

## Air filter change on E60/61 530d

This is a DIY instruction for air filter change on a 2005 BMW 530d Touring. The procedure was very smooth for me so I take it other persons with limited experience from repairing cars should have an equally smooth ride. **I will however not assume any responsibility whatsoever for problems or damage that may occur during work done fully or partially according to this information.**

In addition to the air filter change, I'm also having a look at the engine breather filter just to make sure that it's of the upgraded type and not the old foam type that might clog and mess up the whole engine.

Difficulty: Simple & straightforward but time consuming

Time needed: 1-1,5h to change air filter, add 0,5h for checking/cleaning the breather filter.

### Tools needed

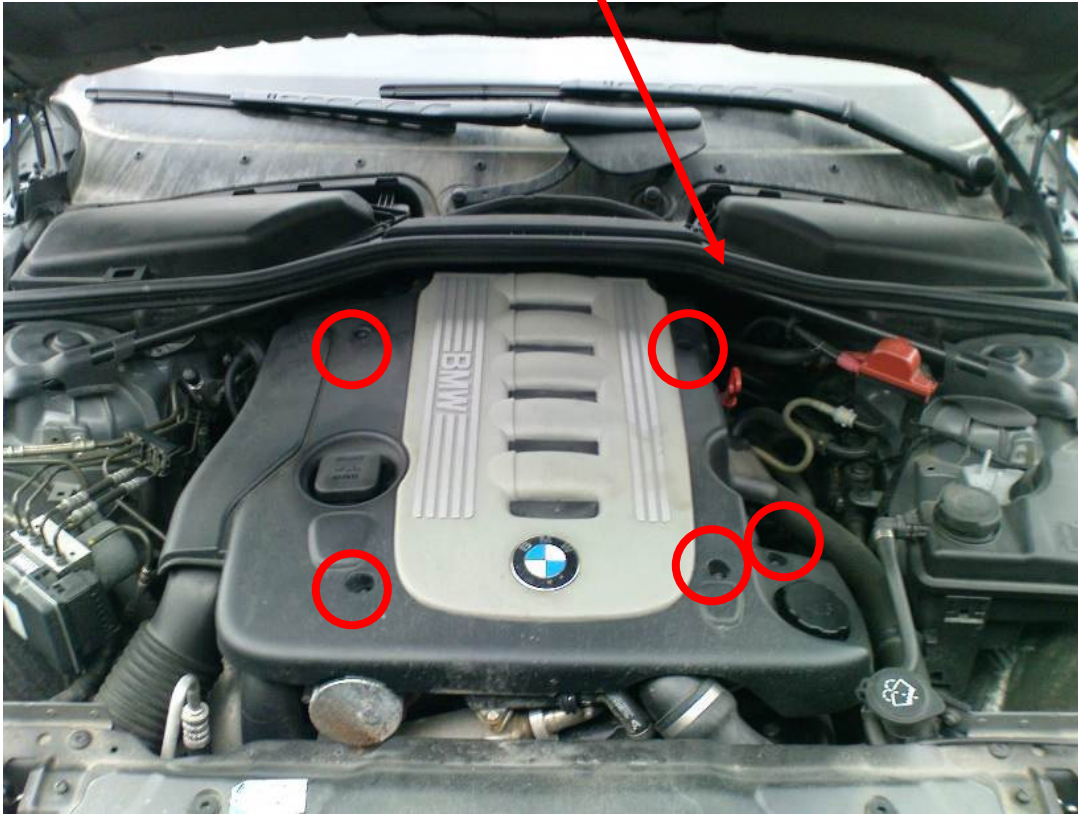
- Slotted screwdriver
- Philips screwdriver
- Ratchet + extension
- Screwdriver or extension with flexible shaft
- T25 and T45 torx bits
- 5mm allen bit
- 5mm & 13mm socket



Overview of the parts you need to remove to change the air filter



1. Remove engine cover (5 allen screws) & rubber strip



2. Remove 2x micro filters by unsnapping the hoops and turn the plastic nuts **one quarter of a turn** using a 13mm socket. Also remove the rubber sealings toward the fenders.

