

2004-2009 Mazda Mazda3 | Easy | 15-30 minutes

TOOLS

Phillips head screwdriver Socket set with 8mm and 12mm sockets Ratchet with extension Plastic trim removal tool Nitrile gloves Flashlight

PARTS

Cabin air filter two-piece set (Mazda BP4K-61-J6X or equivalent, e.g. AQ1116) \$34.00

STEPS

- 1 Disconnect the battery and clear the footwell - Park the Mazda3, turn the ignition off,** and disconnect the negative battery terminal, because this job requires unplugging the fuse box under the passenger dash. Slide the passenger seat fully back to open up the footwell. Removing battery...
- 2 Remove the under-dash panels - Lie down in the passenger footwell and look up under the** glove box for the lower dash panels; release their clips and screws and pull the panels down. A trim tool helps release the plastic clips without breaking them. Set every panel and f...
- 3 Unplug and remove the fuse box - You will now see the fuse and junction box mounted under** the dash; carefully release each wiring connector by pressing its locking tab, and note or photograph where every connector goes. Undo the mounting bolts or clips holding the fuse bo...
- 4 Remove the metal support frame - Behind where the fuse box sat is a metal support frame** held by several nuts, so remove them and slide the frame out. This frame is what blocks access to the filter door on the 2004-2009 Mazda3. Keep the nuts in a tray because they are smal...
- 5 Remove the filter access door screws - With the frame out, you can see the rectangular** plastic filter access door on the HVAC box; remove its four Phillips screws and pull the door off. Shine a light inside to confirm you can see the pleated filter media. If the screws resist,...
- 6 Slide out the two old filter halves - The cabin filter on this Mazda3 is a two-piece set** that slides out in halves, so pull the first half out and then the second, keeping them level so dust does not spill into the housing. Study how they sat, noting which half was on top and...
- 7 Clean the housing and install the new set - Vacuum or wipe the empty housing slot to** remove leaves and dust that fell in, then hold the new two-piece set next to the old one to confirm the sizes match. Slide the new halves into the housing in the same arrangement as the old ones, wi...
- 8 Reinstall the door, frame, and fuse box - Reinstall the filter access door and its four** screws, snugging them without overtightening the plastic. Refit the metal support frame and its nuts, then reconnect the fuse box, seating every wiring connector until its locking tab clicks. D...
- 9 Reassemble the dash and reconnect the battery - Clip the under-dash panels back into** place, making sure every clip and screw seats so nothing rattles while driving. Reconnect the negative battery terminal and tighten it securely. Start the Mazda3 and confirm that all dashboard functions...