



## INSTRUCTIONS

# BMW E36 / E46 AA REAR STRESS BAR Installation

Tools required:      13mm deep socket  
                             3/8 Drive ratchet handle  
                             Razor blade  
                             Hammer  
                             6mm Allen tool  
                             Phillips screwdriver-regular  
                             Phillips screwdriver-stubby

Installation time:    1.5 Hours

### Procedure:

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| 1. From inside the car, remove both speaker grill covers. Disconnect the speaker wires from terminals, then remove two Phillips screws that secure each speaker with the stubby Phillips screwdriver. |
| 2. Exit car, the rest of the installation will be done from the trunk   |
| 3. Remove both tail light plastic covering that are inside trunk.   |
| 4. If car is equipped with a BMW CD player, remove the two anchoring Phillip screws.  |

5. Remove carpet trunk covering on right side towards rear seat back area.

6. Repeat same for left side.

7. Mount rear strut brace end-plates to top of shock tower mounts with 13mm nuts.  
Torque to 18 ft/lbs.  
Due to the slant or angle of the rear shock mounting surface, the rear brace plates when mounted in the trunk will tend to slant downward making the bolt holes on the brace to not align with the middle bar.



8. Reinstall trunk side covering. Where the end plate protrude against the carpet, use a hammer and tap against the carpet. This creates a template.

9. Use a razor blade, and cut out the template that is formed. Rear strut bar end plate will now be protruding from the side carpets

10. Re-assemble the side coverings, then assemble the rest of the trunk in reverse order.

11. Take the middle section of the brace and bolt to the end plate. It does not matter which side, any side will work.  
The bolt should not be tightened at this time, the bolt only has to be through the hole.



12. Using a rubber mallet or hammer tap this end plate until the middle section seems almost horizontal.

13. Bring the middle section up to the other end plate and tap the other end plate until the hole aligns for the bolt to go through.  
- Using a carpenter level, place on the middle section.  
- Tap each end plate until center section is level.



14. Tighten the 6mm allen bolts.  
Installation is complete.

If you encounter any technical difficulties, please call AA at 305-233-9300.

AA thanks you for placing your confidence in our product and we sincerely hope it will meet and exceed your expectations.