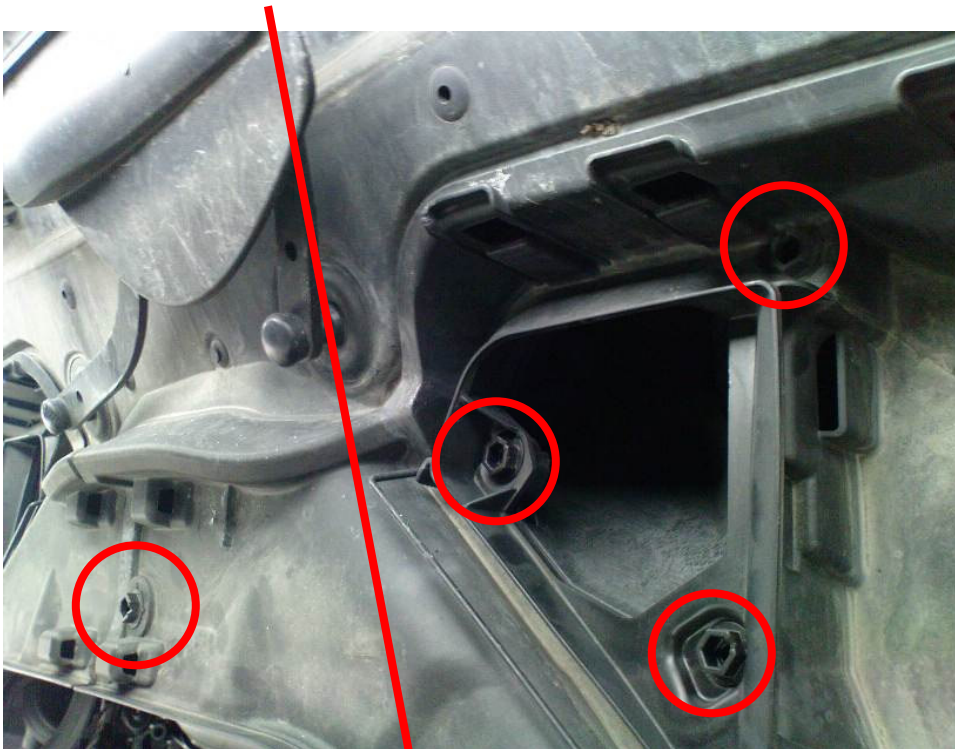


3. Remove the micro filter housings. Remove the plastic latch by lifting the circled tab and pull to the right.



Use 13mm socket to loosen plastic nuts (3 on one side, 4 on the other) that are holding the housings. **NB!! Nuts will NOT come out. They will come loose after ¼ turn.**

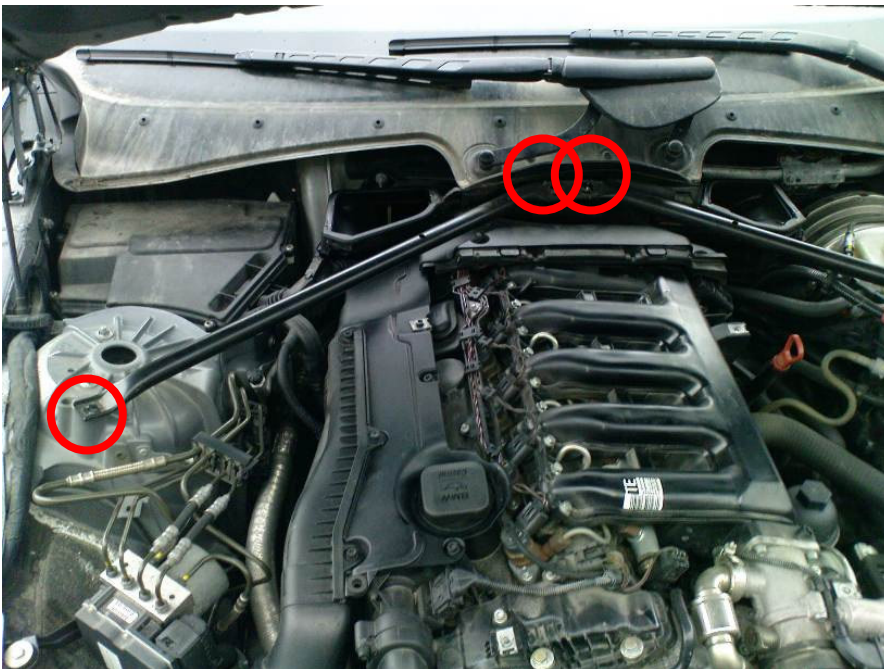
There's also a T25 (outside pic) that needs to be removed before housings come out.



