



The Ultimate  
Driving Machine





## **M3** Supplementary Owner's Manual for Vehicle

Thank you for choosing a BMW M3.

The more familiar you are with your vehicle, the better control you will have over it on the road.

We therefore strongly suggest:

Read the information provided in this Supplementary Owner's Manual before starting out in your new BMW. It contains important information on vehicle operation that will help you make full use of the technical features available in your BMW.

We wish you an enjoyable driving experience.

BMW AG

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# Notes

## Using this Owner's Manual

This Supplementary Owner's Manual contains all important equipment information, operating instructions and technical data of the BMW M3 that differ from the BMW 3 Series. Descriptions that are not contained in this Supplementary Owner's Manual can be found in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle or in the additional brochures that may be included in the onboard literature.

We have tried to make the information in this Supplementary Owner's Manual easy to locate. The fastest way to find specific topics is to refer to the detailed index at the back of the manual. If you wish to gain an initial overview of your vehicle, you will find this in the first chapter.

Should you sell your BMW one day, please remember to hand over the Supplementary Owner's Manual as well; it is an important component of your vehicle.

## Symbols used



Indicates precautions that must be followed precisely in order to avoid the possibility of personal injury and serious damage to the vehicle. ◀



Indicates information that will assist you in gaining the optimum benefit from your vehicle and enable you to care more effectively for your vehicle. ◀



Refers to measures that can be taken to help protect the environment. ◀

◀ Marks the end of a specific item of information.

\* Indicates special equipment, country-specific equipment and optional accessories, as well as equipment and functions not yet available at the time of printing.

With iDrive\*:

"..." Identifies Control Display texts used to select individual functions.

›...◀ Verbal instructions to use with the voice activation system.

››...◀◀ Identifies the answers generated by the voice activation system.

## Symbols on vehicle components



Indicates that you should consult the relevant section of this Owner's Manual for information on a particular part or assembly.

## The individual vehicle

When you ordered your BMW, you chose various items of equipment. This Supplementary Owner's Manual describes the entire array of options and equipment available with a specific BMW model range.

Please bear in mind that the manual may contain information on accessories and equipment that you have not specified for your own vehicle. Sections describing options and special equipment are marked by asterisks \* to assist you in identifying possible differences between the descriptions in this manual and your own vehicle's equipment.

If equipment in your BMW M3 is not described in this Supplementary Owner's Manual, please refer to the Owner's Manual for the vehicle.

## Editorial notice

BMW pursues a policy of continuous, ongoing development that is conceived to ensure that our vehicles continue to embody the highest quality and safety standards combined with advanced, state-of-the-art technology. In rare cases, therefore, the features described in this Supplementary Owner's Manual may differ from those in your vehicle.



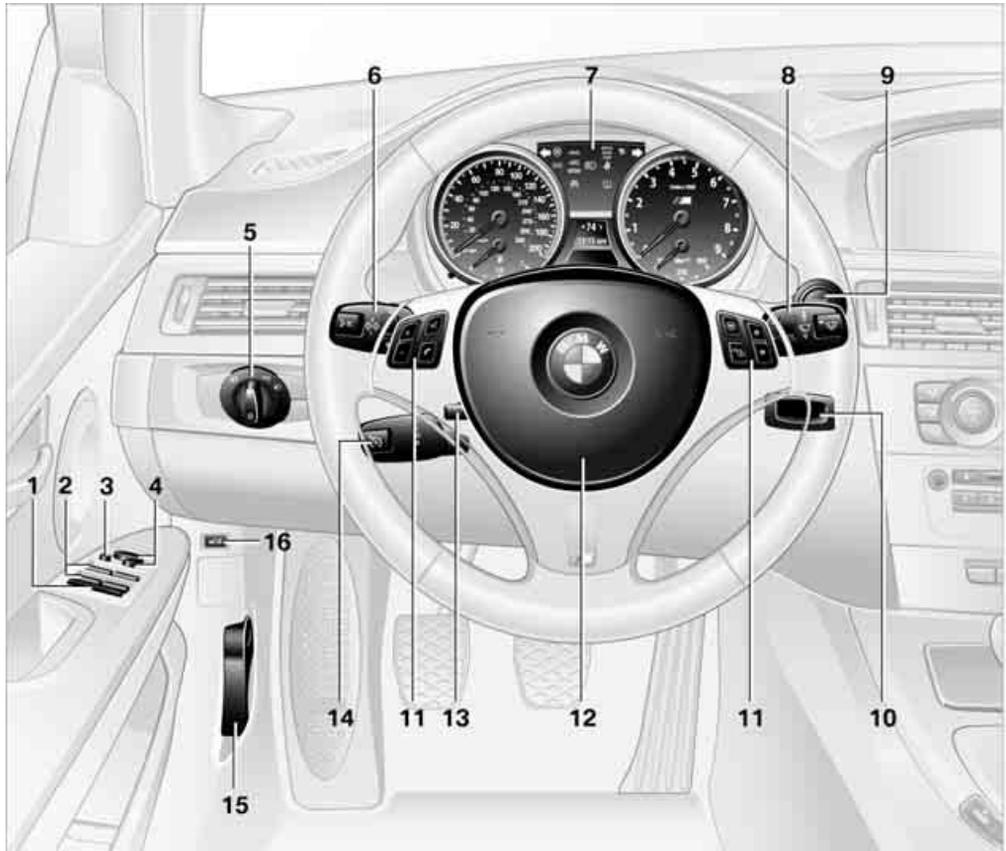
## At a glance

This overview of buttons, switches and displays is intended to familiarize you with your vehicle's operating environment. The section will also assist you in becoming acquainted with the control concepts and options available for operating the various systems.

# Cockpit

## Around the steering wheel: controls and displays

Sedan



 The description of features without specific page references can be found in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle under the respective keyword. ◀

1  Safety switch for electric rear windows

2  Opening and closing windows

3 Folding exterior mirrors in and out\*

4 Adjusting exterior mirrors, automatic curb monitor\*

5  Parking lamps/low beams

 Low-beam headlamps

 Automatic headlamp control\*  
Adaptive light control\* 48

- 6  Turn signal indicators
-  High beams, headlamp flasher
-  Roadside parking lamps\*
- BC Computer 37
-  Settings and information about the vehicle 38

7 Instrument cluster 12

- 8  Windshield wipers
-  Rain sensor\*

- 9  Switching the ignition on/off and starting/stopping the engine 24

10 Ignition lock

11 Buttons on the steering wheel

-  Telephone\*:  
Accepting and ending a call;  
dialing\* selected phone numbers.  
Redialing if no phone number is  
selected

-  Volume

-  Activating/deactivating the voice  
activation system\*

-  Changing the radio station

-  Interrupting a traffic bulletin

-  Selecting a music track
-  Scrolling through the redial list

-  M Drive\*, calling up individual  
settings 21

-  Next entertainment source\*

-  Recirculated air mode

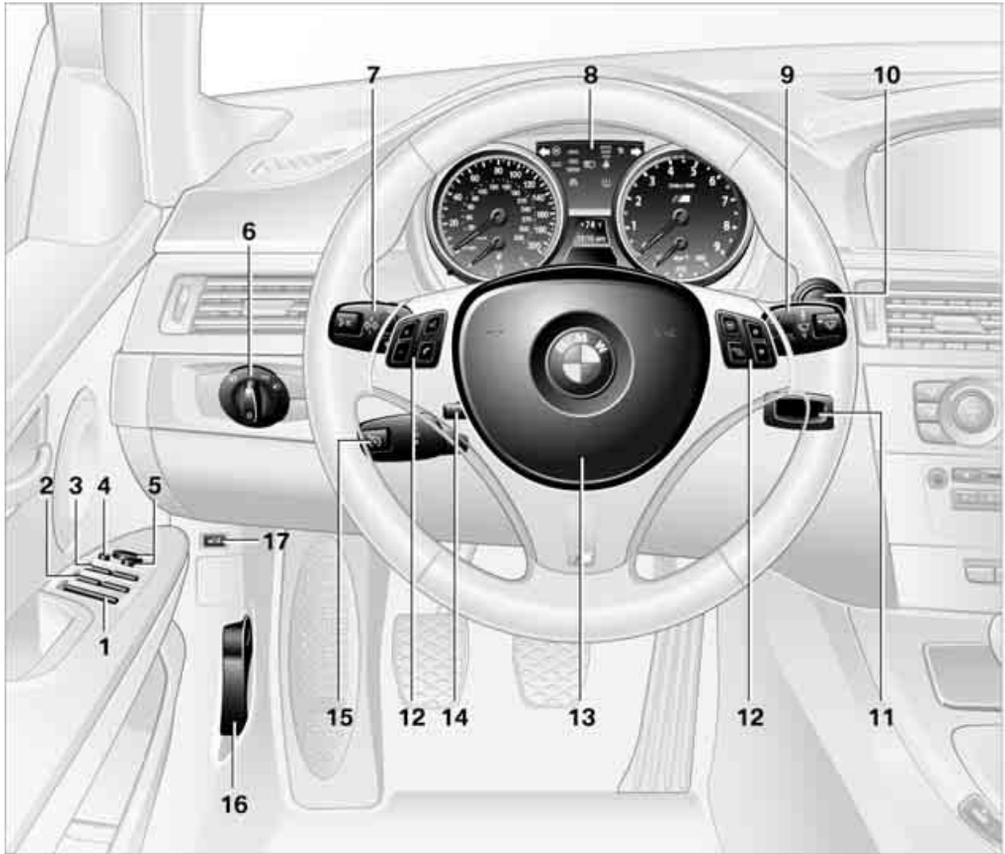
12 Horn: the entire surface

13 Adjusting the steering wheel

- 14  Cruise control 34

15 Releasing the hood

16 Opening the trunk lid



 The description of features without specific page references can be found in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle under the respective keyword. ◀

- 1  Convertible: opening and closing windows jointly
- 2  Convertible: opening and closing rear windows
- 3  Opening and closing front windows
- 4 Folding exterior mirrors in and out\*
- 5 Adjusting exterior mirrors, automatic curb monitor\*

- 6  Parking lamps/low beams
-  Low-beam headlamps
-  Automatic headlamp control\*  
 Adaptive light control\* 48
- 7  Turn signal indicators
-  High beams, headlamp flasher

-  Roadside parking lamps\*
-  Computer 37
-  Settings and information about the vehicle
-  38

8 Instrument cluster 12

9  Windshield wipers

 Rain sensor\*

10  Switching the ignition on/off and starting/stopping the engine 24

11 Ignition lock

12 Buttons on the steering wheel

 Telephone\*:  
Accepting and ending a call;  
dialing\* selected phone numbers.  
Redialing if no phone number is  
selected

 Volume

 Activating/deactivating the voice  
activation system\*

 Changing the radio station  
Interrupting a traffic bulletin

 Selecting a music track  
Scrolling through the redial list

 M Drive\*, calling up individual  
settings 21

 Next entertainment source\*

 Recirculated air mode

13 Horn: the entire surface

14 Adjusting the steering wheel

15  Cruise control 34

16 Releasing the hood

17 Opening the trunk lid

## Instrument cluster



 The description of features without specific page references can be found in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle under the respective keyword. ◀

- 1 Speedometer
- 2 Indicator lamps for turn signals
- 3 Indicator and warning lamps [13](#)
- 4 Tachometer [36](#)
- 5 Shift Lights\* [31](#)
- 6 Engine oil temperature [36](#)
- 7 Display for
  - ▷ Clock
  - ▷ Outside temperature
  - ▷ Indicator and warning lamps
  - ▷ With dual clutch transmission: Computer [37](#)
- 8 Display for
  - ▷ Gear display M dual clutch transmission with Drivelogic\* [27](#)
  - ▷ With manual transmission: Computer [37](#)
  - ▷ Date of next scheduled service, and remaining distance to be driven
  - ▷ Odometer and trip odometer
  - ▷ Checking oil level [61](#)
  - ▷ Settings and information [38](#)
  - ▷  There is a Check Control message
- 9 Fuel gauge [36](#)
- 10 Resetting the trip odometer

# Indicator and warning lamps

## Indicator lamps without text messages

The following indicator lamps notify you that certain functions are active:



M Drive\* 21



M Dynamic Mode\* 40

## Around the center console: controls and displays

Sedan



 The description of features without specific page references can be found in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle under the respective keyword. ◀

- 1 Microphone for voice activation system\* and for telephone\* in hands-free mode
- 2 SOS: initiating an Emergency Request call\*
- 3 Reading lamps
- 4 Glass roof, electric\*
- 5 Interior lamps
- 6 Passenger airbag status lamp\*
- 7 Control Display\*
- 8 Hazard warning flashers
- 9 Flat Tire Monitor FTM\* 42  
Tire Pressure Monitor TPM\* 44
- 10 Central locking system
- 11 Automatic climate control



Air distribution to the windshield



Air distribution to the upper body area



Air distribution to the footwell

AUTO

Automatic air distribution and flow rate



Cooling function



Automatic recirculated air control  
AUC and recirculated air mode

MAX

Maximum cooling

ALL

ALL program



Air flow rate



Defrosting windows



Rear window defroster



Heated seats\*

12 Radio

13



Roller sun blind\*



Deactivating the Automatic Start/Stop function\* 25

14 Controller\*

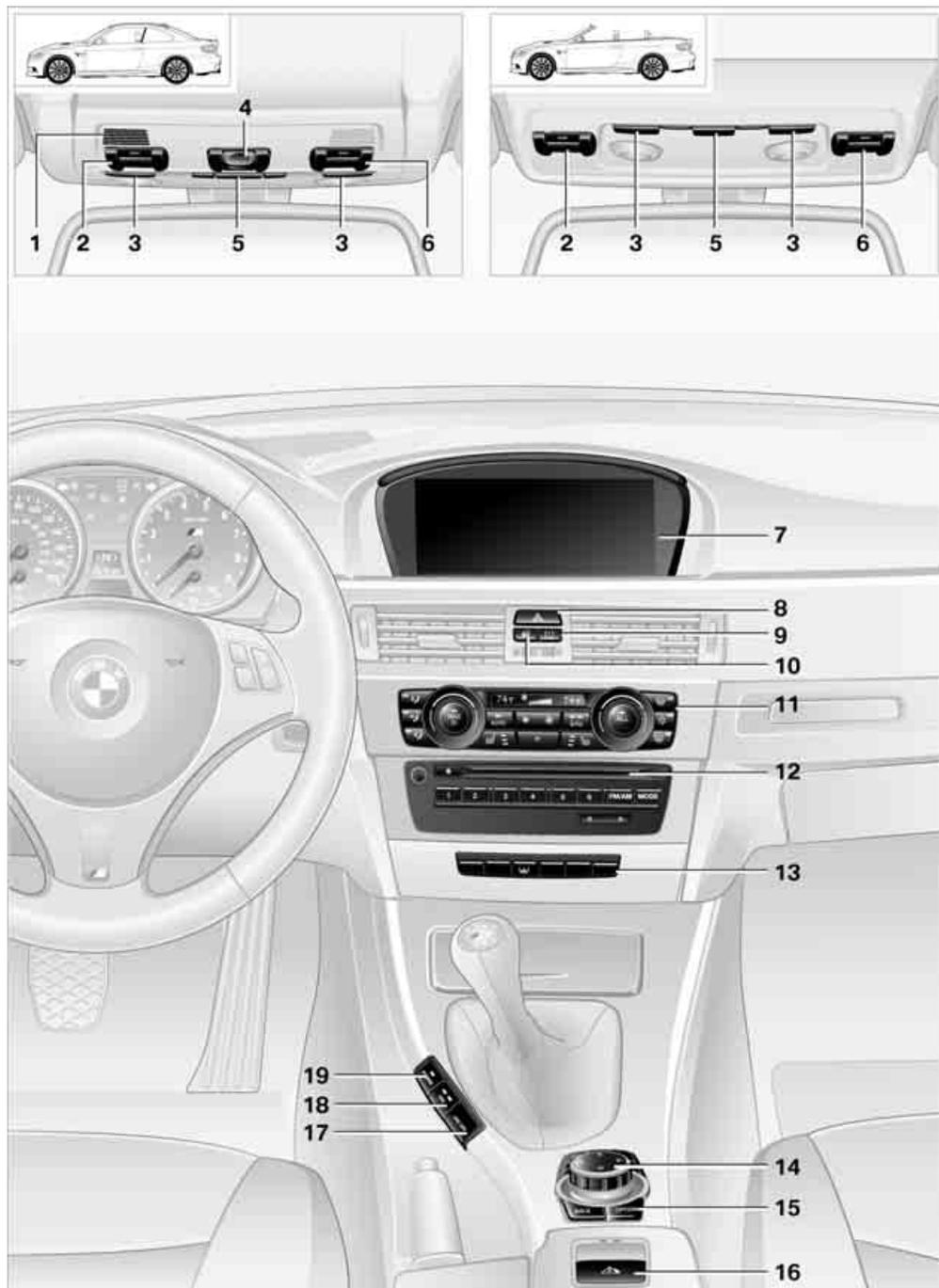
Can be turned, pressed or moved in four directions

