions for the ignition circuit, belt tensioner and/or side airbag" [SI 61 01 03 \(952\)](#)

"Airbag control unit replacement" [SI 65 10 96 \(129\)](#)

3. Deactivation / recoding

"Deactivated side airbags in the rear passenger compartment" [SI 65 07 99 \(442\)](#)

"Recode the airbag control unit" [SI 65 37 01 \(000\)](#)

"Check side airbag impact sensors and recode the airbag control unit" [SI 65 39 01 \(000\)](#)

"Recode the airbag control unit" [SI 65 40 01 \(000\)](#)

"Deactivation or reactivation of airbags / belt warning sound" [SI 65 13 00 \(641\)](#)

New audio test CD for complaints about sound system playback

All series

Situation: In case of customer complaints about sound quality when playing CDs or DVDs, it can be extremely difficult to diagnose whether it is a problem with the drive or a problem with the disc itself.

This is in part because customers are increasingly using discs of poorer quality (e.g. self-recorded CDs), which either cannot be played or can only be played poorly.

To help you distinguish, an audio test CD is now available.

This audio test CD should be used to analyse the following complaints on the customer's vehicle:

- CD/DVD not accepted
- CD/DVD jumps
- CD/DVD cannot be read
- CD/DVD operation interrupted permanently or intermittently

Note:

The audio test CD contains a track with built-in faults, but which the sound system should play back correctly.

Affected vehicles: All model series with original BMW/MINI audio systems with CD/DVD drive or CD/DVD changer.

Procedure: Insert the audio test CD in the drive for which the customer has complained about the sound quality.

Important:

The audio test CD provides a sensitive reference.

For this reason, comply with the following guidelines:

- Do not touch the CD on the playing surface, only on the edge.
- Do not stick labels or write on the CD's surface.
- Do not expose the CD to direct sunlight or high temperatures.
- Only remove the CD from its protective cover for immediate use.

Play track 12 of the audio test CD and then perform the following fault analysis:

- If no faults can be detected in the sound quality, there is no fault in the audio system. Replacing parts will therefore not achieve the desired result and must not be performed.
- Check whether the disc used by the customer is the cause of the complaint.
- If there is interference or if the CD jumps when track 12 is being played, the audio system / drive must be replaced.

Note:

The new audio test CD 01 99 00 33 475 does not supersede audio test CD 01 59 0 004 055 (please refer to [SI 65 03 98 381](#)).

The other tracks on audio test CD 01 99 00 33 475 are of no relevance to the analysis and can be ignored.

Problems with audio/navigation CDs/DVDs

All series

Situation: In recent years, the actions of the customers with regard to audio and navigation CDs and DVDs used in the vehicle has changed greatly. Customers are increasingly using not only purchased, pre-recorded CDs/DVDs, but also data carriers that they have recorded themselves, and which could cause problems when used in a vehicle. Purchased data carriers may also have a copy-protect function.

The following complaints may occur when such data carriers are used:

1. A CD is in the drive but is not recognised / cannot be played.
2. Reproduction is distorted.
3. The CD jumps, there are gaps in the sound when music tracks are played.
4. The CD always played correctly in the past, but not any more.
5. Not all CD tracks are played (home-recorded CDs).
6. The CD plays without any problem on indoor equipment (e.g. stereo system), but not in the car.
7. Problems when installing navigation software
8. Problems with the readability of the navigation road map.

Procedure: If one or more such complaints occur, the CDs/DVDs used by the customer should be checked for the following criteria:

- Are home-recorded or copy-protected data carriers being used?
- Are the CDs/DVDs heavily worn, scratched or dirty?

If this check indicates that the problem is caused by the media used by the customer, **no parts are to be replaced - this is not a problem relevant to warranty.**

Replacing the radio, CD changer or navigation computer will not bring about a lasting solution, the complaints will occur again. In such cases, the customer should be approached with the arguments laid out in the points below.

Note:

The CD drives installed in BMW and MINI vehicles are able to play any and all CDs available on the market that comply with the recognised standard for audio CDs/DVDs (the so-called "Red Book Standard"). Home-recorded CD-R and CD-RW can also be played without problem, providing they meet certain minimum quality requirements (the so-called "Orange Book Standard").

Explanatory information about the complaints described by the customer

Concerning complaints 1 to 5 and 7, 8:

The quality of the burned media is determined by various factors:

- Quality of the blanks used (coating)
Depending on the quality of the blanks used, home-recorded media age relatively quickly, a process that is often not visible from the outside. Cheap blanks can often no longer be played after just 1 - 2 years.
- The writing speed selected for burning
The faster poor quality blanks are recorded, the poorer the result will be
- Sensitivity of home-recorded CDs to scratches and dirt
The reverse (with a label) is the actual medium onto which the data is burned. Damage such as scratches caused by the customer's own labelling of the CD can thus have a direct negative effect on readability.
- Reading error
It is of course possible for reading errors to occur on original CDs. Scratches, dirt etc. also attach their surfaces.

Concerning complaints 1 to 4

- Unfortunately, not all manufactures of data carriers adhere to the recognised standards for the quality of the basic media and data organisation. In the case of the known copy-protection mechanisms, the

manufacturers actually violate them deliberately.

BMW permanently strives to ensure that all regularly available media can be played. In individual cases however, not every violation of standards can be provided for.

- Claims arising from copy-protected CDs that cause reading errors should be submitted to the CD dealer. These problems cannot be attributed to BMW AG, but rather solely to the CD manufacturers who do not adhere to agreed audio CD standards.

Concerning complaint 5:

- Depending on the computer performance, quality of blanks used, etc., problems may develop meaning that not all data are fully and correctly recorded on the data carrier during the burning process.

The consequence of this is that only a fraction of the data needed can be reproduced (e.g. the tracker only finds the first two of a series of recorded CD tracks).

Concerning complaint 6:

- The requirements of equipment concerning temperature range, sensitivity to vibrations and dirt that are needed for use in motor vehicles cannot always be achieved despite maximum efforts. For this reason, a certain limitation in function compared to indoor equipment must be accepted.

Concerning complaint 7:

- Please refer to Service Information bulletin [65 13 02 \(910\)](#).

00 02 06 (296)

Drawbar load sign omitted

All with options 235 and 3AC

Situation: There have been new vehicle documents since 2005-10-01.
Beginning with this production date, vehicles no longer need to be equipped with the trailer hitch drawbar load sign.
Corresponding information on the options is provided in the vehicle documents.
The regulation pertains to all series.