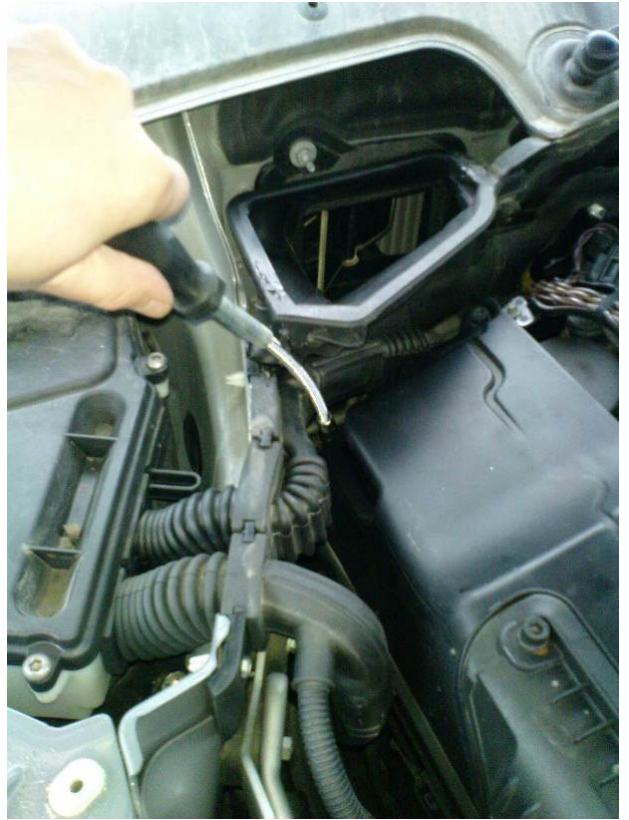
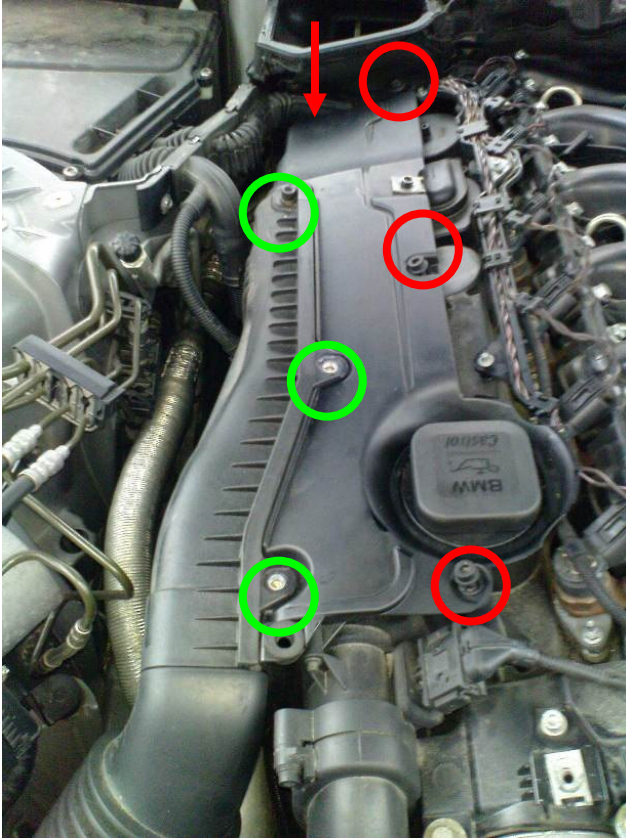
4. Remove covers for strut bearings. Loosen the plastic Philips screws and remove cover. Plastic washers are only pressed there and will come out with the cover. **Be careful so they don't fall into the engine bay!**



Remove the strut brace. 4 x T45.



