2012-2018 BMW 3-Series - Battery Replacement

2012-2018 BMW 3-Series | Moderate | 30-45 minutes | $147 DIY

TOOLS

10mm wrench or socket 13mm socket ratchet and extension battery terminal brush battery corrosion inhibitor spray battery carrier strap safety glasses work gloves

PARTS

Correct group-size battery $140.00
Terminal cleaner $8.00
Terminal protectant $7.00

STEPS

1. **Remove the right-side storage tray - Engine off, trunk open. The 2012-2018 3 Series** battery sits under the storage tray on the right side of the trunk - lift the tray out. Note the vent hose on the battery's side and the IBS sensor on the negative cable.
2. **Disconnect the negative cable first - Loosen the 10mm nut on the negative terminal and** wiggle the cable end off the post. The Intelligent Battery Sensor rides on this cable - lift it straight off without bending or twisting it, and lay the cable aside where it cannot touch t...
3. **Disconnect the positive cable - Flip open the red cover on the positive (+) terminal,** loosen the 10mm nut, and lift the cable off the post. Keep it away from the negative terminal and any metal in the trunk - corrosion on the cable end gets cleaned before reassembly.
4. **Detach the vent hose and bracket - Pull the vent hose off the battery's vent elbow - it** vents hydrogen outside and must be reconnected to the new battery. Remove the 13mm bolts holding the bracket to the tray and lift it away. Double-check no cables or clips still anchor...
5. **Lift out the old battery and fit the new one - Batteries are heavy - lift with your legs** and use a carrier strap if available. Lift the old battery straight out. Brush the tray clean, then lower the new battery in with the terminals on the same side as the old unit.
6. **Secure, clean, and reconnect - Reinstall the hold-down bracket and tighten its bolts so** the battery cannot move. Scrub the cable ends and posts with a battery-terminal brush until bright, then apply corrosion inhibitor. Reconnect the positive cable first and tighten it...
7. **Start the car, reset, and register - Start the engine and confirm normal cranking with no** new warning lights. Reset the clock and radio presets per the owner's manual. A replacement usually needs registering with BMW-compatible diagnostic equipment - have a dealer or qualif...

TORQUE

Battery hold-down 11 Nm 8 ft-lbs

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