

Contents

Introduction & about this book.....	6		
Warning.....	7		
1. History.....	8		
Timeline.....	10		
BMW model numbers.....	10		
2. Buying a project car.....	11		
The 4- or 6-cylinder engine?.....	12		
List of common models.....	13		
Rare models.....	14		
Inspection check list.....	16		
Exterior.....	16		
Interior.....	17		
Mechanicals.....	17		
On the test drive.....	19		
3. Common faults, servicing & recommissioning.....	21		
Common faults.....	21		
Paint.....	21		
Panels.....	21		
Exterior trim and parts.....	23		
Wipers.....	23		
Sunroof.....	24		
Glass.....	24		
Lights.....	24		
Wheels and tyres.....	24		
Hub bearings, suspension joints, and steering.....	25		
Interior.....	25		
Seat belts.....	25		
Seats.....	25		
Head lining.....	26		
Door locks and handles.....	26		
Window winders.....	26		
Steering wheel.....	26		
Instrument panel.....	27		
Gauges.....	27		
Check control.....	27		
Oil service and inspection indication.....	27		
Handbrake.....	27		
Boot interior, spare wheel and tool kit.....	27		
Under-bonnet (hood).....	27		
Engine.....	29		
Intake and exhaust manifolds.....	29		
Fuel-injection system or carburettors.....	29		
Exhaust system.....	30		
Gearbox (transmission), propshaft & clutch.....	30		
Wiring.....	30		
Battery.....	30		
Washer system.....	31		
Suspension.....	31		
Steering.....	32		
Subframes.....	33		
Brakes.....	33		
Rear axle.....	33		
Servicing.....	33		
Buying service parts.....	34		
Fluids.....	34		
Timing belts.....	34		
Window switches.....	34		
Hoses.....	34		
Intake ducts.....	34		
Door locks.....	34		
Recommissioning.....	34		
Battery.....	35		
Coolant (antifreeze).....	35		
Tyres/tires.....	35		
Brakes.....	35		
Oil.....	36		
Electrics.....	36		
Mechanicals.....	36		
Screen/windshield wash.....	37		
Bodywork.....	37		
Interior.....	37		
Engine.....	37		
Removing rust from small parts.....	37		
4. Modification.....	38		
Introduction.....	38		
The theory of cheap motorsport.....	39		
Thetrackday.....	40		
Engine introduction.....	40		
Turbocharging.....	42		
Carburettors.....	42		
4-cylinder engine tuning.....	43		
M10.....	43		
M40.....	44		
M42.....	44		
M3S14.....	44		
6-cylinder engine tuning.....	45		
M20 engines.....	45		
The 2.7 Eta engine.....	45		
Porting and head work.....	46		
Turbo or supercharging.....	46		
Problems.....	47		
Head cracking.....	47		
Engine swaps.....	48		
General guidance.....	48		
The gearbox.....	49		
The radiator.....	49		
Fitting a non-standard engine.....	49		
Engine electrical connections.....	50		
Duel mass flywheels.....	50		
Immobilisers and ECU security.....	50		
Not all E30 shells are equal.....	50		
Fitting an M30 engine.....	50		
M50/52.....	51		
BMW V8, M60/62.....	52		
BMW V12.....	53		
Other engine manufacturers.....	53		
BMW engine weights and powers (approximate).....	53		
Turbo and supercharging.....	53		
Basic principle.....	54		
Turbo lag.....	55		
Gas.....	55		
Intercooler.....	55		
Bearings and oil feed.....	55		
Heat.....	55		
Compression.....	55		
Turbo size.....	56		
Tail mount turbo.....	56		
Intake hoses.....	56		
Efficiency and power consumed by the turbocharger.....	57		
Cheap alternatives and small electric 'superchargers'.....	57		
Alternative fuels.....	57		
Petrol engines.....	57		
Ethanol/bioethanol.....	58		