5. Now we're ready to attack the filter housing. Loosen 4 x allen screws marked in red. Top left one by the arrow is tricky to reach and you'll need a flexible extension to get to it. Note that the screws not will come out completely.



Remove 3 screws on the side cover marked in green, they can be completely removed. Remove side cover, bend the intake hose away and remove the final allen screw (bottom right).



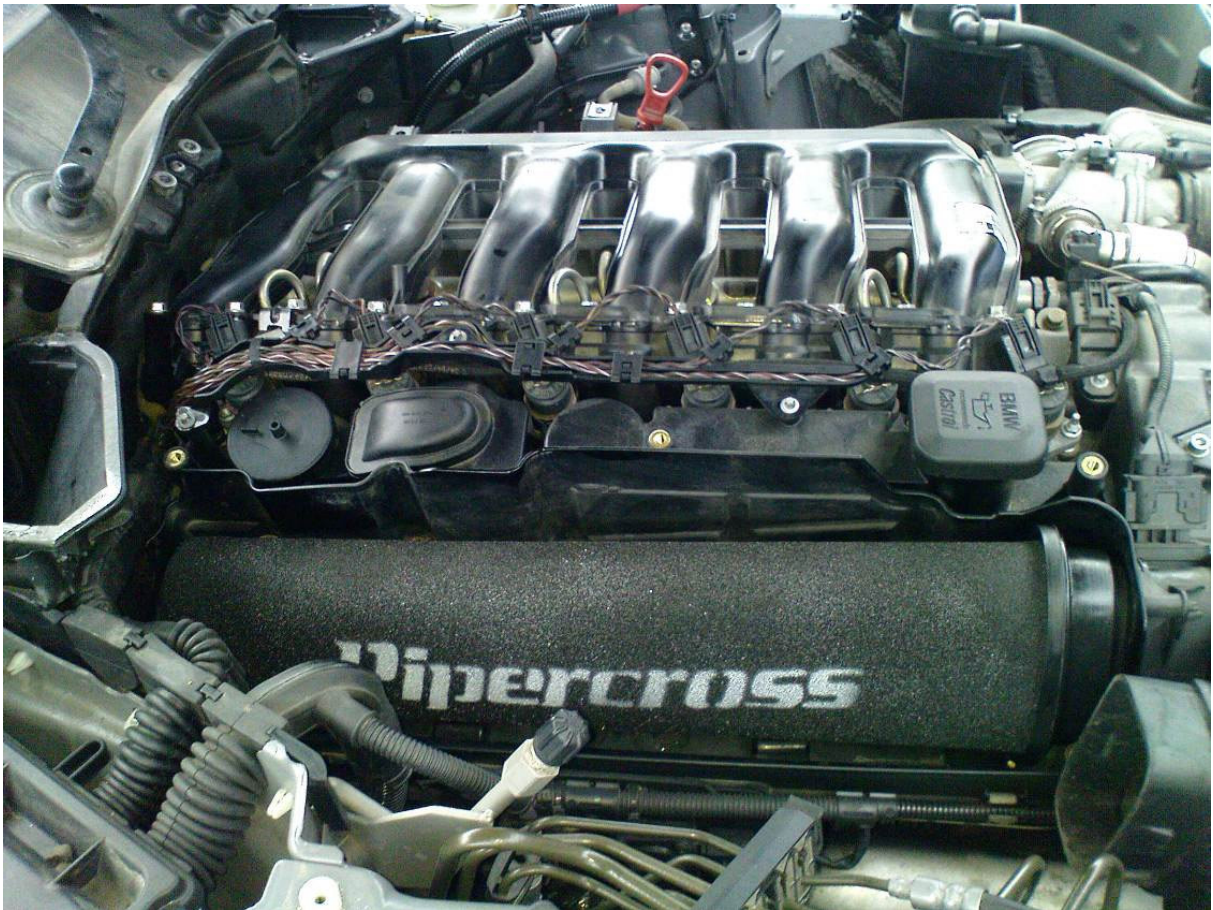
6. Remove the oil cap and lift off the filter cover. Put the oil cap back. Be amazed of the amount of debris you find inside the filter housing. Grab filter from the top side and lift it out.