15 Opening start menu on Control Display\*

16 Dynamic Stability Control DSC 40

17 Electronic Damper Control EDC\* 41

18 M Engine Dynamics Control POWER 33



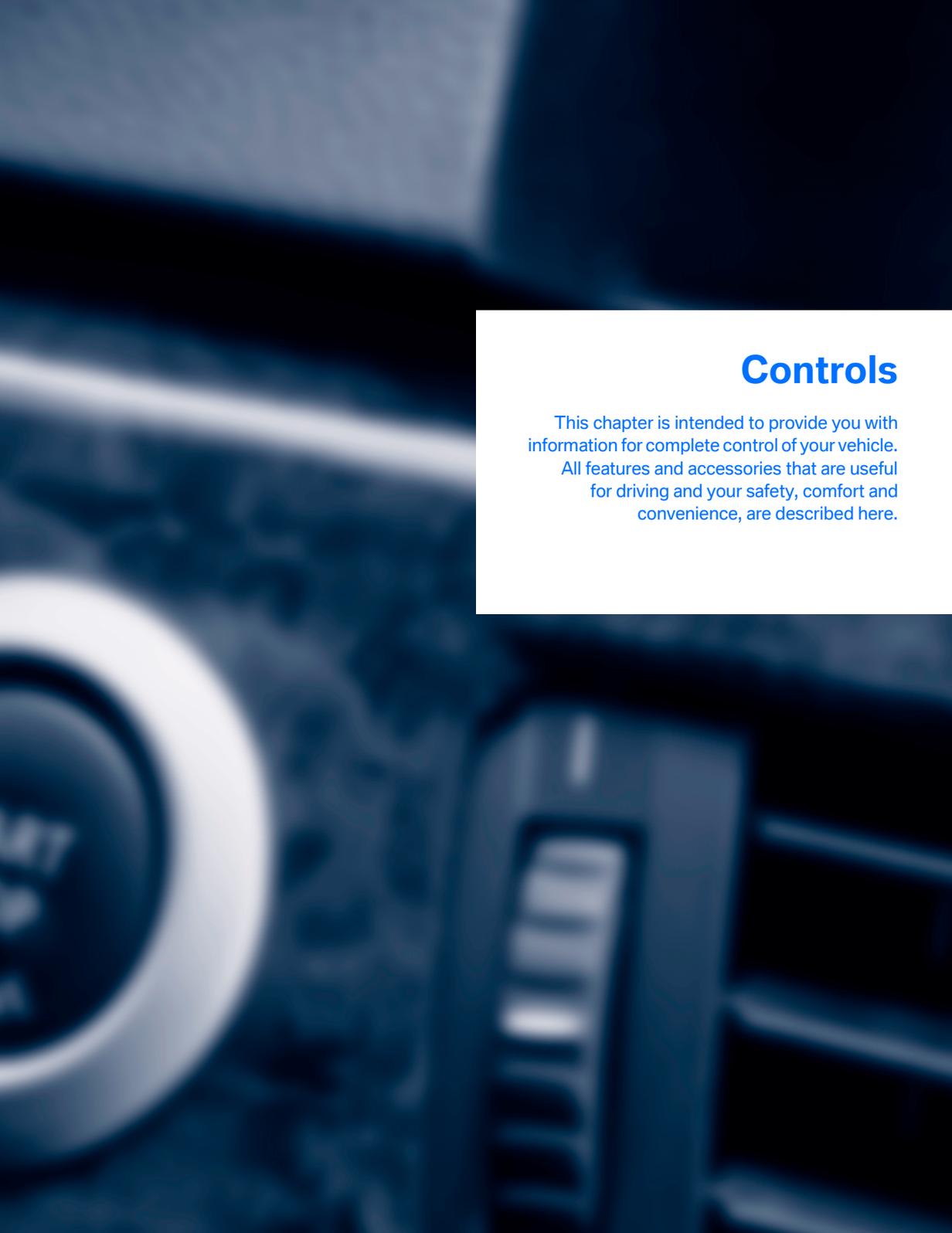
 The description of features without specific page references can be found in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle under the respective keyword. ◀

- 1 Microphone for voice activation system\* and for telephone\* in hands-free mode
- 2 SOS: initiating an Emergency Request call\*
- 3 Reading lamps
- 4 Coupe: glass roof, electric\*
- 5 Interior lamps
- 6 Passenger airbag status lamp\*
- 7 Control Display\*
- 8 Hazard warning flashers
- 9 Flat Tire Monitor FTM\* 42  
Tire Pressure Monitor TPM\* 44
- 10 Central locking system
- 11 Automatic climate control

-  Air distribution to the windshield
-  Air distribution to the upper body area
-  Air distribution to the footwell
-  AUTO Automatic air distribution and flow rate
-  Cooling function
-  A Automatic recirculated air control AUC and recirculated air mode
-  MAX Maximum cooling
- ALL ALL program
-  Air flow rate
-  Defrosting windows
-  Rear window defroster
-  Heated seats\*

- 12 Radio
- 13  Park Distance Control PDC\*  
 Coupe: Roller sun blind\*  
 Deactivating the Automatic Start/Stop function\* 25
- 14 Controller\*  
Can be turned, pressed or moved in four directions
- 15 Opening start menu on Control Display\*
- 16  Convertible: Opening and closing retractable hardtop
- 17 Dynamic Stability Control DSC 40
- 18 Electronic Damper Control EDC\* 41
- 19 M Engine Dynamics Control POWER 33



A close-up, blue-tinted photograph of a car's interior dashboard and control panel. The image is out of focus, showing various buttons, knobs, and a gear shift lever. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows, creating a sense of depth and texture.

## Controls

This chapter is intended to provide you with information for complete control of your vehicle.

All features and accessories that are useful for driving and your safety, comfort and convenience, are described here.

# Opening and closing

## Personal Profile

Note the following instructions for your BMW M3 that deviate from the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

### Personal Profile settings

For more information on specific settings, refer to the specified pages.

- ▷ M Drive, refer to page [21](#)
- ▷ Activating the preferred program of the M Engine Dynamics Control POWER and Electronic Damper Control EDC when starting the vehicle, refer to Configuring settings on page [21](#)
- ▷ Shift Lights\*, refer to page [31](#)

# Adjustments

## M Drive\*

### The concept

With M Drive you can configure several individual settings for your vehicle via a button on the steering wheel or on the Control Display. The settings influence the engine characteristics, dynamic driving control, damper tuning and steering tuning.

### Via the button\* on the steering wheel

#### Configuring settings

You can store the current programming of the

- ▶ M Engine Dynamics Control
- ▶ Drivelogic
- ▶ Electronic Damper Control EDC

in the  button on the steering wheel.

1. Switch on radio readiness or the ignition, refer to page 24.
2. Set the desired program.
  - ▶ Selecting the M Engine Dynamics Control program via the POWER button in the center console, refer to page 33
  - ▶ Selecting the Drivelogic drive program via the button in the center console, refer to page 31
  - ▶ Selecting the Electronic Damper Control EDC via the button in the center console, refer to page 42

3. Press the  button for longer than two seconds.

The desired program is stored.

The setting is stored for the remote control currently in use.

### Activating the settings

Press the  button on the steering wheel.



The indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on.

The following settings for M Drive are active:

- ▶ Selected M Engine Dynamics Control program
- ▶ M Dynamic Mode of the Dynamic Stability Control DSC
- ▶ Servotronic sport program
- ▶ Selected Drivelogic drive program
- ▶ Shift Lights activated.
- ▶ Selected program of the Electronic Damper Control EDC



If the indicator lamp flashes after the button was pressed, M Drive could not be activated because the Antilock Brake System ABS or Dynamic Stability Control DSC is currently regulating driving stability. Press the  button again when the indicator lamp is no longer flashing. ◀

You can change individual settings outside of M Drive even when M Drive is activated, e.g. using the buttons on the center console. To reactivate all of your settings for M Drive:

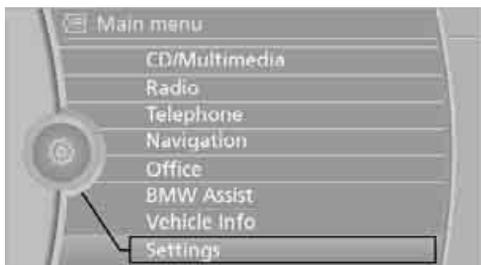
Press the  button twice.

### Via iDrive\*

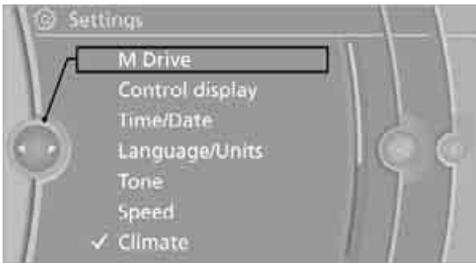
#### Configuring settings

You can set M Drive on the Control Display when the ignition is switched on.

1. "Settings"



## 2. "M Drive"



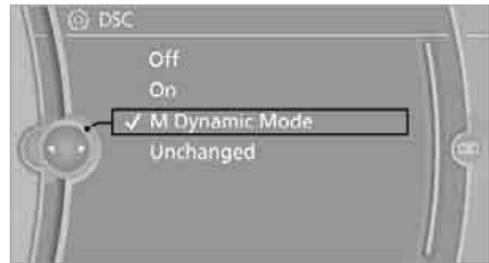
The functions contained in M Drive are displayed:

- ▷ "Drivelogic:"  
M dual clutch transmission with Drivelogic: shift modes and Drivelogic drive programs, refer to page 30
- ▷ "EDC:"  
Electronic Damper Control EDC programs, refer to page 41
- ▷ "DSC:"  
Dynamic Stability Control and M Dynamic Mode\*, refer to page 40
- ▷ "POWER:"  
M Engine Dynamics Control programs, refer to page 33
- ▷ "Servotronic:"  
Servotronic programs, refer to page 47
- ▷ "Shift lights:"  
Shift Lights, refer to page 31

## 3. Select the desired function, e.g. "DSC:".



## 4. Select the desired setting.



"Unchanged" retains the current setting created outside of M Drive, e.g. via the buttons in the center console.

The setting is stored for the remote control currently in use.

### Activating the settings

Press the  button on the steering wheel.

 The indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on. The M Drive settings made on the Control Display are active.

 If the indicator lamp flashes after the button was pressed, M Drive could not be activated because the Antilock Brake System ABS or Dynamic Stability Control DSC is currently regulating driving stability. Press the  button again when the indicator lamp is no longer flashing. ◀

You can change individual settings outside of M Drive even when M Drive is activated, e.g. using the buttons on the center console. To reactivate all settings made on the Control Display for M Drive: press the  button twice.

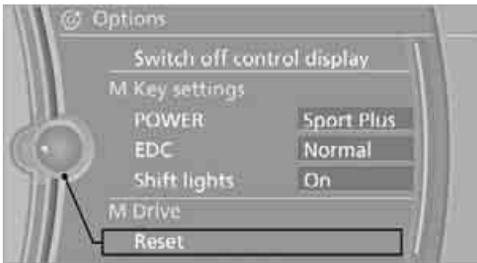
When the M Drive is activated, changes on the Control Display are accepted immediately.

### Resetting the settings

You can reset all M Drive settings to their default values:

1. "Settings"
2. "M Drive"
3. Move the controller to the right repeatedly until the "Options" menu is selected.

#### 4. "Reset"



#### 5. Confirm with "Yes".

### Deactivating the settings

Press the  button on the steering wheel again. M Drive is deactivated. The indicator lamp in the instrument cluster goes out.

### Operation using voice commands\*

You can also select the "M Drive" menu using voice commands.

 ›M Drive‹.  
The menu is selected.

### M key settings\*

For the remote control currently in use, you can set your preferred program for the M Engine Dynamics Control, the Electronic Damper Control EDC and the Shift Lights. These presets are called up when the engine is started.

1. "Settings"
2. "M Drive"



3. Move the controller to the right repeatedly until the "Options" menu is selected.

The available functions are displayed:

- ▷ "POWER:"  
M Engine Dynamics Control programs, refer to page 33
- ▷ "EDC:"  
Electronic Damper Control\* programs, refer to page 41
- ▷ "Shift lights:"  
Shift Lights, refer to page 31

4. Select the desired function.



5. Select the desired setting.

The setting is stored for the remote control currently in use.

# Driving

## Start/Stop button

Note the following instructions for your BMW M3 that deviate from the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.



Pressing the Start/Stop button switches radio readiness or the ignition on or off.

 M dual clutch transmission: when you press the Start/Stop button while the brake is depressed, the engine starts. ◀

## Starting the engine

 Do not run the engine in enclosed areas; otherwise, the inhalation of toxic exhaust gases can cause loss of consciousness and death. The exhaust gases contain carbon monoxide, an odorless and colorless, but highly toxic gas. Never leave an unattended vehicle with the engine running, otherwise such a vehicle represents a potential safety hazard. Before leaving the car with the engine running, place the transmission in neutral and forcefully apply the parking brake to prevent the car from moving. ◀

 Avoid frequent starting in quick succession as well as repeated start attempts in which the engine does not start. Otherwise, the fuel is not burned or incompletely burned and there is a danger of overheating and damaging the catalytic converter. ◀

Do not wait for the engine to warm up while the vehicle remains stationary. Start driving right away, but at moderate engine speeds.

Note the following instructions for your BMW M3 that deviate from the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

## M dual clutch transmission with Drivelogic

Remote control in the ignition lock or, with Comfort Access, inside the vehicle.

1. Depress the brake.
2. Press the Start/Stop button.



The engine starts with the selector level in any position. Driving off: with the engine running, move the selector level from the middle position ● in the desired direction.

Every time you start the engine, sequential mode is activated in program S3 if you lightly press the selector lever to the right to position D/S with the brake pedal depressed.

## Switching off the engine

 Always take the remote control with you when you leave the vehicle.

When parking, forcefully apply the parking brake to prevent the vehicle from moving. ◀

Note the following instructions for your BMW M3 that deviate from the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

## M dual clutch transmission with Drivelogic

1. Press the Start/Stop button.  
If N is engaged when you switch off the engine, you are notified visually and acoustically.
2. Forcefully apply the parking brake.
3. Remove the remote control from the ignition lock The transmission position P is engaged automatically.

## Automatic Start/Stop function\*

### The concept

The Automatic Start/Stop function helps you to save fuel and reduce emissions. To accomplish this, the system automatically switches the engine off during a stop, e.g. in a traffic jam or at traffic signals. The ignition remains switched on. When you begin to drive again, the engine starts automatically. The system is in standby mode when manually activated after you start the engine.

### Activating/deactivating the system



Press the button.

- ▷ The system is activated:  
The LED in the button goes out.
- ▷ The system is deactivated:  
The engine is started and the LED in the button lights up.  
The engine can only be switched off or started via the start/stop button.

## Operation with manual transmission

The Automatic Start/Stop function is only active after you begin to drive faster than 3 mph or 5 km/h.

