2004-2010 BMW 5 Series 530i - Replace Brake Rotors

2004-2010 BMW 5 Series | Advanced | 2-3 hours | $250 DIY

TOOLS

Floor Jack Jack Stands 18mm Socket Torque Wrench Rubber Mallet Brake Caliper Hanger Brake Fluid Wheel Chocks Safety Glasses Gloves 7mm Hex Key Anti-Seize Lubricant 5mm Hex Key 6mm Hex Key Breaker Bar

PARTS

Front Brake Rotors 34116792588 $150.00
Front Brake Pads 34116792589 $100.00
Brake hardware kit (clips)
Rotor set screw
Front brake pad wear sensor

STEPS

1. **Loosen lugs and raise the vehicle - The 2004-2010 BMW 530i (E60) in this guide needs** FRONT ROTOR replacement. Front rotors are 324mm x 30mm vented, 5-lug (verify: some sources note 320mm on certain trims, but 324mm is standard for the 530i; the 545i/550i used 348mm). You'l...
2. **Note the rotor set screw size - The 324mm rotor is behind it. Try a 6mm Allen first** (E60-specific DIY says 6mm), but have a 5mm ready (some sources say 5mm). These screws commonly corrode and seize - soak with penetrant.
3. **Remove the caliper - Remove the caliper guide bolts - they're 7mm hex under plastic caps.** Pop the caps off, remove the 7mm bolts. Slide the caliper off the bracket. Support it with wire - don't hang it by the hose. Remove the anti-rattle spring clip from t...
4. **Check the wear sensors and rotor thickness - The E60 has ELECTRONIC wear sensors -** exactly TWO on the car: LEFT FRONT and RIGHT REAR. Inspect the old 324mm rotor: check the minimum thickness stamped on the hat (clean off rust to read it).
5. **Compress the piston - Open the brake fluid reservoir cap first (BMW uses DOT 4). The** E60's ATE-type caliper is straightforward - one piston, simple retraction. If the piston is seized, the caliper needs replacement (common on 15+ year old BMWs).
6. **Clean and install hardware - Install new hardware/clips. Install the new pads. Route the** wire to the chassis connector and plug it in. The E60's two-sensor system (left front, right rear) means you only replace the front sensor during a front brake job.
7. **Install new pads and caliper - Install the NEW 324x30mm rotor onto the clean hub flange.** Ensure it sits flat - any rust or debris on the hub causes runout and vibration. Install the new set screw with anti-seize (use the correct size: 5mm or 6mm - you determined thi...
8. **Reset the brake service light and bed the pads - Lower the E60. Reset the brake service** light in iDrive (the E60 tracks brake service intervals). Typically: 5-6 moderate stops from 40 mph with cool-down. The E60 should brake smoothly. Check the DOT 4 fluid level.

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