Clean out leaves, bugs, cigarette butts and other stuff you may find.



7. Once everything is nice and clean. Put the new filter in. Reward yourself with a beer or other good beverage of choice. Reverse the procedure above.

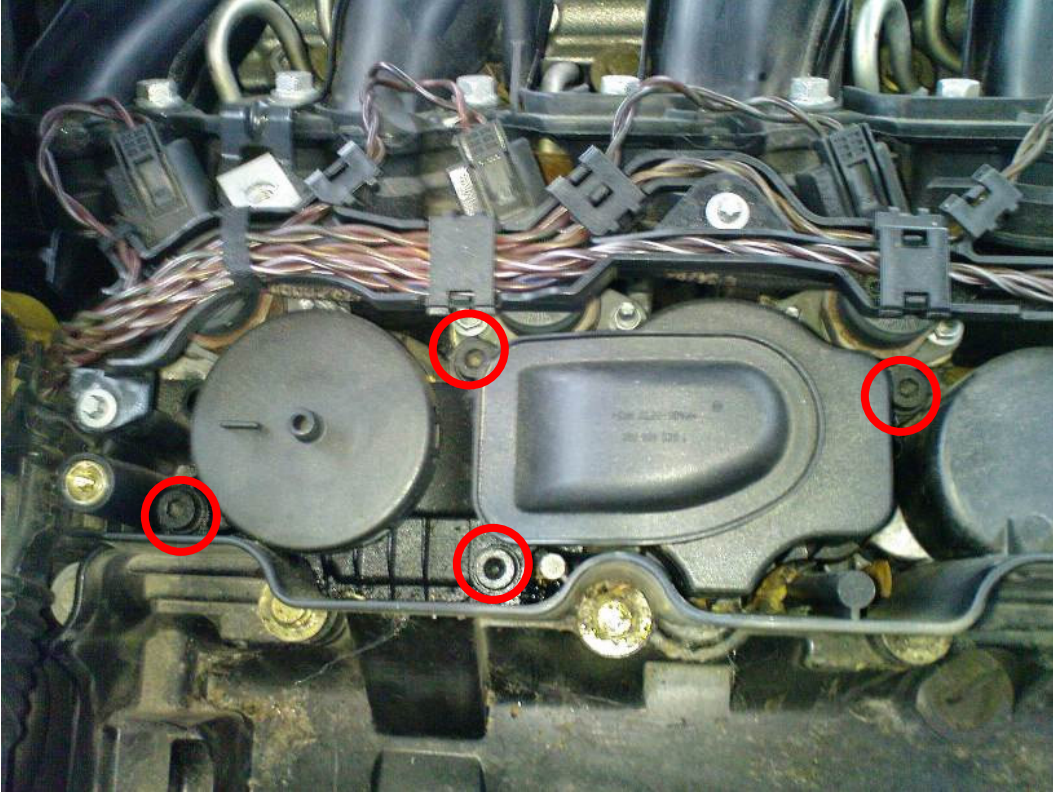


**Optional:** Once you removed all these parts you may want to have a look at some other parts, for example the engine breather filter. Early E60s came with a filter type similar to hair curlers in foam that could clog up fairly easy. That could in turn cause severe engine damage so it's advised to change it for a new plastic separator type filter. Procedure as follows:

1. Remove the cable duct on top of the intake. 3 x 5mm bolts.



2. Loosen the 4 allen screws on the breather filter.



Lift out the cover, note that a small amount of oil might come out. If your filter looks like the below pic you have the good one.



Should your filter look like the below on the other hand, you have the old type that should be changed. It's pressed in the cover so just pull it out. (pic courtesy of E60.net)





After concluding that I had the upgraded type, I cleaned it up and put everything back.