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## BMW E30

# BMW E30: The Complete Story

An in-depth guide to the iconic BMW E30 3 Series.

## INTRODUCTION

The BMW E30 3 Series stands as a defining vehicle of the 1980s, evolving into a highly cherished modern classic. This comprehensive book meticulously chronicles the full narrative of these automobiles, commencing from 1976 when development began for the successor to the original E21 3 Series.

It explores the foundational decisions behind BMW's design of the compact E30 saloon for the 1980s, detailing the styling, engineering, and specification modifications implemented throughout the model's production lifespan.

# BMW E30

## THE COMPLETE STORY



JAMES TAYLOR

Image: The front cover of "BMW E30: The Complete Story" by James Taylor, showcasing a classic silver BMW E30 sedan.

### DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

This section delves into the strategic decisions and design principles that guided BMW in creating the E30. It covers the initial concepts and the evolution from the E21, highlighting how BMW aimed to refine its compact saloon offering for the new decade.

### STYLING, ENGINEERING, AND SPECIFICATION CHANGES

Throughout its production, the E30 underwent various updates and refinements. This chapter details the significant changes in styling, engineering advancements, and modifications to specifications that occurred over the model's lifecycle. It provides insight into how the E30 adapted to market demands and technological progress.

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

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A comprehensive overview of the E30's technical data is presented, including detailed specifications for various models. This includes information on engine types, chassis configurations, dimensions, and performance figures. Furthermore, details on available paint and interior trim choices are provided, offering a complete picture of the car's options.

### Key Specifications Overview

Feature	Detail
Publisher	The Crowood Press
Publication Date	September 28, 2021
Language	English
Print Length	176 pages
ISBN-10	1785008722
ISBN-13	978-1785008726
Item Weight	2.31 pounds
Dimensions	8.86 x 0.69 x 10.25 inches

## SPECIAL US VARIANTS

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This dedicated chapter explores the unique characteristics and specifications of E30 models specifically produced for the United States market. It highlights differences in emissions regulations, safety standards, and consumer preferences that led to distinct variations.

## THE M3 AND LEADING GERMAN TUNERS

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The book provides detailed insights into the legendary E30 M3, a high-performance variant that achieved significant success in motorsport and on the road. It also covers the contributions of prominent German tuning companies that modified and enhanced the E30, offering unique interpretations and performance upgrades.

## BUYING AND OWNING A BMW E30

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For prospective and current owners, this chapter offers practical advice on acquiring and maintaining a BMW E30. It covers aspects such as what to look for when purchasing, common maintenance considerations, and tips for preserving the vehicle's condition and value.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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James Taylor, the author, transitioned from a career in central government to become a prolific automotive writer. With over 100 books to his name, he specializes in definitive single-make or single-model titles. His extensive experience includes writing for international enthusiast magazines, translating automotive texts, and providing effective writing training. Taylor served as editor for *Land Rover Enthusiast* magazine for nearly a decade, with Rover Company and Land

Rover products being his primary subject of expertise. He also co-organized the 15 Years of Rover V8 event in 1982.

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