Diesel engines.....	59	Steering.....	84	Body strengthening and roll cages....	106
Bio-diesel and reclaimed cooking oil.....	59	Using an E36 rack.....	84	The basics.....	106
Exhaust.....	59	Power steering.....	84	Suspension loads.....	106
Pulse tuning.....	59	Quality.....	85	Roll cage.....	106
Heat.....	61	The wheel.....	85	Strut braces.....	108
Exhaust pipe bore.....	61	Wheels and tyres.....	85	Seam welding.....	109
Catalysts.....	61	Wheels.....	85	Race safety equipment.....	109
Stainless steel.....	61	Offset.....	85	Fire extinguisher.....	109
Side exit.....	62	Wheel spacers.....	85	Battery box.....	110
Intake tuning.....	62	Tyres (tires).....	86	Cut-off switch (electrical section)....	110
Maximising flow.....	62	Hard acceleration.....	86	Rain light.....	111
Cold air intake.....	63	Hard braking.....	86	Towing brackets.....	111
Air filters.....	63	Cornering.....	86	Decals.....	111
Noise.....	64	Tyre size.....	87	Sunstrip.....	111
Airflow meter.....	64	Wheel and tyre width.....	87	Catch tank.....	111
Cooling system.....	64	Pressure.....	87	Harnesses.....	112
Engineering the coolant.....	64	Temperature.....	87		
Oil coolers.....	64	Driving the tyre.....	87	5. Case studies.....	113
Radiators.....	65	Scrubbing in new tyres.....	88	Introduction.....	113
Checks.....	65	Buffing.....	88	BMW Championship racers.....	113
Electric fans.....	66	Brakes.....	88	318is 'Ring master.....	113
Visco drive engine driven fans.....	66	Improving what you have.....	88	Road/track 325i.....	114
Replacing an engine driven fan with an electric one.....	66	Pads.....	89	The basics.....	114
Fuel-injection system.....	67	Discs (rotors).....	89	Engine.....	114
Mapping.....	67	Big brake kits.....	90	Suspension.....	114
Injector and fuel pump sizing.....	68	ABS.....	90	Wheels and tyres.....	114
Air meter tuning.....	69	Problems.....	90	Brakes.....	114
Throttle body injection systems.....	70	Exterior and aerodynamics.....	92	Conclusion.....	114
Fuel pump, tank and filter.....	70	Fit for use.....	92	The 335.....	115
Fuel coolers.....	70	The E30 shape.....	92	Basics.....	115
Gearbox.....	70	Securing body kits or panels.....	93	Engine and transmission.....	115
Gear oil.....	71	Paint.....	94	Suspension.....	115
Autos.....	71	Interior.....	95	Wheels and tyres.....	116
Gearstick (shift lever).....	72	Driver feedback and control.....	95	Conclusion.....	116
Rebuilding the links.....	73	Impact.....	96	The M3 Touring Car Racer.....	116
Solid links.....	73	Dash.....	97	Engine.....	116
Control location.....	73	Air.....	97	Shell.....	116
Differential.....	74	Electrics.....	97	Suspension.....	117
Identification.....	74	Additional circuits.....	97	Steering.....	117
Ratios.....	75	Battery.....	98	Brakes.....	117
Limiting slip.....	75	Earth.....	98	Wheels.....	117
Rear bush.....	75	Cut-off switch.....	98	Interior.....	117
Cooling.....	75	Ignition switch.....	99		
Oil.....	75	Airbags.....	99	6. Technical specifications.....	118
Suspension.....	76	Dim dip.....	100	4-cylinder petrol models.....	118
The starting point.....	76	Engine.....	100	6-cylinder petrol models.....	119
Lowering.....	77	Making connections.....	100	Diesel models.....	119
Spring rates.....	78	Sticky tape.....	101	M3 models.....	120
Spring quality.....	79	Stripping weight.....	102	Tyres.....	120
Adjustable ride height.....	79	Basic stripping.....	102	Other BMW models.....	
Suspension modifications.....	79	Plastic windows.....	103		
Fitting an adjustable spring and damper kit.....	80	Sound-deadening.....	104	7. Contacts.....	122
Roll.....	80	Cooling.....	104	Clubs, websites and forums.....	122
Front strut top mounts.....	81	Exhaust.....	104	BMW specialists.....	122
5-stud conversions.....	81	Bumpers.....	104	Parts suppliers.....	122
Polyurethane bushes.....	82	Fuel tank.....	105	Race parts.....	122
		Wheels and tyres.....	105	Oil coolers, fuel and brake parts.....	122
		Big savings.....	105		
		Weight distribution.....	105	Index.....	127