



2001 thru 2003 E39 Headlight Adjusters Replacement DIY

Problem: 01+ headlight (made by Hella) adjusters become brittle and break, resulting in the headlights aiming down. Pre 01, you could replace the adjusters for around \$20 from your local BMW dealer. 2001 – 2003 headlights were changed and are “sealed” with no replacement parts available. Your only option was a complete new assembly from BMW or go aftermarket. Costs were in the \$1000+ range. Through forums searches I found replacement parts at www.odometergears.com for \$85/side.

This is what your adjusters should look like when they are new.



This is what they look like when broken.



Tools you will need.

8mm nut driver, 10mm nut driver, thin blade screwdriver, T10 torx, T20 torx, something with a wide blade, oven, hairdryer or heat gun.



Part 1 of 2

NOTE: The following information is to be used at your own risk, and should only serve as a procedural reference.

Remove the headlights from the car. There are (4) 8mm screws. Disconnect all electrical plugs. Pull headlight out the front of car.



Complete headlight assembly.

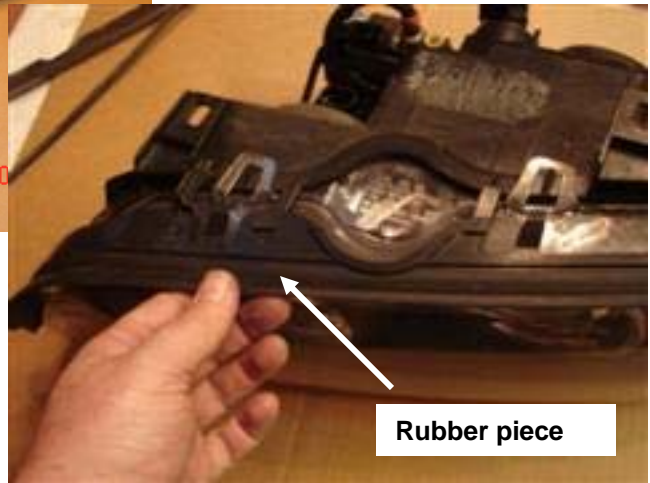


back



front

Remove beauty trim and rubber piece.



**Heat the oven to 200° F.
That's right, I said heat up
the oven ! or find a good
hairdryer or heat gun.
Leave the oven on, you will
need to use it again during
reassembly.**

**Remove the 2 screws on the
backside of the lens where the
amber turn signal is located.**