### The engine is switched off

The engine is automatically switched off when the vehicle is stopped, if the following prerequisites are met:

- ▷ The transmission is in the idle position and the clutch pedal is not depressed
- ▷ The driver's seat belt is fastened and the driver's door is closed



The indicator lamp indicates that the Automatic Start/Stop function for automatically starting the engine is ready.

When the engine is switched off, the airflow volume of the automatic climate control system is reduced.

### The engine is not switched off

Before the engine is switched off, the system checks whether certain preconditions relating to safety and comfort have been met.

The engine is not automatically switched off in the following situations:

- ▷ Steering wheel is being moved or is at its maximum steering angle
- ▷ Outside temperatures below approx. +37 °F / +3 °C
- ▷ Passenger compartment in a heating or cooling phase
- ▷ High outside temperature and operation of the automatic climate control
- ▷ Condensation on windows while automatic climate control is switched on
- ▷ The engine is not yet warm.
- ▷ The battery is significantly discharged
- ▷ The hood is unlocked
- ▷ After driving in reverse

## The engine is started

After stopping, the engine starts automatically when the transmission is in the idle position and the clutch pedal is depressed or there are movements of the steering wheel.

Even if you do not wish to begin driving, the switched-off engine starts automatically in the following situations:

- ▷ The passenger compartment is heating up quickly despite the air conditioning system being switched on
- ▷ Condensation on windows while automatic climate control is switched on
- ▷ The battery is significantly discharged
- ▷ The vehicle is rolling

## Safety feature



The engine does not start automatically if after an engine is switched off automatically, the driver's seat belt is unfastened and the driver's door is opened or the hood has been unlocked. The indicator lamp lights up. The engine can only be started via the start/stop button.

## Operating the M dual clutch transmission

The Automatic Start/Stop function is only active after you begin to drive faster than 5 mph or 9 km/h.

## The engine is switched off

The engine is automatically switched off when the vehicle is stopped, if the following prerequisites are met:

- ▷ The vehicle is braked to a stop
- ▷ The M dual clutch transmission is in the drive mode or sequential mode
- ▷ The driver's seat belt is fastened and the driver's door is closed



The indicator lamp indicates that the Automatic Start/Stop function for automatically starting the engine is ready.

When the engine is switched off, the airflow volume of the automatic climate control system is reduced.

## The engine is not switched off

Before the engine is switched off, the system checks whether certain preconditions relating to safety and comfort have been met.

The engine is not automatically switched off in the following situations:

- ▷ Steering wheel is being moved or is at its maximum steering angle
- ▷ Outside temperatures below approx. +37 °F / +3 °C
- ▷ Passenger compartment in a heating or cooling phase
- ▷ High outside temperature and operation of the climate control system
- ▷ Condensation on windows while automatic climate control is switched on
- ▷ The engine is not yet warm.
- ▷ The battery is significantly discharged
- ▷ The hood is unlocked
- ▷ After driving in reverse
- ▷ Excessively steep uphill or downhill gradient
- ▷ Stop-and-go traffic
- ▷ The brake pedal is released shortly after the vehicle comes to a stop

## The engine is started

After stopping, the engine starts automatically after:

- ▷ The brake pedal is released
- ▷ The gas pedal is pressed while the brake pedal is being pressed
- ▷ There is steering movement
- ▷ The selector lever is moved from the D or S mode into the N or R position

Even if you do not wish to begin driving, the switched-off engine starts automatically in the following situations:

- ▷ The passenger compartment is heating up quickly despite the air conditioning system being switched on
- ▷ Condensation on windows while automatic climate control is switched on
- ▷ The battery is significantly discharged

### Safety feature



The engine does not start automatically if after an engine is switched off automatically, the driver's seat belt is unfastened and the driver's door is opened or the hood has been unlocked. The indicator lamp lights up. The engine can only be started via the start/stop button.

### Malfunction



The Automatic Start/Stop function no longer automatically switches off the engine. The indicator lamp lights up. It is possible to continue driving. Have the system checked.

## M dual clutch transmission with Drivelogic\*

### The concept

The M dual clutch transmission with Drivelogic is an automated manual transmission with two clutches and a partial transmission in which an electro-hydraulic system takes over clutch action and shifting.

With the M dual clutch transmission, gears are changed without interruption of the traction force.

The M dual clutch transmission is operated using the selector lever or two shift paddles on the steering wheel.

The transmission offers you the following functions:

- ▷ Choice between sequential mode and drive mode
- ▷ Selection between different drive programs, Drivelogic, refer to page 30
- ▷ Shift Lights, refer to page 31
- ▷ Automatic downshifting and protection against selecting the wrong gear even in sequential mode
- ▷ Launch Control, refer to page 32
- ▷ Automatic throttle blip
- ▷ Low Speed Assistant
- ▷ Hill Start Assistant

### System limitations

The M dual clutch transmission is equipped with an overheating protection system that protects the clutch against extreme loads.



The indicator lamp lights up yellow when the transmission becomes too warm. Avoid high engine loads and driving off frequently. If the transmission is overheated, the indicator lamp lights up red. You can continue your journey, but moderate your speed and exercise due caution. Bring the vehicle to a stop at your soonest opportunity, switch off the engine, and allow the transmission to cool down.

Avoid driving off frequently with high acceleration and do not hold the vehicle on inclines by pressing lightly on the accelerator while letting the clutch slip, as this may cause the transmission to overheat.

In traffic congestion or at very low speeds, use the Low Speed Assistant, refer to the information below.

### Low Speed Assistant

The Low Speed Assistant supports you when driving at very low speeds: the vehicle moves at walking speed and automatically controls the engine speed. You can also use the Low Speed Assistant when rocking the vehicle out of deep

snow. To do so, shift between reverse gear and the forward position without pressing the brake.

### Activating

1. Engage a drive position.
2. Briefly tap the accelerator.

The vehicle rolls at the minimum speed.

 Do not press the brake continuously as this may cause the transmission to over-heat. ◀

### Deactivating

Brake the vehicle to a stop to deactivate the Low Speed Assistant.

### Hill Start Assistant

The Hill Start Assistant provides you with assistance when starting off on uphill grades, refer to Drive-off assistant on page 42.

### Selector lever positions



- ▷ R: reverse gear
- ▷ ●: middle position
  - ▷ N: neutral
  - ▷ +: shift up manually
  - ▷ -: shift down manually
  - ▷ D/S: change between drive mode and sequential mode

Push or pull the selector lever in the required direction to engage the desired transmission position.

When you release the selector lever, it returns to its center position. The selector lever locks in position R.

The transmission position currently engaged is indicated in the instrument cluster and by LEDs on the selector lever.

### Shiftlock

To shift out of N when the vehicle is stationary, step on the brake; otherwise, the gearshift request will not be executed.

### R Reverse

Select this only when the vehicle is stationary.

### N Neutral

If the driving situation demands, e.g. when downshifting on a slippery road, the M dual clutch transmission disengages and engages the clutch automatically.

N engages when you open the driver's door while the engine is running, your safety belt is not fastened and you press neither the brake pedal nor the accelerator. If you immediately step on the brake or accelerator pedal, the vehicle can be moved for maneuvering purposes.

To drive off after closing the driver's door and fastening your safety belt, move the selector lever to position N first and then to the desired drive position.

 N remains engaged even after the engine is switched off if you leave the remote control in the ignition lock. This function can be used in an automatic car wash, for example, refer to page 65. ◀

### S sequential mode

Shift up or down using the shift paddles or the selector lever. You do not need to lift your foot off the accelerator when doing so.

Shift from sequential mode to drive mode: press the selector lever to the right in the D/S direction.

Shift back to sequential mode: shift using the shift paddles or the selector lever, or press the selector level to the right in the D/S direction again.

On a level road, you can drive off in second gear, e.g. on slippery roads.

The M dual clutch transmission assists you in the following situations:

- ▶ Upshifts and downshifts are executed only when they will result in a plausible combination of engine and vehicle speed; thus, for example, a downshift that would cause the engine to overrev will not be executed by the system.
- ▶ When the vehicle stops, Drivelogic drive programs 2 to 6 are automatically shifted down into first gear.
- ▶ Shortly before the vehicle slows down to below the minimum speed of the gear currently engaged, the transmission automatically shifts down without requiring your intervention.

**Rapid downshifting:** to accelerate rapidly, e.g. when passing, you can skip several gears in sequential mode. To do so, press the accelerator past the resistance point and pull the left shift paddle once or press the selector lever forward once. This provides maximum acceleration.

### Drive mode

In drive mode, all forward gears are shifted automatically.

**Shift from drive mode to sequential mode:** shift using the shift paddles or the selector lever, or press the selector level to the right in the D/S direction.

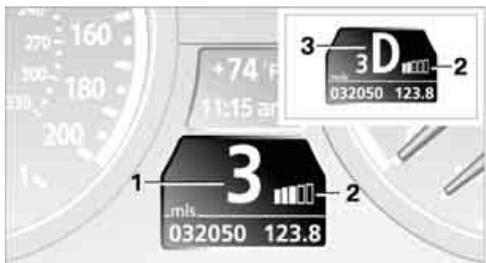
**Shift back to drive mode:** press the selector lever to the right in the D/S direction again.

**Kickdown:** to accelerate rapidly, e.g. when passing, you can skip several gears. Do so by pressing the accelerator past the resistance point. This provides maximum acceleration.

### P Park

▶ P is engaged automatically when the engine is switched off unless N is engaged and the remote control is in the ignition lock. When you remove the remote control from the ignition lock, P is engaged regardless of the selector lever position. ◀

### Displays in the instrument cluster



- 1 Engaged gear 1 to 7, R, N, P
- 2 Selected drive program, corresponds to the number of illuminated fields, refer to Drivelogic, page 30
- 3 The gear currently engaged is displayed together with a D in drive mode

At very low outside temperatures, this display may not be functional. The engaged driving direction is indicated by the LEDs on the selector lever.

### Changing gears

#### Via the selector lever

- ▶ To shift up, pull back the selector lever.
- ▶ To shift down, push it forward.

#### Via the shift paddles on the steering wheel



- ▶ To shift up, pull the right-hand shift paddle + briefly.
- ▶ To shift down, pull the left-hand shift paddle – briefly.

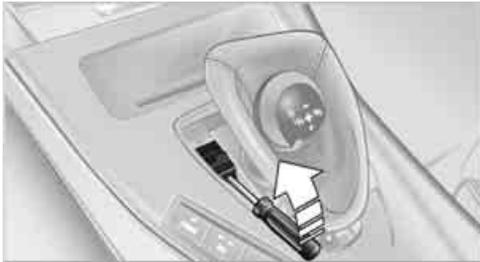
## Unlocking the parking lock manually

 If a power failure occurs, e.g. if the battery is discharged or disconnected, the parking lock must be released manually, otherwise the rear wheels are blocked and the vehicle cannot be towed. ◀

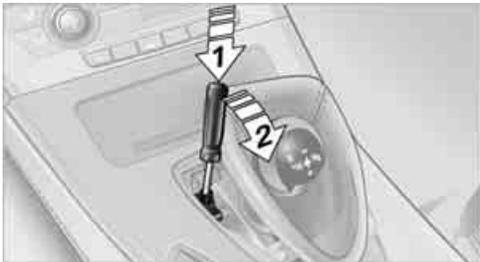
Release the parking lock manually for towing only and forcefully apply the parking brake beforehand to prevent the vehicle from rolling. After parking the vehicle, lock the parking lock again.

### Releasing

1. Unclip the sleeve of the selector lever.
2. Pull the sleeve up over the selector lever until the sleeve is inside out.
3. Push the black cover forward using the screwdriver from the onboard vehicle tool kit.



4. Insert the screwdriver into the opening of the white lever, arrow 1.



5. Pull the screwdriver back all the way, arrow 2. The parking lock is released.
6. Carefully remove the screwdriver, for example to avoid accidentally engaging the parking lock during towing.

 After parking the vehicle, lock the parking lock again or forcefully apply the parking brake. Otherwise there is a danger of the vehicle rolling. ◀

### Locking

1. Insert the screwdriver into the opening of the white lever and press forward. The parking lock is locked again.
2. Fold back the black cover until it engages audibly.
3. Clip the sleeve of the selector lever back into place.

Jump-starting and towing, refer to page 70.

### Drivelogic

Various drive programs are available to you via Drivelogic.

After every change between sequential and drive mode, the program selected last in each case is active. Exception: after the first change from sequential to drive mode, drive program 3 is active.

### In drive mode

Five drive programs are available for selection, from winter program/balanced 1 to sporting and highly dynamic 5.

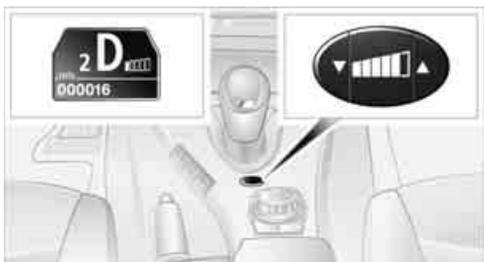
### In sequential mode

You can choose between six drive programs, from winter program/balanced 1 to sporty puristic 6.

Program 6 is available when Dynamic Stability Control is deactivated, refer to page 40. If DSC is activated, the program changes from 6 to 5.

 To maintain driving stability, activate DSC whenever possible. ◀

## Selecting the drive program via the button in the center console



Press the button repeatedly until the desired drive program is displayed in the instrument cluster, refer to page 29.

## Selecting the drive program via M Drive

Setting via button on steering wheel, refer to page 21.

Setting via iDrive:

1. Switch on the ignition.
2. "Settings"
3. "M Drive"
4. Select "Drivelogic:".



5. Turn the controller to set drive mode or sequential mode.  
"Unchanged" retains the current settings made outside of M Drive.
6. Press the controller to select the drive programs.
7. Turn the controller to set the drive program.
8. Press the controller.

You can also activate the selected drive program using the  button on the steering wheel; refer to M Drive on page 21. M Drive is opened with the settings you selected.

 Observe the DSC settings in M Drive; otherwise, driving stability may be impaired and there is the risk of an accident. ◀

## Shift Lights

To achieve the best possible acceleration in sequential mode when using a sporty driving style, the Shift Lights in the instrument cluster indicate the best shift point just before the maximum engine speed is reached.



1. As the vehicle approaches its maximum engine speed, the yellow LEDs **1** light up consecutively to indicate the impending shift point.
2. At the latest, shift when the red LEDs **2** light up.

When the maximum permissible engine speed is reached, the LEDs flash. When the maximum engine speed is exceeded, the fuel supply is cut off to protect the engine. Avoid engine speeds in this range at all costs.

### Switching the Shift Lights on/off

For operating principle, refer to page 38.

1. Switch on the ignition, refer to page 24.
2. Lightly push button 1 in the turn indicator lever up or down repeatedly until the symbol appears in the display accompanied by the word "SET".



3. Press button 2.



4. Use button 1 to select:
  - ▷ ON  
Shift Lights activated.
  - ▷ OFF  
Shift Lights deactivated.
5. Press button 2.

The setting is stored for the remote control currently in use.

### Switching the Shift Lights on/off via M Drive

You can also set and call up the preferred status of the Shift Lights via M Drive on the Control Display; refer to page 21.

Press the  button on the steering wheel, refer to M Drive on page 21. M Drive is opened with the settings you selected.

 Observe the DSC settings in M Drive; otherwise, driving stability may be impaired and there is the risk of an accident. ◀

After the ignition is switched off and the engine is restarted, the status saved for the remote control in use is active, refer to M key settings on page 23.

### Brightness of Shift Lights

The brightness of the Shift Lights can be set using the brightness control in the instrument cluster.

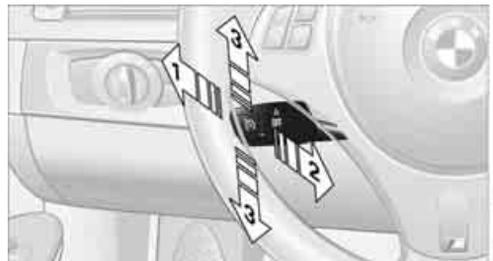
### Launch Control

Launch Control enables you to drive off with an optimal vehicle acceleration on a high grip road surface.

