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[Pictorial DIY - E60 Trunk Electronics Relocate](#)



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## E60 (2004 - 2010)

BMW 5-Series (E60 chassis) was first seen in the Unites States in the fall of 2003 with a 2004 Model Year designation. The E60 is now available as a 528i, 528xi, 535i, 535xi, 550i and a 535xi sports wagon! --  
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05-06-2012, 05:09 PM

**dwlink**

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
 Location: Philadelphia

### Pictorial DIY - E60 Trunk Electronics Relocate

So today I finally decided to relocate the electronics in my trunk in the spare tire wheel well. Given that I have things I had to move were the micro power module (MPM) and a small, mint green relay.

For those of you who don't know much about the E60, the electronics located in the spare tire wheel well are v clogged sunroof drain, poor seal around the taillights (especially if you swap in aftermarket taillights), or even charge upwards of \$1000 to fix the electronics.

I had done a bit of research in the past about people replacing the electronics themselves. It seems that for at could replace all the electronics myself if I had to - however its much cheaper to just buy some adhesive backe

For this DIY you'll need a small flat head screw driver to pry some plastic covers off. A medium sized phillips s (uh?). Some adhesive backed velco to hold the electronic modules in their new resting places. Optionally, you' cut them with.



First, you'll need to open up the trunk. As you can see mine is quite cluttered...



Next, clear everything out in the center and latch the floor using the attached hook as shown.



Remove the spare tire by loosening the center wing nut and lifting it out. You may need to remove the spare tire. You should be able to see the wires running to the electronics in the spare wheel well. Note the direction of the arrow for reassembly.



Now, there are two insulating pieces remaining in which the electronics are located. Simply pull the top half off the electronics.

In my car, the MPM is located towards the top of the picture and relay is located towards the bottom. If you have options there may be more modules here.



Now, we need to loosen up the plastic interior trunk trim. It is not necessary to remove the entire piece of trim some wires.



There are two screws we need to loosen using a medium-sized phillips screwdriver. One in the center which is



I used a small flat head screwdriver to pry the cover off, but you may be able to get it out by hand if you have







The other screw is located near driver side cargo hook anchor.



Using the same small flat head screw driver, pry the plastic cap off to expose the screw itself. Note that this screw is for the passenger side. Do not worry about mixing them up. Note that picture shown is for passenger side screw. You do not need to remove the picture on this side.



Now with both the screws removed, we need to remove the interior trunk trim covering the tail light on the dri  
large plastic screws such as the one shown below.



Now rotate both of the screws (should be able to do this by hand) so that the slot is aligned vertically. Once th  
able to simply pull the plastic screw straight out.





After removing both plastic screws, place your hand in the small rectangular cutout near the bottom of the pie the piece of trim towards the center of the trunk. The trim should simply slide free at which point you can lift i



