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BMW 320i, 325i, 330i

2002 BMW 3 Series (E46) Owner's Manual

Models: 320i, 325i, 330i

1. Introduction

This owner's manual provides essential information for the safe and efficient operation, care, and maintenance of your 2002 BMW 3 Series vehicle. It is designed to help you familiarize yourself with the controls, features, and technical aspects of your car. Please read this manual thoroughly to ensure a comprehensive understanding of your vehicle's capabilities and to maximize your driving pleasure and safety.

Keep this manual in your vehicle at all times for quick reference. If you sell your vehicle, please ensure this manual remains with it for the new owner.



Image 1.1: Front cover of the official 2002 BMW 3 Series Owner's Manual, featuring the BMW logo and model years. This manual is crucial for understanding your vehicle.

2. Initial Familiarization

Before operating your BMW, it is recommended to familiarize yourself with the basic layout and controls. This section guides you through understanding the manual's structure and key vehicle components.

2.1 Understanding Warning Symbols

- **WARNING:** Indicates a procedure that, if not strictly observed, could result in severe personal injury or death.
- **CAUTION:** Indicates a procedure that, if not strictly observed, could result in damage to the vehicle or its components.
- **NOTE:** Provides additional information to assist in the proper use of the vehicle.

2.2 Key Vehicle Components Overview

Refer to the diagrams within the original manual for detailed identification of interior and exterior components, including dashboard controls, lighting, and seating adjustments. Pay particular attention to the location of safety features such as airbags and seatbelt mechanisms.

3. Operating Your BMW

This section covers the fundamental aspects of driving your 2002 BMW 3 Series, from starting the engine to utilizing advanced features.

3.1 Starting and Stopping the Engine

1. Insert the key into the ignition.
2. For automatic transmissions, ensure the gear selector is in **P** (Park) or **N** (Neutral). For manual transmissions, depress the clutch pedal.
3. Turn the key to the start position and release once the engine starts. Do not hold the key in the start position for more than a few seconds.
4. To stop the engine, turn the key to the "OFF" position.

3.2 Driving Controls

- **Steering Wheel:** Adjust for optimal driving position.
- **Indicator Stalk:** Controls turn signals, high beams, and often the onboard computer functions.
- **Wiper Stalk:** Operates windshield wipers and washers.
- **Climate Control:** Adjust temperature, fan speed, and air distribution.
- **Audio System:** Refer to the dedicated section in the original manual for detailed operation of the radio and CD player.

4. Maintenance and Care

Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and performance of your BMW. This section outlines routine checks and service intervals.

4.1 Routine Checks

- **Engine Oil Level:** Check regularly, ideally before long journeys. Refer to the dipstick and add oil if necessary, using only BMW-approved oil.
- **Coolant Level:** Ensure the coolant level is between the MIN and MAX marks when the engine is cold.
- **Brake Fluid Level:** Check periodically. Low levels may indicate worn brake pads or a leak.
- **Tire Pressure:** Maintain correct tire pressure as specified on the sticker inside the driver's door jamb or fuel filler flap.
- **Windshield Washer Fluid:** Keep topped up for clear visibility.

4.2 Service Intervals

Your BMW is equipped with a Service Interval Indicator. Follow the recommendations displayed in the instrument cluster. It is highly recommended to have all service and repair work performed by an authorized BMW service center using genuine BMW parts.

5. Troubleshooting Common Issues

This section addresses common operational issues you might encounter and provides basic steps for resolution. For complex problems, consult an authorized BMW service center.

Table 5.1: Common Troubleshooting Scenarios

Symptom	Possible Cause	Action
Engine does not start	Dead battery, faulty starter, no fuel, immobilizer active.	Check battery terminals, ensure sufficient fuel, try jump-starting. Consult manual for immobilizer reset.

Symptom	Possible Cause	Action
Warning light illuminated	Indicates a system malfunction (e.g., engine, brakes, airbags).	Identify the specific warning light in the manual. Drive cautiously or stop immediately if critical. Seek professional diagnosis.
Tire pressure warning	Low tire pressure in one or more tires.	Check all tire pressures and inflate to recommended levels. Inspect for punctures. Reset the tire pressure monitoring system (TPMS).

6. Technical Specifications

This section provides general technical data for the 2002 BMW 3 Series models (E46 chassis). Specific details may vary by region and optional equipment.

- **Engine Types:**
  - 320i: M54B22 I6, 2.2L
  - 325i: M54B25 I6, 2.5L
  - 330i: M54B30 I6, 3.0L
- **Fuel Type:** Premium Unleaded Gasoline (91 RON / 87 AKI minimum).
- **Fuel Tank Capacity:** Approximately 63 liters (16.6 US gallons).
- **Oil Capacity:** Approximately 6.5 liters (6.9 US quarts) for M54 engines.
- **Transmission:** 5-speed manual or 5-speed automatic (Steptronic).
- **Tire Sizes:** Varies by model and wheel option (e.g., 205/55 R16, 225/45 R17). Refer to vehicle sticker.

7. Warranty and Support

For detailed information regarding your vehicle's warranty coverage, roadside assistance, and customer support, please refer to the separate Warranty and Service Information booklet provided with your vehicle at the time of purchase. You can also contact your authorized BMW dealer or visit the official BMW website for your region.

- **Authorized BMW Dealers:** For service, parts, and warranty claims.
- **BMW Roadside Assistance:** Contact information is typically found on a sticker in the glove compartment or in the warranty booklet.
- **Official BMW Website:** www.bmwusa.com (or relevant regional site) for general information and dealer locator.

This manual is a guide for the 2002 BMW 3 Series (E46) models 320i, 325i, and 330i. All rights reserved by BMW AG.

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