 Do not use Launch Control too often, as the higher loads on the vehicle lead to premature component wear. ◀

Launch Control is available when the engine is at operating temperature, i.e. after driving continuously for approx. 6 miles/10 km.

1. Press the brake while the engine is running.
2. Deactivate Dynamic Stability Control DSC, refer to page 41.
3. Select sequential mode with Drivelogic drive program 6.
4. With the vehicle stationary, press the selector lever forward and hold. A flag symbol appears in the instrument cluster.
5. Press the accelerator down all the way. The engine speed when driving off is controlled.
6. If you wish, you can adjust the drive-off engine speed by up to approx. 500 rpm:



- ▷ Increase the drive-off engine speed by approx. 100 rpm: press the lever beyond the resistance point, arrow **1**.
  - ▷ Decrease the drive-off engine speed by approx. 100 rpm: pull the lever beyond the resistance point, arrow **2**.
  - ▷ Reset the drive-off engine speed: press the lever upward or downward, arrows **3**.
7. The vehicle accelerates when you release the selector lever. Keep the accelerator pressed all the way down.
  8. The transmission shifts up automatically as long as the accelerator is pressed all the way down.

Launch Control only becomes available again after a certain distance has been driven.

Do not use Launch Control during the vehicle break-in period, refer to page 52.

 To maintain driving stability, activate DSC whenever possible. ◀

## M Engine Dynamics Control

### The concept

With M Engine Dynamics Control you can influence how sportily your vehicle should respond to movements of the accelerator.

You can choose between two programs or, when M Drive is configured via iDrive, three programs.

### "Normal" program

In the "Normal" program, the engine responds gently to accelerator movements, which is ideal for city traffic or on snow, for example.

### "Sport" program

The "Sport" program provides for a more spontaneous response of the engine to accelerator movements.

### "Sport Plus"\* program

In the "Sport Plus" program, the engine responds to accelerator movements with high spontaneity and uncompromising sportiness. The "Sport Plus" program can only be activated via M Drive, refer to M Drive on page 21.

### Selecting a program

#### Using the button in the center console



Press the POWER button to switch between the "Normal" and "Sport" programs.

When the "Sport" program is in use, the LED in the POWER button lights up.

The selected program is stored for the remote control currently in use and is reactivated the next time the engine is started.

#### Via M Drive

You can also set and activate your preferred program via M Drive, refer to page 21.

When the "Sport" or "Sport Plus" program is in use, the LED in the POWER button lights up.

Press the  button on the steering wheel, refer to M Drive on page 21. M Drive is opened with the settings you selected.

 Observe the DSC settings in M Drive; otherwise, driving stability may be impaired and there is the risk of an accident. ◀

After the ignition is switched off and the engine is restarted, the status saved for the remote control in use is active, refer to M key settings on page 23.

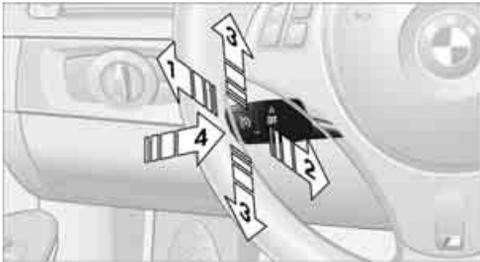
## Cruise control

### The concept

Cruise control is available for use at speeds of approx. 20 mph or 30 km/h. The car then stores and maintains the speed that you specify using the lever on the steering column. This function is not available when DSC is switched off.

**⚠** Do not use cruise control when driving at constant speed is prevented by adverse conditions, e.g. winding roads, dense traffic or poor road conditions due to, e.g. snow, rain, ice or loose surfaces. Otherwise you could lose control of the vehicle and cause an accident as a result. ◀

### One lever for all functions



- 1 Storing and maintaining speed or accelerating
- 2 Storing and maintaining speed or decelerating
- 3 Deactivating cruise control
- 4 Resuming a speed stored beforehand

### Maintaining current speed

Tap the lever, arrow **1**, or pull it briefly, arrow **2**. The car's current speed is stored and maintained. It is displayed on the speedometer and briefly in the instrument cluster.

On uphill gradients, it may prove impossible to maintain the set speed if current engine power output is insufficient. If the engine braking effect is insufficient on steep downhill grades, it may not be possible to reach the stored speed or the stored speed may be exceeded.

### Increasing desired speed

Repeatedly press the lever to the resistance point or beyond, arrow **1**, until the desired speed is reached.

- ▷ Each time the lever is pressed lightly to the resistance point, the desired speed is increased by approx. 1 mph or 1 km/h.
- ▷ Each time the lever is pressed beyond the resistance point, the desired speed is increased by up to 5 mph or 10 km/h.

The system stores and maintains the speed.

### Accelerating using the lever

Accelerate slightly, increase speed steadily:

Press the lever to the resistance point, arrow **1**, until the desired speed is reached.

Accelerate strongly, increase speed in intervals of 10:

Press the lever beyond the resistance point, arrow **1**, until the desired speed is reached.

The vehicle accelerates without pressure on the accelerator pedal. The system stores and maintains the speed.

### Decreasing desired speed

Repeatedly pull the lever to the resistance point or beyond, arrow **2**, until the desired speed is displayed.

- ▷ Each time the lever is pulled to the resistance point, the desired speed is reduced by approx. 1 mph or 1 km/h.
- ▷ Each time the lever is pulled beyond the resistance point, the desired speed is decreased by up to 5 mph or 10 km/h, down to a minimum speed of 20 mph or 30 km/h.

The engine braking power slows the vehicle to the desired speed. The system stores and maintains the speed.

## Deactivating cruise control

Tap the lever upwards or downwards, arrow **3**.  
The displays on the speedometer disappear.

In addition, the system is automatically deactivated:

- ▷ When you brake the vehicle
- ▷ When you shift or depress the clutch
- ▷ When you deactivate DSC
- ▷ When DSC or ABS is intervening

Cruise control is not deactivated by depressing the accelerator pedal. Once the accelerator pedal is released, the stored speed is achieved again and maintained.

## Resuming a speed stored beforehand

Press the button, arrow **4**.

The stored speed is resumed and maintained.

When the ignition is switched off, the stored speed value is cleared and can no longer be called up.

## Displays in the instrument cluster



- 1 Stored speed
- 2 Selected speed is displayed briefly

# Controls overview

## Tachometer



The variable advance warning zone, arrow **1** and arrow **2**, limits the currently permissible engine speed range depending on the engine oil temperature. The permissible engine speed increases as the engine oil temperature rises. If at all possible, avoid engine speeds in the yellow advance warning zone, arrow **1**.

Absolutely avoid engine speeds in the red warning field, arrow **2**. In this range, the engine speed is limited to protect the engine.

## Engine oil temperature



When the engine is at normal operating temperature, the engine oil temperature is between approx. 175 °F / 80 °C and approx. 250 °F / 120 °C.

If the engine oil temperature is too high, a warning lamp lights up in the instrument cluster or a message appears on the Control Display.

## Fuel gauge



Fuel tank capacity: approx. 16.6 US gal / 63 liters.

You can find information on refueling on page [58](#).

If the tilt of the vehicle varies for a longer period, when you are driving in mountainous areas, for example, the indicator may fluctuate slightly.

## Reserve

 Refuel as soon as possible once your cruising range falls below 30 miles/ 50 km, otherwise engine functions are not ensured and damage can occur. ◀

### Without iDrive\*

Once the fuel level has fallen to the reserve zone of approx. 3.3 US gal/12.5 liters, the indicator lamp and cruising range for the remaining amount of fuel are displayed briefly. The indicator lamp remains permanently on when the remaining range is less than approx. 30 miles/ 50 km.

### With iDrive\*

Once the fuel level has fallen to the reserve zone, a message briefly appears on the Control Display and the cruising range for the remaining amount of fuel is displayed on the computer. Under a cruising range of approx. 30 miles/ 50 km, the message remains in the Control Display.

The following items of information are displayed in the order listed:

- ▷ Cruising range
  - ▷ Oil level, refer to Checking oil level on page 61
  - ▷ Average fuel consumption
  - ▷ Speed
  - ▷ No information
-  M dual clutch transmission: Outside temperature, time, cruising range, oil level, average fuel consumption and speed appear in the top display. ◀

## Computer

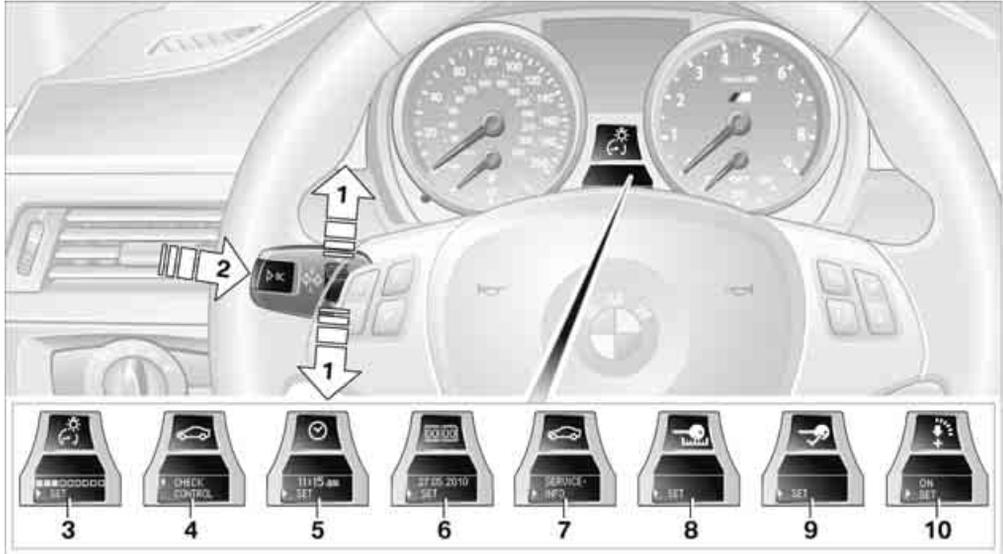
### Displays in the instrument cluster



Press the button in the turn indicator lever.

## Settings and information

### Operating principle without iDrive



Certain settings and information can only be made or called up when the ignition is switched on. A number of settings cannot be made while driving.

- 1** Button for:
  - ▷ Selecting display
  - ▷ Setting values
- 2** Button for:
  - ▷ Confirming selected display or set values
  - ▷ Calling up computer information [37](#)
- 3** When the lights are on: instrument lighting brightness
- 4** Calling up Check Control
- 5** Setting the time
- 6** Setting the date
- 7** Viewing service requirement display
- 8** Setting formats and units of measure, resetting to factory settings

#### **9** Adjusting settings

- ▷ Confirmation signals when locking and unlocking the vehicle
- ▷ Response during unlocking procedure
- ▷ Automatic locking
- ▷ Pathway lighting
- ▷ Daytime running lights
- ▷ Triple turn signal activation
- ▷ Seat memory

#### **10** Switching the Shift Lights on/off [32](#)

### Exiting displays

After end of the current adjustment procedure is terminated by pressing the button **2** or if no entry is made within approx. 15 seconds, the outside temperature and time are displayed.

## Operating principle with iDrive



- 1** Button for:
  - ▷ Selecting display
  - ▷ Setting values
- 2** Button for:
  - ▷ Confirming selected display or set values
  - ▷ Calling up computer information [37](#)
- 3** When the lights are on: instrument lighting brightness
- 4** Calling up Check Control
- 5** Setting the time
- 6** Setting the date
- 7** Viewing service requirement display
- 8** Switching the Shift Lights on/off [31](#)

### Exiting displays

After end of the current adjustment procedure is terminated by pressing the button **2** or if no entry is made within approx. 15 seconds, the outside temperature and time are displayed.

# Technology for driving comfort and safety

## Driving stability control systems

Contrary to the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle, your BMW M 3 is not equipped with Dynamic Traction Control DTC.

### Dynamic Stability Control DSC

DSC optimizes driving stability and traction. In addition, the system recognizes unstable driving situations such as understeering and oversteering, and helps keep the vehicle on a safe course within physical limits by reducing engine power and applying the brakes on individual wheels.

 The laws of physics cannot be repealed, even with DSC. An appropriate driving style always remains the responsibility of the driver. Therefore, do not reduce the additional safety margin again by taking risks, as this could result in an accident. ◀

### M Dynamic Mode MDM\*

M Dynamic Mode is a mode of the Dynamic Stability Control DSC that permits greater longitudinal and lateral acceleration when driving on dry surfaces, yet with reduced driving stability. Only at the absolute limit of stability does the system intervene to stabilize the vehicle by reducing engine power and applying the brakes on the wheels. In such situations, additional corrective steering maneuvers may be necessary.

M Dynamic Mode is switched off every time the engine is started.

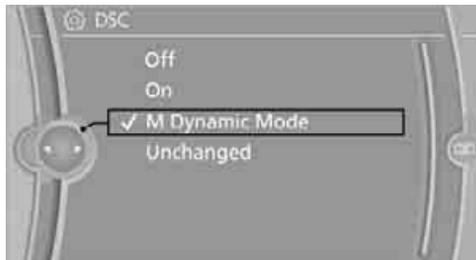
 When the M Dynamic Mode is on, stabilizing measures are performed to a limited degree only. Take action yourself, otherwise there is a risk of an accident. ◀

 To maintain vehicle stability, drive with the DSC activated and the M Dynamic Mode deactivated whenever possible. ◀

### Activating MDM

When the ignition is on, you can set the M Dynamic Mode via M Drive on the Control Display.

1. "Settings"
2. "M Drive"
3. "DSC:"
4. Select "M Dynamic Mode".



Press the  button on the steering wheel, refer to M Drive on page 21. M Drive is opened with the settings you selected.

The MDM indicator lamp in the instrument cluster lights up.

 Observe the DSC settings in M Drive; otherwise, driving stability may be impaired and there is the risk of an accident. ◀

### Deactivating MDM

Press the  button on the steering wheel again; MDM and the settings selected under M Drive are deactivated. The MDM indicator lamp in the instrument cluster goes out.

### For better control

-  The indicator lamp goes out briefly after MDM the engine is started.
-  If the indicator lamp lights up: M Dynamic Mode is activated.

MDM



The indicator lamp lights up permanently and the DSC indicator lamp flashes: M Dynamic Mode is controlling the drive and braking forces.

## Deactivating DSC



Press the DSC OFF button for longer than approx. 1 second until the DSC indicator lamps in the instrument cluster light up. DSC and M Dynamic Mode are both deactivated. Stabilizing and drive-output promoting actions are no longer executed.

You may find it useful to briefly deactivate DSC under the following exceptional circumstances:

- ▶ When driving uphill on snow-covered roads, in slush or on unplowed, snow-covered roads
- ▶ When rocking a stuck vehicle free or starting off in deep snow or on loose ground
- ▶ When driving with snow chains

To increase vehicle stability, activate DSC again as soon as possible.

## Activating DSC

Press the DSC OFF button again; the indicator lamps in the instrument cluster go out.

## Via M Drive

With the ignition switched on, you can also set DSC via M Drive on the Control Display, refer also to page 21.

Press the  button on the steering wheel, refer to M Drive on page 21. M Drive is opened with the settings you selected.

 To maintain driving stability, activate DSC whenever possible. ◀

## For better control



If the indicator lamp flashes: DSC is regulating the drive and braking forces.



If the indicator lamps are on: DSC is deactivated.



## Electronic Damper Control EDC\*

### The concept

Whenever there is a change in any significant parameter such as road surface quality or in an operating condition such as steering, braking, etc., the damping automatically adjusts to the new conditions in fractions of a second.

You can select between three programs.

### "Comfort" program

Select the "Comfort" program if you want comfort-oriented control of the shock absorbers.

### "Normal" program

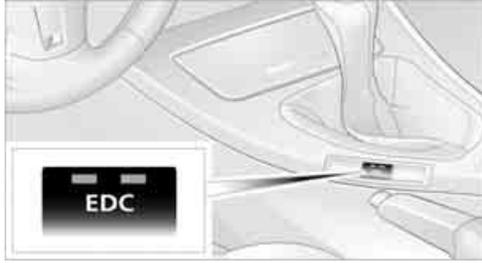
The "Normal" program offers control that is balanced between comfort and sportiness.

