2017-2018 BMW X5 - Cabin Air Filter Replacement

2017-2018 BMW X5 | Moderate | 30-60 minutes | $56 DIY

TOOLS

T20 Torx screwdriver Plastic trim removal tool Vacuum cleaner or compressed air Flashlight or headlamp

PARTS

Cabin microfilter $29.00
Recirculation filter $27.00

STEPS

1. **Park the X5 and clear the passenger footwell - Park on level ground, switch the ignition** fully off, and remove the floor mat and any items from the passenger footwell. The job is done when you have unobstructed access and good lighting under the dash.
2. **Remove the footwell trim panel - Locate the T20 Torx screws securing the soft trim panel** under the glovebox in the passenger footwell. Remove the screws and gently pull the panel down and toward you to release its clips. Set the panel aside face-up; you are done when the...
3. **Release the filter housing cover - The rectangular housing cover is held by two plastic** tabs on its lower edge. Squeeze or unclip the tabs and swing the cover down and off its upper hinge points.
4. **Slide out the old microfilter - Grip the exposed end of the old filter and slide it** straight down and out of the housing, noting which way the airflow arrow printed on its frame points. F15 housings are tight, so flex the filter slightly if it catches, but never tear it....
5. **Clean the filter housing - Vacuum or blow out leaves, pine needles, and dust from the** empty housing slot and the surrounding footwell area. The step is done when the slot is visibly clean and no loose debris falls out when you tap the housing.
6. **Install the new microfilter - Slide the new charcoal microfilter into the housing with** its airflow arrow pointing the same direction as the old one (downward on the F15). Push it fully home until its frame seats flush with the housing opening and does not spring back o...
7. **Refit the housing cover and snap the tabs closed - Hook the top of the housing cover onto** its hinge points, swing it up, and snap both lower tabs closed so the cover sits flat with no bulging.
8. **Replace the recirculation filter under the cowl - Open the hood and find the** recirculation filter housing under the passenger-side cowl grille near the windshield base.
9. **Test the HVAC and check for rattles - Start the engine, run the fan through all speeds,** and switch between fresh-air and recirculation modes while listening for whistling or rattling from the dash. Confirm airflow feels strong and even from the vents and that no musty smell re...

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