2012-2018 BMW 3 Series F30 - Brake Fluid Change

2012-2018 BMW 3-Series | Advanced | 1-2 hours | $15 DIY

TOOLS

10mm Socket Flathead Screwdriver Jack Stands Brake Bleeder Kit Torque Wrench Rubber Gloves Safety Glasses Rags Funnel

PARTS

Brake Fluid $15.00

STEPS

1. **Check fluid spec and protect painted surfaces - Confirm the brake-fluid specification** (usually DOT 3 or DOT 4 - never mix incompatible types). Top off only with fresh sealed fluid. Cover fenders; brake fluid strips paint. Wear eye protection and nitrile gloves.
2. **Raise the vehicle and start at the farthest bleeder - Park level, set the parking brake,** and raise/support on jack stands if needed for bleeder access. Bleed farthest from the master cylinder first (often RR -> LR -> RF -> LF) unless the service manual specifies otherwise.
3. **Flush each corner until fluid runs clear - Attach clear tubing to the bleeder into a** catch bottle. Have a helper press the pedal (or use a vacuum/pressure bleeder). Open the bleeder, flush until old dark fluid and bubbles are gone, then close before releasing the pedal. Never let t...
4. **Keep the reservoir topped and repeat all wheels - Continuously top the master-cylinder** reservoir with fresh fluid between corners. Repeat the flush at each bleeder in the correct order. Wipe spilled fluid immediately from painted and rubber parts.
5. **Final top-off and pedal feel check - Lower the vehicle if raised. Top the reservoir to** MAX and install the cap. Pump the pedal until firm. Many European cars benefit from a scan-tool ABS bleed after a manual flush so the pump and valves cycle out trapped air.
6. **Road-test and recheck the level - Road-test gently in a safe area - brakes should feel** firm with no warning lights. After the drive, recheck the reservoir level and inspect every bleeder and line connection for seepage.

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