### "Sport" program

Select the "Sport" program if you want consistently sporty control of the shock absorbers.

## Selecting a program

### Using the button in the center console



Press the EDC button repeatedly:

- ▷ "Comfort": LED off
- ▷ "Normal": one LED lights up.
- ▷ "Sport": both LEDs light up.

The selected program is stored for the remote control currently in use and is reactivated the next time the engine is started.

### Via M Drive

You can also set and activate your preferred program via M Drive, refer to page 21.

Press the  button on the steering wheel, refer to M Drive on page 21. M Drive is opened with the settings you selected.

 Observe the DSC settings in M Drive; otherwise, driving stability may be impaired and there is the risk of an accident. ◀

After the ignition is switched off and the engine is restarted, the status saved for the remote control in use is active, refer to M key settings on page 23.

## Drive-off assistant

The drive-off assistant enables you to drive off smoothly on uphill gradients. It is not necessary to use the parking brake for this.

1. Hold the car in place by depressing the brake.
2. Release the brake and drive off without delay.

 The drive-off assistant holds the car in place for approx. 2 seconds after the brake is released. Drive off without delay after releasing the brake. Otherwise, the drive-off assistant will no longer hold the car in place after approx. 2 seconds and the car will start to roll backwards. ◀

## Flat Tire Monitor FTM\*

### The concept

The system does not measure the actual inflation pressure in the tires.

The system detects a pressure loss in a tire by comparing the rotational speeds of the individual wheels while moving.

In the event of a pressure loss, the diameter and therefore the rotational speed of the corresponding wheel change. This is detected and reported as a flat tire.

### Functional requirement

The system must have been initialized while the tire inflation pressure was correct; otherwise, reliable signaling of a flat tire is not ensured.

Initialize the system after every correction of the tire inflation pressure, after every tire or wheel change, and after each time a trailer is hitched or unhitched.

### System limitations

 Sudden serious tire damage caused by external influences cannot be indicated in advance. ◀

A natural, steady pressure loss in all four tires is not detected. Therefore, check the tire inflation pressure regularly.

In the following situations, the system could be delayed or malfunction:

- ▷ System has not been initialized
- ▷ Driving on snowy or slippery road surface
- ▷ Performance-oriented style of driving: slip in the drive wheels, high lateral acceleration
- ▷ Snow chains are attached

## Status display\*

The current status of the Flat Tire Monitor can be displayed on the Control Display, e.g. whether or not the FTM is active.

1. "Vehicle Info"
2. "Vehicle status"
3. "Flat Tire Monitor"



The status is displayed.

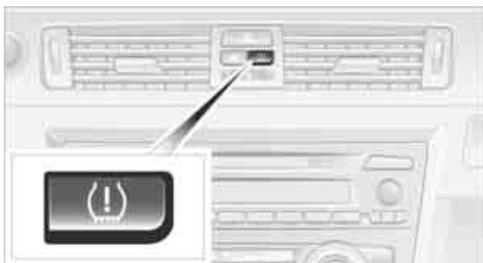
## Initialization

The initialization process adopts the set inflation tire pressures as reference values for the detection of a flat tire. Initialization is started by confirming the inflation pressures.

Do not initialize the system while snow chains are attached.

## Using the button in the center console

1. Start the engine, but do not start driving.
2. Press the button for approx. 4 seconds until the warning lamp in the instrument cluster lights up yellow. Warning lamp, refer to Indication of a flat tire on page 43.



3. Start driving.  
Initialization is completed while the car is moving, without any feedback.

## Via iDrive

1. "Vehicle Info"
2. "Vehicle status"
3. "Reset"



4. Start the engine – do not drive away.
5. Start the initialization using "Reset".
6. Start driving.

 The initialization is completed during driving, which can be interrupted at any time. When driving resumes, the initialization is continued automatically. ◀

## Indication of a flat tire



The warning lamps come on in yellow and red. A message appears on the Control Display. In addition, an acoustic signal sounds. There is a flat tire or substantial loss of tire pressure.

1. Reduce your speed and carefully stop the car. Avoid sudden braking and steering maneuvers.
2. Identify the damaged tire.  
To do so, check the tire pressure in all four tires using the M Mobility System, refer to on page 69.

If the inflation pressure in all four tires is correct, the Flat Tire Monitor might not have been initialized. The system must then be initialized.

If it is not possible to identify the damaged tire, contact your BMW center.

3. Repair the flat tire on the damaged wheel with the M Mobility System, refer to page 68.

## Tire Pressure Monitor TPM\*

### The concept

Check the inflation pressure in the four installed tires. The system notifies you if there is a significant loss of pressure in one or more tires.

### Functional requirement

The system must have been reset while the inflation pressure was correct; otherwise, reliable signaling of a flat tire is not ensured.

Always use wheels with TPM electronics. Otherwise, the system may malfunction.

▶ Each time a tire inflation pressure has been corrected or a wheel or tire has been changed, reset the system. ◀

### System limitations

⚠ Sudden serious tire damage caused by external influences cannot be indicated in advance. ◀

The system does not function correctly if it has not been reset. For example, a flat tire may be indicated even though the tire inflation pressures are correct.

The system is inactive and cannot indicate a flat tire:

- ▶ When a wheel without TPM electronics is installed.
- ▶ Interference with TPM by other systems or devices with the same transmission frequency.

### Status display\*

The current status of the Tire Pressure Monitor can be displayed on the Control Display, e.g. whether or not the TPM is active.

1. "Vehicle Info"
2. "Vehicle status"

3. "Tire Pressure Monitor - TPM"



The status is displayed.

### Status indicator on the Control Display

The color of the wheels represents the status of the tires and the system.

A change in the tire inflation pressure during driving is taken into account.

A correction is only required when this is indicated by the TPM.

#### Green

The tire inflation pressure corresponds to the established target value.

"TPM active" appears on the Control Display.

#### One wheel yellow

There is a flat tire or substantial loss of tire pressure in the indicated tire.

#### All wheels yellow

- ▶ There is a flat tire or substantial loss of tire pressure in several tires.
- ▶ The system was not reset after a wheel change and thus issues a warning based on the inflation pressures initialized last.

#### Gray

The system cannot detect a puncture.

Possible reasons for this:

- ▶ TPM is being reset
- ▶ Temporary malfunction caused by systems or devices using the same radio frequency
- ▶ Malfunction

## Resetting the system

Each time a tire inflation pressure has been corrected or a wheel or tire has been changed, reset the system. ◀

### Using the button in the center console

1. Start the engine, but do not start driving.
2. Press the button for approx. 4 seconds until the warning lamp in the instrument cluster lights up yellow. Warning lamp, refer to Message for low tire inflation pressure on page 45.  
The "Resetting TPM..." message appears on the Control Display for several seconds.



3. Start driving.  
After driving a few minutes, the set inflation pressures in the tires are accepted as the target values to be monitored. The system reset is completed during your drive, and can be interrupted at any time. When driving resumes, the reset is continued automatically. The indicator lamp goes out after the system reset is completed.

### Via iDrive

1. "Vehicle Info"
2. "Vehicle status"

3. "Reset TPM"



4. Start the engine – do not drive away.
5. Start the initialization using "Reset TPM".
6. Start driving.

The tires are shown in gray and "Resetting TPM..." is displayed.

After driving a few minutes, the set inflation pressures in the tires are accepted as the target values to be monitored. The resetting process is completed automatically as you drive. On the Control Display, the tires are shown in green and "Status: TPM active" is displayed again.

The trip can be interrupted at any time. When driving resumes, resetting continues automatically.

 If a flat tire is detected while the system is resetting, all tires on the Control Display are displayed in yellow. The "Low tire!" message is displayed. ◀

### Message for low tire inflation pressure



The warning lamps come on in yellow and red. A message appears on the Control Display. In addition, a signal sounds.

- ▷ There is a flat tire or substantial loss of tire pressure in the indicated wheel.
- ▷ The system was not reset after a wheel change and thus issues a warning based on the inflation pressures initialized last.

## Actions in the event of a flat tire

1. Reduce your speed and carefully stop the car. Avoid sudden braking and steering maneuvers.
2. Identify the damaged tire or tires on the vehicle. To do so, check the status display on the Control Display, refer to page 44, or check the tire inflation pressure using the M Mobility System, refer to Correcting the tire inflation pressure on page 69.



If it is not possible to make an identification, contact your BMW center. ◀

3. Repair the flat tire with the M Mobility System, refer to page 67.

Have the tire replaced by a BMW center or a workshop that is informed in the handling of TPM and that works according to BMW repair procedures with correspondingly trained personnel.

## Message for unsuccessful system reset



The warning lamp lights up yellow. A message appears on the Control Display. The system has not been reset after a tire has been changed, for example.

Check the tire inflation pressure and reset the system, refer to page 45.

## Malfunction



The small warning lamp flashes in yellow and then lights up continuously; the large warning lamp comes on in yellow. On the Control Display, the wheels are shown in gray and a message appears. No punctures can be detected.

Display in the following situations:

- ▷ A wheel without TPM electronics has been installed:  
Have it checked by your BMW center.
- ▷ Malfunction  
Have the system checked.
- ▷ RDC was unable to complete the resetting process. Reset the system again.



The small warning lamp flashes in yellow and then lights up continuously; the large warning lamp comes on in yellow. On the Control Display, the wheels are shown in gray and a message appears. No punctures can be detected.

Display in the following situations:

- ▷ Interference due to systems or devices that use the same radio frequency:  
The system automatically becomes active again when the vehicle moves out of the interference zone.

## Declaration according to NHTSA/ FMVSS 138 Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems

Each tire should be checked monthly when cold and inflated to the inflation pressure recommended by the vehicle manufacturer on the vehicle placard or tire inflation pressure label. If your vehicle has tires of a different size than the size indicated on the vehicle placard or tire inflation pressure label, you should determine the proper tire inflation pressure for those tires. As an added safety feature, your vehicle has been equipped with a tire pressure monitoring system, TPMS, that illuminates a low tire pressure telltale when one or more of your tires are significantly under-inflated. Accordingly, when the low tire pressure telltale illuminates, you should stop and check your tires as soon as possible, and inflate them to the proper pressure. Driving on a significantly underinflated tire causes the tire to overheat and can lead to tire failure. Underinflation also reduces fuel efficiency and tire tread life, and may affect the vehicle's handling and stopping ability. Please note that the TPMS is not a substitute for proper tire maintenance, and it is the driver's responsibility to maintain correct tire pressure, even if underinflation has not reached the level at which the TPMS low tire pressure telltale illuminates.

The TPMS malfunction indicator is combined with the low tire pressure telltale. When the system detects a malfunction, the telltale will flash for approximately one minute and then remain continuously lit. This sequence will continue upon subsequent vehicle startups as long as

the malfunction exists. When the malfunction indicator is illuminated, the system may not be able to detect or signal low tire pressure as intended. TPMS malfunctions may occur for a variety of reasons, including the installation of replacement or alternate tires or wheels on the vehicle that prevent the TPMS from functioning properly. Always check the TPMS malfunction telltale after replacing one or more tires or wheels on your vehicle to ensure that the replacement or alternate tires and wheels allow the TPMS to continue to function properly.

After the ignition is switched off and the engine is restarted, the status saved for the remote control in use is active, refer to M key settings on page 23.

## Servotronic

### The concept

"Servotronic" varies the steering force required to turn the wheels as a function of the speed at which you are driving.

At low speeds, steering is assisted strongly, i.e. less effort is required to turn the vehicle. Steering assistance lessens with increasing speed.

With M Drive you can select between two programs.

### "Normal" program

Select the "Normal" program if you want comfort-oriented steering, e.g. in city traffic or when parking.

### "Sport" program

Select the "Sport" program if you want consistently sporty steering.

### Selecting a program

You can set and call up your preferred program via M Drive on the Control Display, refer to page 21.

Press the  button on the steering wheel, refer to M Drive on page 21. M Drive is opened with the settings you selected.

 Observe the DSC settings in M Drive; otherwise, driving stability may be impaired and there is the risk of an accident. ◀

# Lamps

## Adaptive light control\*

Note the following instructions for your BMW M3 that deviate from the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

### The concept

Adaptive light control is a variable headlamp control system that enables better illumination of the road surface. Depending on the steering angle and other parameters, the light from the headlamp follows the course of the road.

In tight curves at speeds up to 40 mph/70 km/h, e.g. on mountainous roads or when turning, an additional, corner-illuminating lamp is switched on that lights up the inside area of the curve.

### Activating adaptive light control

With the ignition switched on, turn the light switch to position **3**.

The corner-illuminating lamp is switched on automatically, depending on the steering wheel angle or turn signal indicator.

To avoid blinding oncoming traffic, the adaptive light control directs light towards the front passenger side when the vehicle is at a standstill.

When you are reversing, only the corner-illuminating lamps are switched on and active on both sides.

### Malfunction

The LED next to the symbol for automatic headlamp control flashes. Adaptive light control is malfunctioning or has failed. Have the system checked as soon as possible.

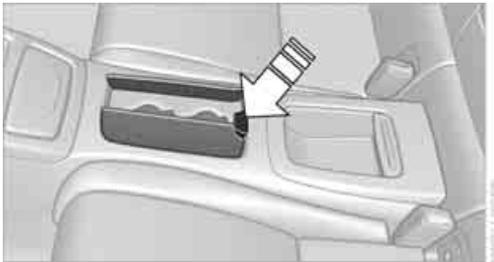
# Practical interior accessories

## Cupholders\*

Note the following instructions for your BMW M3 that deviate from the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

### Coupe/Convertible: rear

There are two additional cupholders in the rear console.



Press the button to open.

 Before folding down the rear seat backrest or using the transport bag, remove all containers from the cupholder and close it. Do not place objects into the cupholder and do not use force to close it. Do not use the cupholder as a grab handle. ◀

### Coupe: ski bag\*

Contrary to the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle, your BMW M3 is not equipped with a center armrest; instead, it is equipped with a filler piece for weight optimization reasons.

To load the ski bag, remove the insert and place it on the rear console.

For further steps, refer to Coupe: ski bag in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.



## **Driving tips**

This section provides you with information useful in dealing with specific driving and operating conditions.

# Things to remember when driving

## Break-in period

Note the following instructions for your BMW M3 that deviate from the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

During the vehicle break-in period, do not use Launch Control, refer to page 32.

## Engine and differential

Always obey all official speed limits.

### Up to 1,200 miles/2,000 km

Drive at varying engine and road speeds, but do not exceed an engine speed of 5,500 rpm and a road speed of 105 mph/170 km/h.

Do not depress the accelerator all the way.

### From 1,200 miles/2,000 km to 3,000 miles/5,000 km

Engine and road speeds can be increased gradually up to a traveling speed of 135 mph/220 km/h. Use the maximum speed only for brief intervals, e.g. when passing.

## Transmission

The transmission begins functioning at an optimal level only after a distance of approx. 300 miles/500 km. Do not exceed engine speeds of 5,500 rpm during this period.

## General driving notes

### Clearance

 Mind the limited clearance of the BMW M3, e.g. when driving into underground parking garages or over obstacles. If equipped with EDC, select the "Sport" program, refer to page 41, when driving off curbs to keep clearance as even as possible. Otherwise, the vehicle may be damaged. ◀

## Braking safely

### Hills

 To prevent overheating and the resulting reduced efficiency of the brake system, drive long or steep downhill gradients in the gear in which the least braking is required. Even light but consistent brake pressure can lead to high temperatures, brake wear and possibly even brake failure. ◀

You can increase the engine's braking effect by shifting down, all the way to first gear if necessary. This strategy helps you avoid placing excessive loads on the brake system.

 M dual clutch transmission: never drive with the transmission in neutral or with the engine switched off; otherwise, engine braking action will not be present or there will be no power assistance to the brakes or steering. Manual transmission: never drive with the clutch held down, with the transmission in neutral or with the engine switched off; otherwise, engine braking action will not be present or there will be no power assistance to the brakes or steering.

