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> [Bilstein 22-213136 B4 Series OE Replacement Suspension Strut Assembly User Manual](#)

Bilstein 22-213136

Bilstein 22-213136 B4 Series OE Replacement Suspension Strut Assembly User Manual

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper handling, installation, and maintenance of your Bilstein 22-213136 B4 Series OE Replacement Suspension Strut Assembly. The Bilstein B4 Series is designed to restore original ride comfort and performance, meeting or exceeding original equipment standards. Please read this manual thoroughly before proceeding with any installation or service.



Image 1.1: Front view of the Bilstein 22-213136 B4 Series OE Replacement Suspension Strut Assembly, showcasing its design and branding.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Working with vehicle suspension components can be hazardous. Improper installation or handling can lead to serious injury or vehicle damage. Adhere to all safety precautions.

- **Professional Installation Recommended:** Due to the complexity and safety-critical nature of suspension systems, installation by a qualified automotive technician is strongly recommended.
- **Use Appropriate Tools:** Ensure all necessary and correct tools are available and in good working condition.
- **Vehicle Support:** Always support the vehicle securely on jack stands on a level surface before beginning any work. Never rely solely on a jack.
- **Spring Compressor:** If disassembling a strut assembly, a proper spring compressor tool is essential. Compressed springs store significant energy and can cause severe injury if released improperly.
- **Personal Protective Equipment:** Wear safety glasses, gloves, and other appropriate personal protective equipment.
- **Consult Vehicle Service Manual:** Always refer to the specific vehicle manufacturer's service manual for detailed removal and installation procedures, torque specifications, and safety warnings.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all components are present and undamaged upon opening the package. If any items are missing or damaged, contact your supplier immediately.

- One (1) Bilstein 22-213136 B4 Series OE Replacement Suspension Strut Assembly



Image 3.1: Angled view of the Bilstein 22-213136 B4 Series OE Replacement Suspension Strut Assembly, showing mounting points.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The following is a general overview of strut installation. Specific steps may vary significantly depending on the vehicle make and model. Always consult the vehicle's service manual for precise instructions.

General Installation Steps:

1. **Prepare Vehicle:** Park the vehicle on a level surface, engage the parking brake, and block the wheels.

Loosen the lug nuts on the wheel(s) where the strut will be replaced.

2. **Lift and Support:** Safely lift the vehicle using a hydraulic jack and secure it with jack stands. Remove the wheel(s).
3. **Disconnect Components:** Disconnect any brake lines, ABS sensor wires, sway bar links, or other components attached to the strut assembly.
4. **Remove Lower Mounts:** Unbolt the lower mounting bolts that connect the strut to the steering knuckle or control arm.
5. **Access Upper Mounts:** Depending on the vehicle, access the upper strut mounts from the engine bay or trunk. Remove the nuts securing the upper strut mount to the vehicle chassis.
6. **Remove Old Strut:** Carefully remove the old strut assembly from the vehicle.
7. **Transfer Components (if applicable):** If the new strut is not a complete assembly, transfer the coil spring, upper mount, dust boot, and bump stop from the old strut to the new Bilstein strut using a spring compressor. **This step is critical and requires specialized tools and expertise.**
8. **Install New Strut:** Position the new Bilstein strut assembly into the vehicle. Secure the upper mounting nuts loosely.
9. **Secure Lower Mounts:** Align and secure the lower mounting bolts. Torque all bolts to the vehicle manufacturer's specifications.
10. **Reconnect Components:** Reconnect all brake lines, ABS sensor wires, sway bar links, and other components. Ensure proper routing and secure fastening.
11. **Lower Vehicle:** Reinstall the wheel(s) and torque lug nuts to specification. Carefully lower the vehicle to the ground.
12. **Alignment:** After replacing suspension components, a professional wheel alignment is highly recommended to ensure proper vehicle handling and tire wear.

5. OPERATING PRINCIPLES

The Bilstein B4 Series OE Replacement Suspension Strut Assembly is a critical component of your vehicle's suspension system. Its primary function is to dampen spring oscillations, control wheel movement, and maintain tire contact with the road surface. This contributes to vehicle stability, handling, and ride comfort. Unlike a simple spring, the strut contains hydraulic fluid and valving that resist compression and extension, converting kinetic energy into heat.

6. MAINTENANCE

Bilstein B4 Series struts are designed for long-term, maintenance-free operation. However, regular inspection of your vehicle's suspension system is recommended as part of routine vehicle maintenance.

- **Visual Inspection:** Periodically inspect the struts for signs of fluid leaks, bent or damaged shafts, or damaged dust boots.
- **Mounting Hardware:** Check all mounting bolts and nuts for tightness. Loose hardware can lead to noise and premature wear.
- **Associated Components:** Inspect other suspension components such as coil springs, control arm bushings, and sway bar links for wear or damage.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the strut body and shaft clean from excessive dirt and debris, especially around the shaft seal.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues with your vehicle's ride or handling after strut replacement, consider the following common problems and potential solutions:

- **Excessive Bouncing or Poor Ride Quality:**

- **Cause:** Incorrect strut for the vehicle, faulty installation, or issues with other suspension components.
- **Solution:** Verify the strut part number matches the vehicle application. Re-check installation for proper torque and component assembly. Inspect other suspension parts.

- **Clunking or Rattling Noises:**

- **Cause:** Loose mounting hardware, worn strut mounts, damaged sway bar links, or improper assembly.
- **Solution:** Inspect all mounting points for tightness. Check strut mounts and associated components for wear.

- **Uneven Tire Wear:**

- **Cause:** Incorrect wheel alignment after strut replacement.
- **Solution:** Have a professional wheel alignment performed.

- **Fluid Leaks from Strut:**

- **Cause:** Damaged seal, manufacturing defect, or external damage.
- **Solution:** A leaking strut typically requires replacement. Contact Bilstein support or your supplier.

If troubleshooting steps do not resolve the issue, it is recommended to consult a qualified automotive technician.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Value
Brand Name	Bilstein
Part Number	22-213136
Model Name	Bilstein 22-213136 B4 Series OE Replacement Suspension Strut Assembly
Item Package Dimensions L x W x H	2.99 x 2.99 x 2.01 inches
Package Weight	454 Grams
Color	Black
Material	plastic
Number of Items	1
Suggested Users	unisex-adult
Manufacturer	Bilstein
Size	One Size

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Warranty Information:

Warranty coverage for the Bilstein 22-213136 B4 Series OE Replacement Suspension Strut Assembly is provided by Bilstein. Specific warranty terms and conditions, including duration and coverage details, are typically included with the product packaging or can be found on the official Bilstein website. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Customer Support:

For technical assistance, installation questions, or warranty inquiries, please contact Bilstein customer service directly. Contact information can usually be found on the Bilstein official website or product packaging.

Bilstein Official Website: www.bilstein.com (Please verify the current official website for the most up-to-date information.)