Never allow floor mats, carpets or any other objects to protrude into the area around the pedals, otherwise pedal function could be impaired. ◀

### Corrosion on brake rotors

When the vehicle is driven only occasionally, during extended periods when the vehicle is not used at all, and in operating conditions where brake applications are less frequent, there is an increased tendency for corrosion to form on rotors, while contaminants accumulate on the brake pads. This occurs because the minimum pressure which must be exerted by the pads during brake applications to clean the rotors is not reached.

This can also lead to a permanent loss in ride comfort and to squealing noises during braking. A loss in comfort can also be caused by extended braking with little pressure on the pedal.

Should corrosion form on the brake rotors, the brakes will tend to respond with a pulsating effect that even extended application will fail to cure.

For information on brake system technology, refer to Compound brake on page [54](#).

## Right-hand/left-hand traffic

When crossing the border into countries in which one drives on the other side of the road than in the country of registration, it is necessary to take steps to avoid blinding oncoming traffic with the headlamps.

Your BMW Service stocks adhesive film. Follow the accompanying instructions for applying the film.

When the headlamps have been covered with the adhesive film, rotate the light switch to position **2**, refer to the Owner's Manual for the vehicle to switch on the low beams, even with automatic headlamp control.

# BMW M3 engineering

## High performance V8 engine



The high-speed V8 engine uses its 244 cu in/ 4 liters of displacement to produce a maximum output of 414 hp and a maximum torque of 295 lb ft/400 Nm. Its spontaneous response results in a very wide effective rpm range. The maximum engine speed is 8,400 rpm and is electronically regulated. Because of the powerful engine dynamics, the maximum engine speed is limited to 7,000 rpm when the vehicle is stationary.

### Warming up the engine

During the warm-up phase, the high-performance V8 engine runs a little more roughly due to its emissions control system.

For technical reasons, the exhaust system sounds slightly metallic when the engine is cold.

For further information on warming up the engine, refer to Tachometer on page 36 and Engine oil temperature on page 36.

## Compound brake



Your BMW M3 is equipped with a high-performance brake system with perforated compound brake discs.

Due to special design features of the perforated compound brake discs, operating noise is audible during braking. However, this does not affect the brake's performance, safe operation or stability under load.

### Braking correctly

To keep the brake system in optimal condition, it is advisable to apply the brakes at regular intervals as appropriate for the character of the vehicle.

Refer also to Corrosion on brake rotors on page 52.

## Drive train

In your BMW M3, special emphasis was placed on the direct connection between the engine and drive. The torsionally rigid execution of the drive train results in acoustic feedback of the torque, as is typical in sports cars. Clacking sounds can arise during load changes. They do not impair functionality or shorten the lifespan of any component.

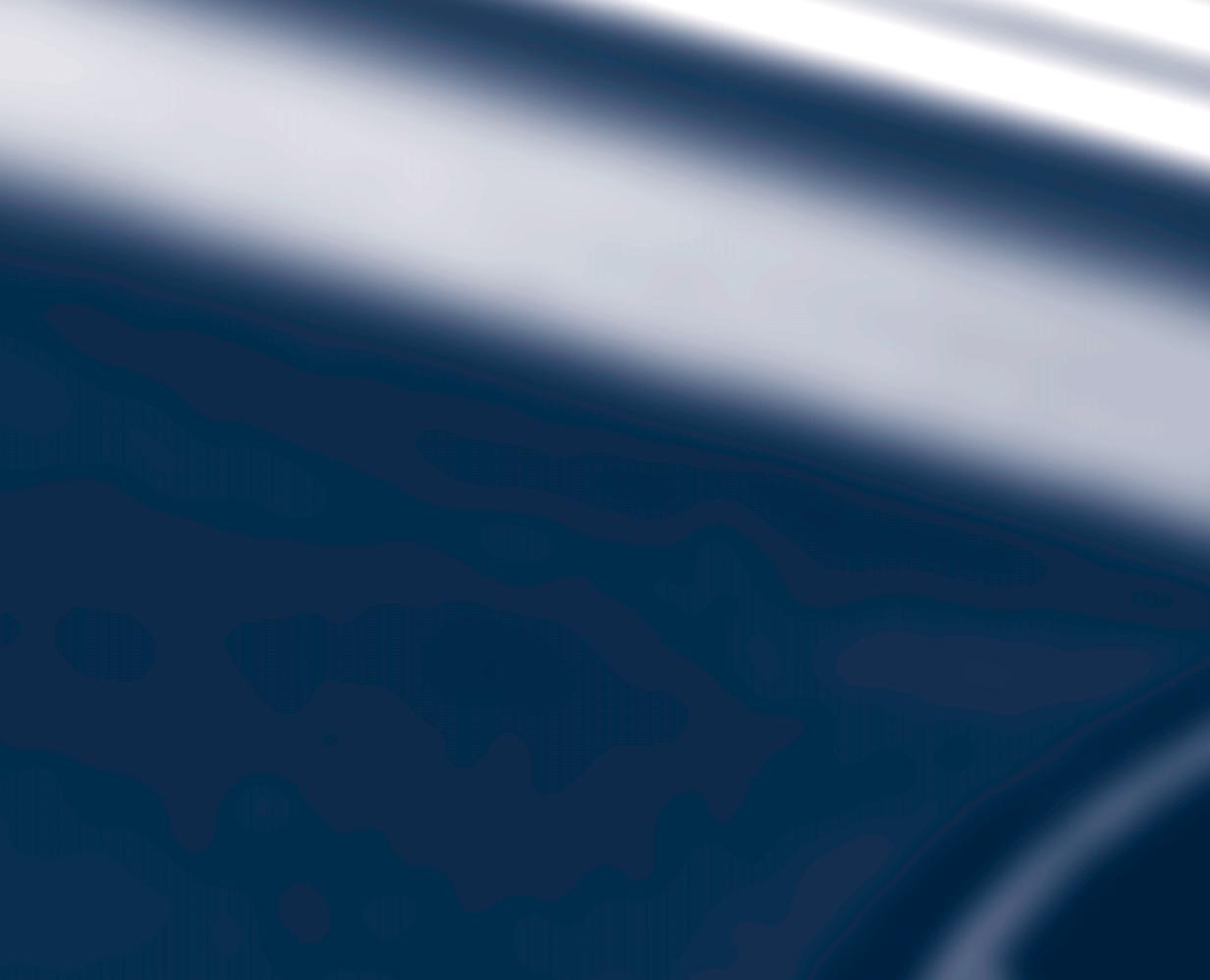
## Driving on a race track

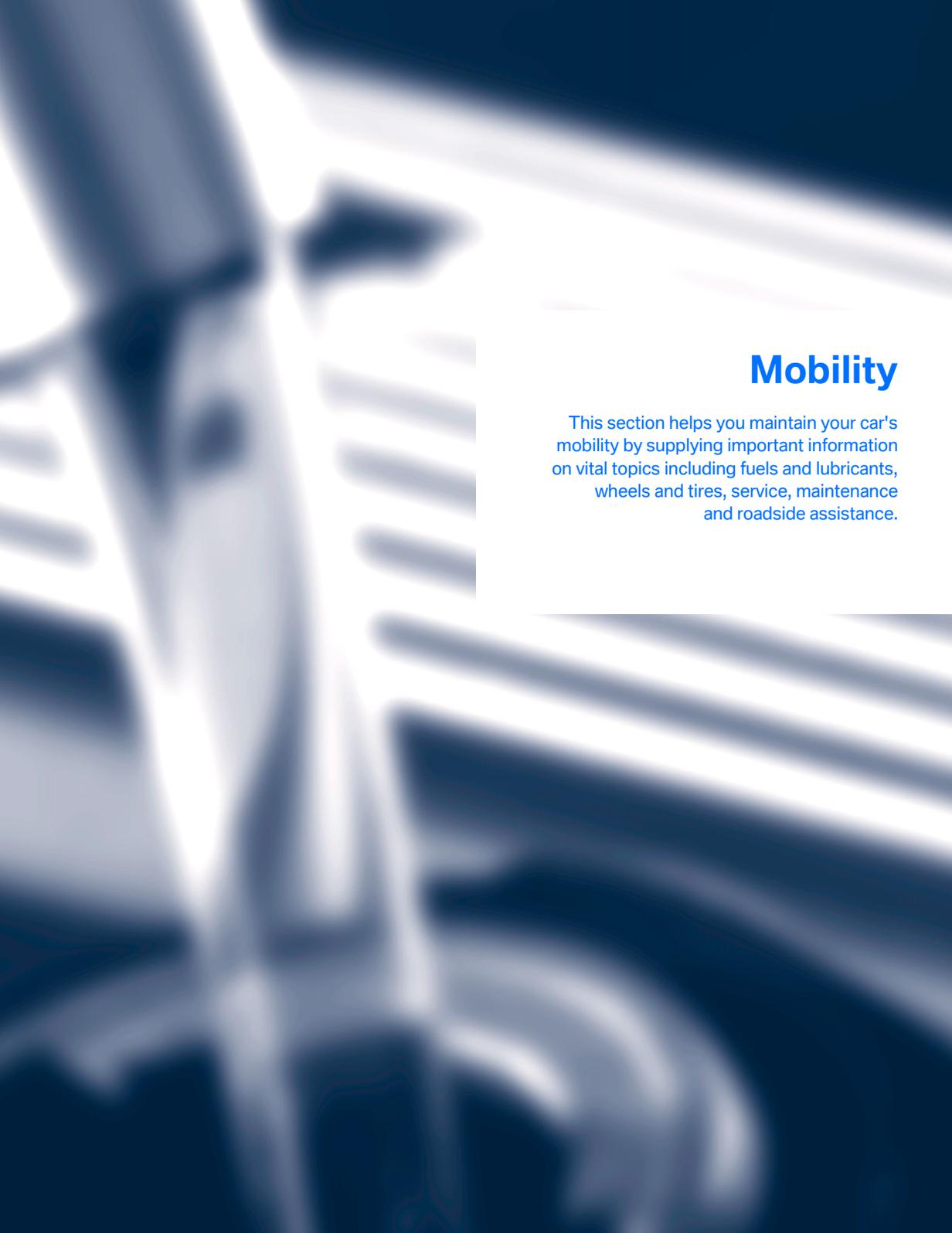
BMW recommends the following measures before driving on a race track:

- ▷ Participate in a BMW driver training course
- ▷ Have the vehicle checked by your BMW center

 Operation on race tracks results in a higher rate of wear. The BMW M3 is not designed for use in competitive motor sports. This wear is not covered by the vehicle warranty. ◀

The series brake pads and wear indicator are not designed for operation on a race track. Your BMW center will be glad to advise you.





## Mobility

This section helps you maintain your car's mobility by supplying important information on vital topics including fuels and lubricants, wheels and tires, service, maintenance and roadside assistance.

# Refueling

## Observe the following when refueling

Note the following instructions for your BMW M3 that deviate from the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

### Fuel tank capacity

Approx. 16.6 US gal/63 liters, including the reserve capacity of 3.3 US gal/12.5 liters.

 Refuel as soon as possible once your cruising range falls below 30 miles/ 50 km; otherwise, engine functions are not ensured and damage can occur. ◀

### Fuel specifications

 Do not fill the tank with leaded fuel, as this would cause permanent damage to the catalytic converter.

Do not fill the tank with E85, i.e. fuel containing 85 % ethanol, nor with FlexFuel. Otherwise the engine and fuel supply system will be damaged. ◀

### Required fuel

#### Super Premium Gasoline/AKI 93

Always use this premium grade fuel to obtain maximum fuel economy and performance.

The minimum approved fuel grade is AKI 91.

 Do not use any gasoline below the specified minimum fuel grade. Otherwise the engine could be damaged. ◀

### Use high-quality brands

Field experience has indicated significant differences in fuel quality: volatility, composition, additives, etc., among gasolines offered for sale in the United States and Canada. Fuels containing up to and including 10% ethanol or other oxygenates with up to 2.8% oxygen by weight, that is, 15 % MTBE or 3% methanol plus an

equivalent amount of cosolvent, will not void the applicable warranties with respect to defects in materials or workmanship.

 The use of poor-quality fuels may result in drivability, starting and stalling problems especially under certain environmental conditions such as high ambient temperature and high altitude.

Should you encounter drivability problems which you suspect could be related to the fuel you are using, we recommend that you respond by switching to a recognized high-quality brand such as gasoline that is advertised as Top Tier Detergent Gasoline.

Failure to comply with these recommendations may also result in unscheduled maintenance. ◀

BMW recommends BP fuels 

# Wheels and tires

## Correct wheels and tires

Contrary to the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle, your BMW M3 is not equipped with run-flat tires.

## Information for your safety

The tires approved for your vehicle by the manufacturer were chosen specifically to meet the requirements of your vehicle and offer optimum driving safety and the desired driving comfort when used properly.

## Tire inflation pressures

### Sedan

Tire size	Pressure specifications in psi/kPa					
	Traveling speeds up to a max. of 100 mph/160 km/h		Traveling speeds including those exceeding 100 mph/160 km/h			
All pressure specifications in the table are indicated in psi/kilopascal with cold tires. Cold = ambient temperature						
235/40 R 18 M+S	33/230	39/270	33/230	36/250	38/260	46/320
Front: 245/40 ZR 18	33/230	-	35/240	-	38/260	-
Rear: 265/40 ZR 18	-	35/240	-	35/240	-	41/280
Front: 245/35 ZR 19	35/240	-	35/240	-	41/280	-
Rear: 265/35 ZR 19	-	36/250	-	35/240	-	44/300

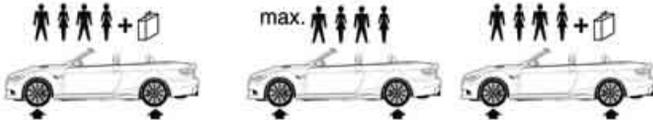
More details on the permissible load and weights can be found on page 80.

## Coupe

Tire size	Pressure specifications in psi/kPa						
	Traveling speeds up to a max. of 100 mph/160 km/h		Traveling speeds including those exceeding 100 mph/160 km/h				
<p>All pressure specifications in the table are indicated in psi/kilopascal with cold tires. Cold = ambient temperature</p> 							
	235/40 R 18 M+S	33/230	36/250	33/230	36/250	38/260	44/300
	Front: 245/40 ZR 18	33/230	-	33/230	-	39/270	-
	Rear: 265/40 ZR 18	-	35/240	-	35/240	-	44/300
	Front: 245/35 ZR 19	33/230	-	33/230	-	41/280	-
Rear: 265/35 ZR 19	-	35/240	-	35/240	-	44/300	

More details on the permissible load and weights can be found on page [80](#).

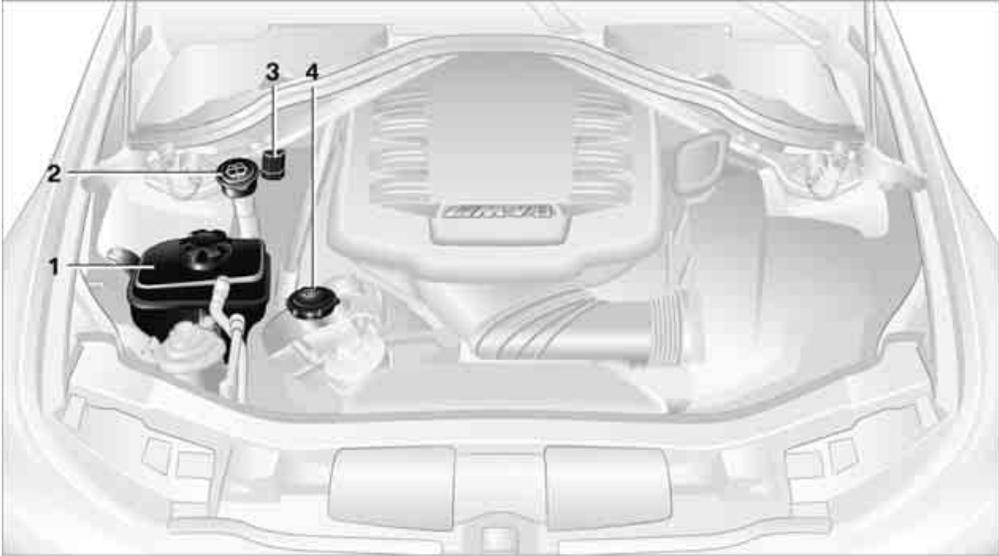
## Convertible

Tire size	Pressure specifications in psi/kPa						
	Traveling speeds up to a max. of 100 mph/160 km/h		Traveling speeds including those exceeding 100 mph/160 km/h				
<p>All pressure specifications in the table are indicated in psi/kilopascal with cold tires. Cold = ambient temperature</p> 							
	235/40 R 18 M+S	36/250	42/290	36/250	42/290	41/280	51/350
	Front: 245/40 ZR 18	33/230	-	35/240	-	41/280	-
	Rear: 265/40 ZR 18	-	35/240	-	35/240	-	46/320
	Front: 245/35 ZR 19	36/250	-	35/240	-	42/290	-
Rear: 265/35 ZR 19	-	38/260	-	35/240	-	46/320	

More details on the permissible load and weights can be found on page [80](#).

# Under the hood

## Important parts of the engine compartment



- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Coolant expansion tank   | 3 | Starting aid terminal                                  |
| 2 | Filler neck for washer fluid for the headlamp and window washer system | 4 | Filler neck for engine oil, refer to Adding engine oil |

## Engine oil

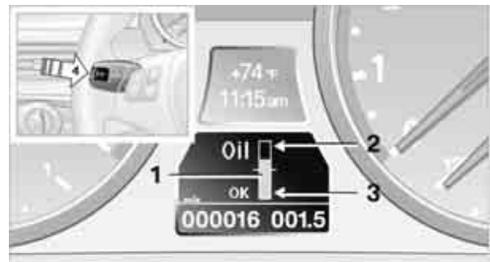
The engine oil consumption is dependent on driving style and driving conditions.

### Checking oil level

Your car is equipped with an electronic oil level monitor.

The oil level can be displayed when the engine is warm. Continuous short distance travel or a very sporty driving style may make measurement impossible.

### Display in the instrument cluster



- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| 1 | Oil level       |
| 2 | Maximum mark    |
| 3 | Minimum mark    |
| 4 | Computer button |

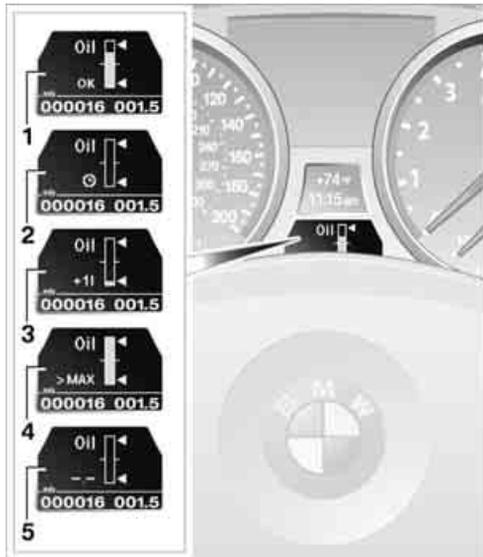
Press button **4** in the turn indicator lever repeatedly until the oil level display appears in the instrument cluster.

 **M** dual clutch transmission: the oil level appears in the top display. ◀

The oil level must be between the two markings.

A new measurement is taken automatically each time the engine is started.

## Possible displays



- 1 Oil level OK.
- 2 Oil level is being checked.  
This can take about 1 minute if the car is at a standstill on a level surface, or about 5 minutes while the car is moving.  
If engine oil was added, it may take up to 30 minutes to obtain an oil level reading.
- 3 Oil level down to minimum:  
Add engine oil at the next opportunity, but no more than 1 US quart/1 liter, refer also to Adding engine oil on page 63. Add at least 0.5 US quarts/0.5 liters, otherwise the oil level monitor will be unable to display the new value reliably.

If the oil level is below the minimum value, add engine oil immediately to avoid engine damage.

- 4 Oil level is too high.

 Have the vehicle checked immediately, otherwise the excess oil may lead to engine damage. ◀

- 5 A value cannot be read at this time. The engine is not yet warm.

## Quick measurement

In addition to the automatic measurement, you can also determine the current oil level manually, e.g. after adding engine oil, but such measurements are less accurate.

1. Park the vehicle on a level surface with the engine at operating temperature, i.e. after an uninterrupted drive of at least 6 miles/10 km.
2. Let the engine idle.
3. Press the computer button in the turn indicator lever repeatedly until the oil level display appears in the instrument cluster.
4. Press the computer button for at least 2 seconds.  
The oil level is determined. A clock symbol appears during measurement.
5. After approx. 1 minute, the current oil level is displayed.

## Display via iDrive

1. "Vehicle Info"
2. "Vehicle status"



### 3. "Engine oil level"



#### Possible messages

- ▷ "Engine oil level OK"
- ▷ "Measurement not possible at this time."
- ▷ "Measuring engine oil level...":  
This can take about 1 minute if the car is at a standstill on a level surface, or about 5 minutes while the car is moving.  
If engine oil was added, it may take up to 30 minutes to obtain an oil level reading.
- ▷ "Engine oil level below minimum. Add 1 quart!"  
Add engine oil at the next opportunity, but no more than 1 US quart/1 liter, refer also to Adding engine oil on page 63. Add at least 0.5 US quarts/0.5 liters; otherwise, the oil level monitor will be unable to display the new value reliably.  
If the oil level is below the minimum value, add engine oil immediately to avoid engine damage.
- ▷ "Engine oil level too high! Have this checked."  
 Have the vehicle checked immediately, otherwise the excess oil may lead to engine damage.◀
- ▷ "Measurement inactive. Have this checked."  
Do not add engine oil. Before continuing to drive, note the recalculated remaining distance before the next oil service, refer to Service requirements in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle. Have the system checked as soon as possible.

### Adding engine oil



Do not add 1 US quart/1 liter of engine oil until the display shows an oil level measurement of "+1qt" or "+1l".

 Add oil within the next 125 miles/200 km, otherwise the engine could be damaged. Add no more than 1 US quart/1 liter of oil, otherwise too much engine oil can lead to engine damage. Add at least 0.5 US quarts/0.5 liters, otherwise the oil level monitor will be unable to display the new value reliably.◀

 Keep oils, greases, etc. out of the reach of children and comply with the relevant warnings on the containers. Otherwise, health hazards may result.◀

#### Oil change

Have oil changed only at your BMW center or at a workshop that works according to BMW repair procedures with correspondingly trained personnel.

#### Specified engine oils

The quality of the engine oil selected has critical significance for the operation and service life of an engine. BMW continuously approves specific oils after testing them extensively.

 Do not use oil additives as these may cause engine damage.◀

 Your BMW center will be glad to answer any questions regarding BMW High Performance Synthetic Oil or approved synthetic oils.◀

You can also call BMW of North America at 1-800-831-1117 or visit the website [www.bmwusa.com](http://www.bmwusa.com) to obtain this information.

## Viscosity ratings

Viscosity is a measure of an oil's flow rating and is categorized in SAE classes.



Approved oils belong to the 10W-60 SAE class. ◀

## Alternative oil types

If BMW High Performance Synthetic Oil is not available, you can add small quantities of other synthetic oils in between oil changes.

Only use oils with the following specifications:

- ▷ Viscosity:  
Preferred: SAE 10W-60  
alternative: SAE 10W-40, SAE 5W-50 or SAE 10W-50
- ▷ Specification:  
API SJ/CF, API SK/CF or higher

## Low ambient temperatures

The oils used at BMW factories for your vehicle type are suitable for virtually any ambient temperature. However, if the vehicle is operated at temperatures below  $-4^{\circ}\text{F}$  /  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  for extended periods, your BMW center will be glad to recommend an optimal oil.

BMW recommends  Castrol

# Care

## Exterior care

### Automatic car washes

Note the following instructions for your BMW M3 that deviate from the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

### M dual clutch transmission

Before driving into an automatic car wash, perform the following steps to ensure that the vehicle can roll:

1. Insert the remote control into the ignition lock, even with Comfort Access\*.
2. Engage transmission position N.
3. Release the parking brake.
4. Switch off the engine.
5. Leave the remote control in the ignition lock so that the vehicle can roll.

Transmission position P is engaged:

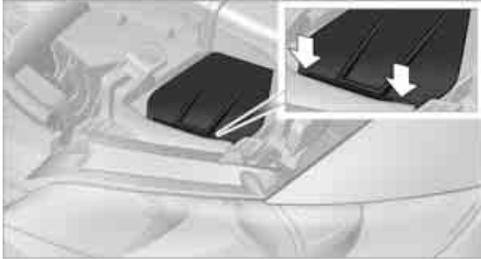
- ▷ Automatically after approx. 30 minutes
- ▷ When you remove the remote control from the ignition lock

# Replacing components

## Front bulb replacement

### Accessing the bulbs

1. Switch off the lamps and take the remote control out of the ignition lock.
2. Remove the upper cover from the headlamp. To do so, use a screwdriver to press the catches towards the rear, see arrows, and pull the cover forward and out.



Follow the same steps in reverse order to reattach the cover.

**⚠** Be careful when installing the cover, otherwise leaks could occur and cause damage to the headlamp system. ◀

### Parking lamps and roadside parking lamps, daytime running lights

H8 bulb, 35 watts

1. Remove the cover, refer to Accessing the bulbs.
2. Turn the bulb approx. 90°, see arrow, and take it out.



3. Disconnect the plug, change the bulb and reconnect the plug.
4. Insert the bulb and turn it until it stops.
5. Reattach the cover.

### Corner-illuminating lamp\*

H3 bulb, 55 watts

1. Switch off the lamps and take the remote control out of the ignition lock.
2. Remove the cover, refer to Accessing the bulbs.
3. Push the wire bracket out of the anchor towards the right and fold it up.



4. Disconnect the plug, change the bulb and reconnect the plug.
5. Insert the bulb.
6. Fold the wire bracket down and engage it.
7. Reattach the cover.

## Turn signals, front

PY24W bulb, 24 watts

The turn signal bulb can be changed via a cover in the wheel arch.



1. Turn the respective wheel inwards.
2. Using a coin, turn both locks of the cover all the way to the left, arrows **1**, and remove the cover.
3. Turn the bulb holder to the left, arrow **2**, and take it out.
4. Turn the bulb socket in the bulb holder to the right for removal and replacement.
5. Insert the bulb holder and lock it by turning it to the right.
6. Attach the cover by positioning the bottom edge first and then turning both locks all the way to the right using a coin.

## Repairing a flat tire with the M Mobility System

To repair a flat tire, your BMW M3 includes an M Mobility System. With this system you can apply a sealant to the inside of the tire to seal the damaged section, restore the tire inflation pressure and continue on your trip.

 **Safety measures in the event of a flat tire:** Park the vehicle as far away from moving traffic as possible and on a firm surface. Switch on the hazard warning flashers.

Apply the parking brake and engage first gear, reverse gear or transmission position P. Have all occupants leave the vehicle and move beyond the danger zone, e.g. behind the guard rails.

If necessary, erect a warning triangle\* or warning flasher\* at a suitable distance. Adhere to country-specific regulations. ◀

## Preparations



The M Mobility System is located in the cargo area under the floor board.

Use of the M Mobility System may be ineffective against tire damage larger than approx. 0.16 in/4 mm. Please contact the nearest BMW center if the tire cannot be made drivable with the M Mobility System.

If possible, leave any foreign bodies that have penetrated the tire in place.

 Follow the instructions on using the M Mobility System found on the compressor and the sealant bottle. ◀

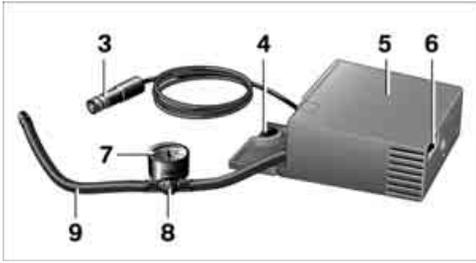
Remove the label with the speed restriction from the sealant bottle and apply it to the steering wheel.

## Sealant and compressor



- 1 Sealant bottle and label with speed restriction
- 2 Filling hose

 Please note the expiry date on the sealant bottle. ◀



- 3 Plug and cable for the socket in the vehicle interior
- 4 Holder for the sealant bottle
- 5 Compressor
- 6 On/off switch
- 7 Pressure gauge for displaying the tire inflation pressure
- 8 Screw on pressure gauge to reduce tire inflation pressure
- 9 Hose to connect compressor and sealant bottle or compressor and wheel

The connector, cable and connection hose are stored in the compressor housing.

## Using the M Mobility System

To repair a flat tire with the M Mobility System, proceed as follows:

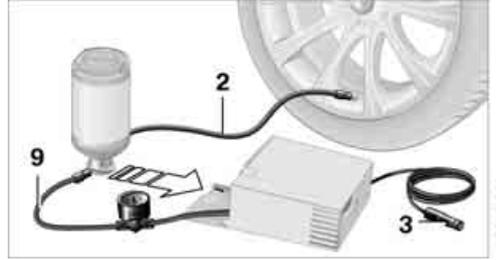
- ▷ Fill with sealant.
- ▷ Distribute the sealant.
- ▷ Correct the tire inflation pressure.

## Filling with sealant

**⚠** Follow the specified sequence, otherwise the sealant may escape under high pressure. ◀

1. Shake the sealant bottle.
2. Pull the connection hose **9** fully out of the compressor housing and screw it onto the connector of the sealant bottle. Make sure that the hose is not kinked.
3. Ensure that the screw **8** on the pressure gauge is closed.

4. Insert the sealant bottle into the housing of the compressor so that the bottle is upright.



5. Unscrew the dust cap from the valve of the defective wheel and screw the filling hose **2** of the sealant bottle onto the valve.
6. Ensure that the compressor is switched off.
7. Insert the plug **3** into the power socket in the vehicle interior.
8. Start the engine and let it run.
9. Switch on the compressor and let it run for approx. 3 to 8 minutes to fill the tire with sealant and achieve a tire inflation pressure of approx. 36 psi/250 kPa.

**▶** While the tire is being filled with sealant, the inflation pressure may briefly reach approx. 73 psi/500 kPa. Do not switch off the compressor in this phase. ◀

**⚠** Do not let the compressor run for more than 10 minutes, otherwise the device will overheat and may be damaged. ◀

10. Switch off the compressor.
11. Switch off the engine.

If an inflation pressure of 29 psi/200 kPa cannot be reached:

1. Unscrew the filling hose **2** from the wheel and drive the vehicle forward and backward approx. 33 ft/10 m each to evenly distribute the liquid sealant in the tire.
2. Inflate the tire again with the compressor.

**▶** If an inflation pressure of 29 psi/200 kPa still cannot be reached, the tire is too heavily damaged. Contact the nearest BMW center. ◀

Remove the connection hose **9** and the filling hose **2** from the sealant bottle connection and from the tire valve.

Wrap the empty sealant bottle in suitable material to avoid dirtying the cargo area. Return the M Mobility System to its storage location in the vehicle.

### Distributing the sealant

Immediately drive approx. 3 miles/5 km to evenly distribute the sealant in the tire.

 Do not exceed a speed of 35 mph/60 km/h. If possible, do not fall below a speed of 12 mph/20 km/h. ◀

### Correcting the tire inflation pressure

1. After driving approx. 3 miles/5 km, stop at a suitable location.
2. Connect connection hose **9** of the compressor directly to the tire valve.
3. Insert the plug **3** into the power socket in the vehicle interior.
4. Adjust the tire inflation pressure to 29 psi/200 kPa. With the engine running:
  - ▶ To increase the inflation pressure: switch on the compressor. To check the inflation pressure, switch off the compressor.

 Do not let the compressor run for more than 10 minutes, otherwise the device will overheat and may be damaged. ◀

- ▶ To reduce the inflation pressure: turn screw **8** on the pressure gauge.

 If the inflation pressure is not maintained, drive the vehicle a second time, refer to Distributing the sealant. Then repeat steps 1 to 4.

If an inflation pressure of 29 psi/200 kPa cannot be reached, the tire is too heavily damaged. Contact the nearest BMW center. ◀

### Continuing your trip

 Do not exceed the maximum allowable speed of 50 mph/80 km/h to avoid the risk of an accident. ◀

 Reinitialize the Flat Tire Monitor, refer to page 43 for more information. Have the faulty tire and the sealant bottle of the M Mobility System replaced as soon as possible. ◀

# Giving and receiving assistance

## Tow-starting, towing away

Note the following instructions for your BMW M3 that deviate from the description in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

### Being towed

**⚠** Make sure that the ignition is switched on, refer to page 24, otherwise the low-beam headlamps, tail lamps, turn signal indicators and windshield wipers may be unavailable.

Power steering assistance is not available when the engine is not running. Thus, braking and steering will require increased effort. ◀

### M dual clutch transmission with Drivelogic

**⚠** Ensure that the parking lock P is not engaged as the rear wheels will otherwise be blocked.

When using the car wash function, refer to page 65, note that the parking lock P is engaged automatically after approx. 30 minutes, blocking the rear wheels.

If an electrical malfunction occurs or if towing takes longer than approx. 20 minutes, manually release the parking lock, refer to page 30. ◀

**⚠** When towing, do not exceed a maximum speed of 30 mph/50 km/h and a maximum travel distance of 30 miles/50 km; otherwise, the transmission can be damaged. ◀

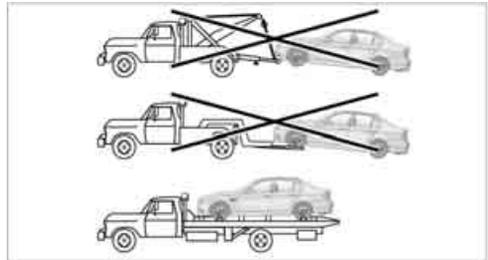
BMW recommends transporting the vehicle on a tow truck with a flat bed.

### Towing methods

**⚠** Do not lift the vehicle by a tow fitting or body and chassis parts, otherwise damage may result. ◀

### With a tow truck

M dual clutch transmission:



Have the BMW transported on a flatbed surface only.

### Tow-starting

### M dual clutch transmission with Drivelogic

Vehicles with an M dual clutch transmission cannot be tow-started.

# Indicator and warning lamps



Indicator and warning lamps appear in the display area. See the table for information on causes and how to react. Note whether a lamp comes on alone or in combination with another. Some lamps can light up in different colors. Corresponding distinctions are made in the text.

In addition to the indicator lamps described in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle, note the following lamps in your BMW M3:

1	2	Cause	What to do
	Lights up briefly: Approx. 3.3 US gal/12.5 liters of fuel remain in the tank  Remains on: Remaining operating range is no more than 30 miles/50 km, refer to page 37		
	Lights up in red:  ▷ Starter failed or ▷ Ignition malfunctioning. Engine restart only possible when brake is depressed or ▷ Lighting system failed. Low beams/ tail lamps and brake lamps still operational. All other lamps failed  Lights up in yellow:  ▷ Control of the brake lamps failed or ▷ Fuel supply malfunctioning  ▷ Drive malfunctioning		Have the system in question checked without delay.  The engine cannot be restarted. Depress the brake to restart the engine.  You can continue your journey, but moderate your speed and exercise due caution. Have the system in question checked without delay.  Transmission limp-home program active with reduced acceleration. You can continue your journey, but moderate your speed and exercise due caution. Have the system checked immediately.

1	2	Cause	What to do
	The engine has been switched off using the Automatic Start/Stop function		Starting the engine with manual transmission: step on the clutch, refer to page 26. Starting the engine with M dual clutch transmission: Release the brake, refer to page 26.
	Automatic Start/Stop function deactivated		Automatic Start/Stop function deactivated, refer to page 25. The engine is not stopped or started automatically. Stopping/starting engine: press the Start/Stop button.
	Automatic Start/Stop function has failed		The engine is not stopped or started automatically, refer to page 25. Stop or start the engine using the Start/Stop button. Have the system checked as soon as possible.
	Lights up in red*: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Transmission limp-home program active with restricted range of gears, possibly with reduced acceleration.</li> </ul> <p>Gears can be engaged without depressing the brake</p>		You can continue your journey, but moderate your speed and exercise due caution. It may not be possible to continue the trip after stopping. Have the system checked without delay. Always depress the brake to engage a gear. Have the system checked without delay.
	Lights up in yellow*: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Transmission limp-home program active with restricted range of gears</li> <li>▶ Transmission position P malfunctioning: Selector lever locked in position P with engine running or ignition switched on and brake depressed</li> <li>▶ Brake signal malfunctioning: gear can be engaged without depressing the brake</li> </ul>		You can continue your journey, but moderate your speed and exercise due caution. Have the system checked without delay. Release parking lock, refer to page 30. Have the system checked as soon as possible. To engage a gear while the vehicle is at a standstill, always step on the brake. Switch off the engine before leaving the vehicle. Have the system checked as soon as possible.

1	2	Cause	What to do
		<p>Lights up in red*: Transmission overheating</p> <p>Lights up in yellow*: Transmission too hot</p>	<p>Stop the car and switch off the engine. Allow the transmission to cool down. You can continue your journey, but moderate your speed and exercise due caution. Have the system checked if the situation reoccurs.</p> <p>Avoid high engine loads. You can continue your journey, but moderate your speed and exercise due caution.</p>
		<p>Selector lever malfunctioning</p>	<p>You can continue your journey. Shift again if necessary. Have the system checked if the situation reoccurs.</p>
		<p>Brake signal malfunctioning: gear can be engaged without depressing the brake</p>	<p>To engage a gear while the vehicle is at a standstill, always step on the brake. Switch off the engine before leaving the vehicle. Have the system checked as soon as possible.</p>



## Reference

This chapter contains technical data and an index that will help you find information most quickly.

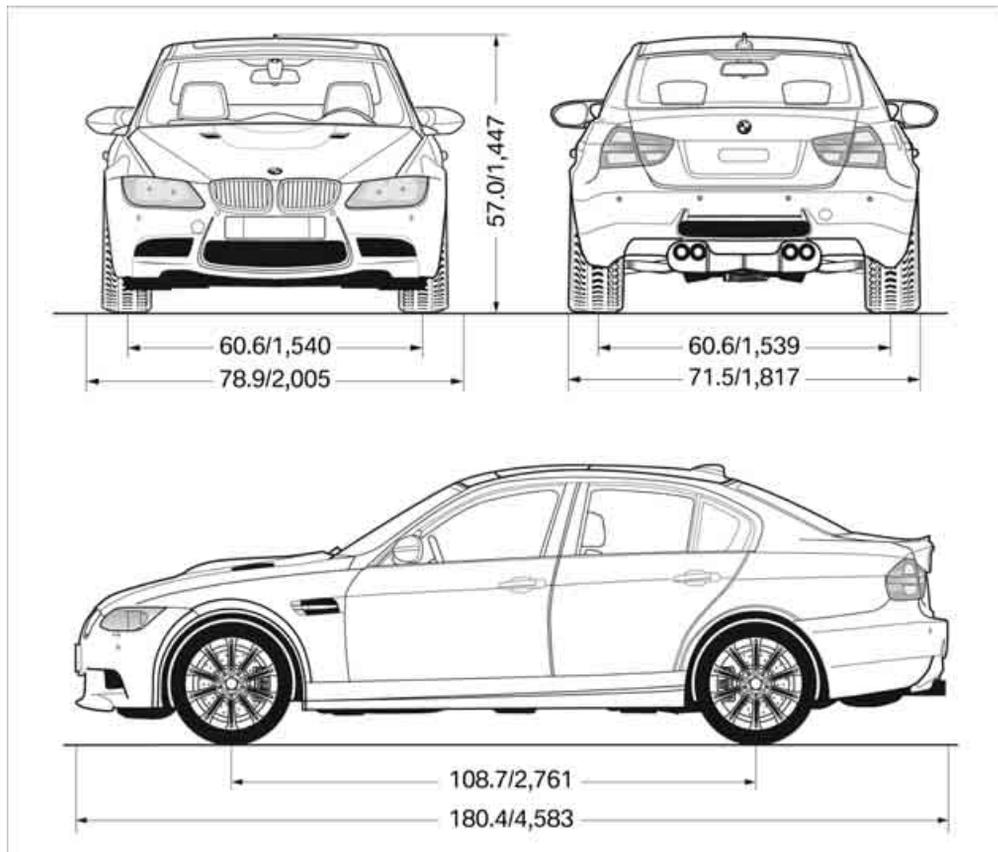
# Technical data

## Engine data

		M3
Displacement	cu in/cm <sup>3</sup>	244/3,999
Number of cylinders		8
Maximum power output	hp	414
at engine speed	rpm	8,300
Maximum torque	lb ft/Nm	295/400
at engine speed	rpm	3,900

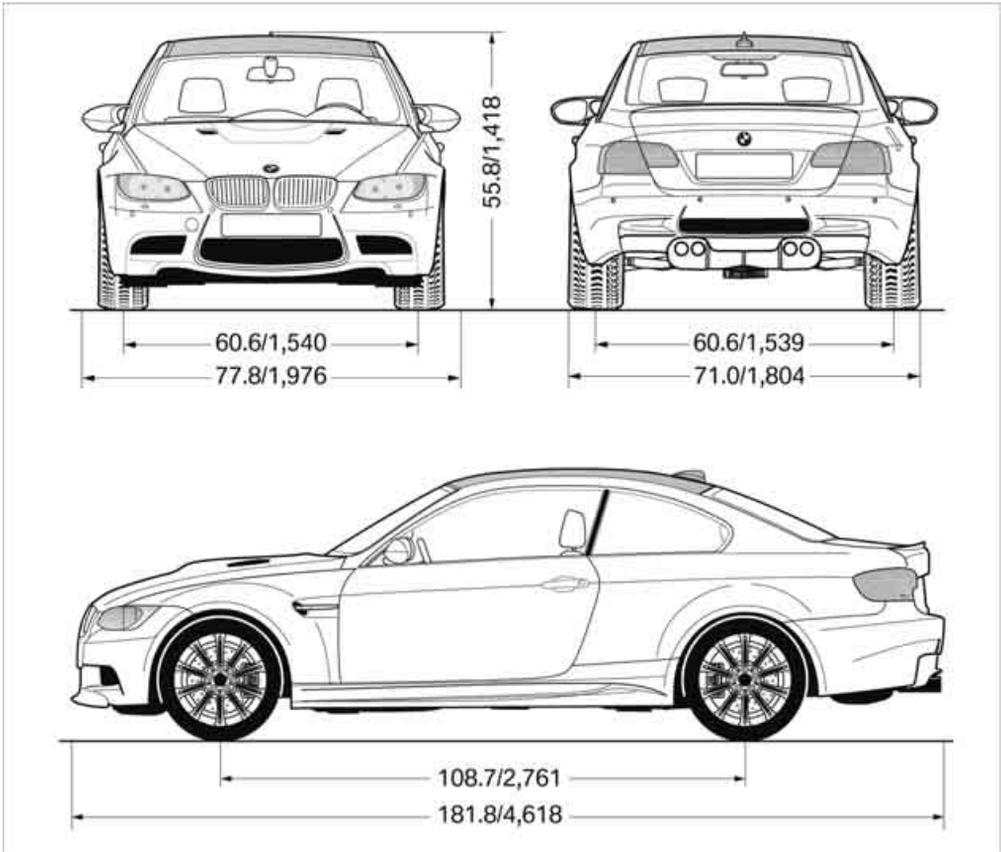
# Dimensions

## Sedan



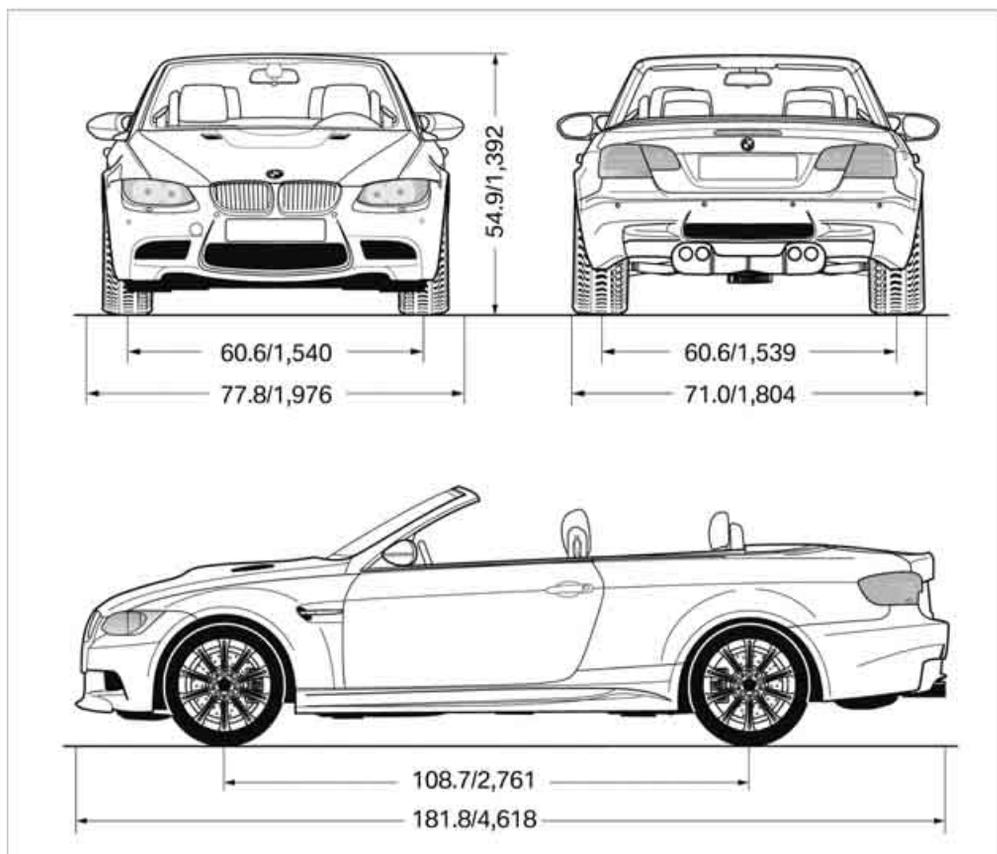
All dimensions given in inches/mm.  
Smallest turning circle dia.: 38.4 ft/11.7 m.

## Coupe



All dimensions given in inches/mm.  
 Smallest turning circle dia.: 38.4 ft/11.7 m.

## Convertible



All dimensions given in inches/mm.  
Smallest turning circle dia.: 38.4 ft/11.7 m.

## Weights

### Sedan

		M3
Approved gross weight	lbs/kg	4,740/2,150
Load	lbs/kg	1,014/460
Approved front axle load	lbs/kg	2,249/1,020
Approved rear axle load	lbs/kg	2,624/1,190
Approved roof load capacity	lbs/kg	165/75
Cargo area capacity	cu ft/liters	15.9/450

Never exceed either the approved axle loads or the gross vehicle weight.

### Coupe

		M3
Approved gross weight	lbs/kg	4,586/2,080
Load	lbs/kg	882/400
Approved front axle load	lbs/kg	2,249/1,020
Approved rear axle load	lbs/kg	2,469/1,120
Approved roof load capacity	lbs/kg	165/75
Cargo area capacity	cu ft/liters	15.2/430

### Convertible

		M3
Approved gross weight	lbs/kg	5,027/2,280
Load	lbs/kg	882/400
Approved front axle load	lbs/kg	2,337/1,060
Approved rear axle load	lbs/kg	2,800/1,270
Cargo area capacity	cu ft/liters	7.4-12.4/210-350

## Capacities

			Notes
Fuel tank	US gal/liters	approx. 16.6/63	Fuel grade: page <a href="#">58</a>
including reserve of	US gal/liters	approx. 3.3/12.5	
Window washer system			
including headlamp washers	US quarts/liters	approx. 4.8/4.5	

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