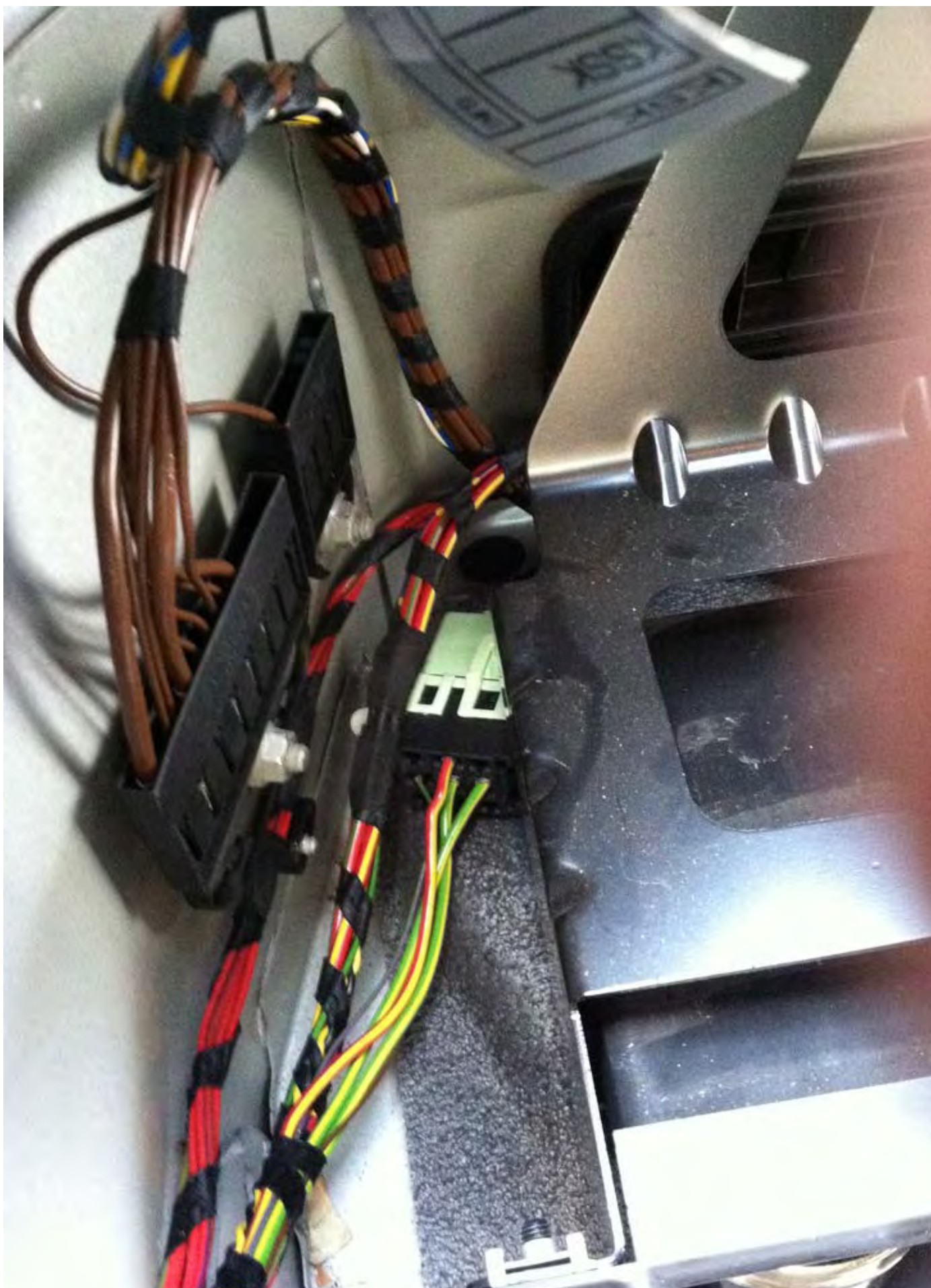
Now, there is another piece of insulation just to side of the spare wheel well which we need to remove. Simply up. The piece of insulation should come free and be able to easily be removed.



Next, remove the electronic modules from their current position and place them somewhere on the driver side. Gently pull forward on the plastic trim and route the bundle of cables over the cargo anchor and up to the other side. You can then replace the piece of insulation you removed in the step above.



Now just apply some adhesive backed velcro to the MPM and the relay and place them in the positions as show any issues with the electronics contacting the interior trunk trim. Also note that you just need to rotate the MP (I keep a tire pressure gauge in mine). You do not need to disconnect the MPM from the wire harness to route







At this point you can use a cable tie on the bundle of wires if you want to hold them together a little closer. He will already be somewhat taught and should not move much.

This might also be a good time to clean out the spare tire wheel well. Also seems like a great new place to put tailgating.





Now just put everything else back together and turn on the car to confirm everything works!


**2004 BMW 530i (his)** -Titanium Silver -Grey Dakota -Dark Poplar -Premium -Sport -Cold Weather -Xenons -  
-Sirius

**2010 Lexus RX350 AWD (hers)** -Smokey Granite Mica -Black -Premium -Comfort -Nav -Tow Prep -Premium



Last edited by dwlink; 05-06-2012 at 05:40 PM.

05-06-2012, 06:01 PM

#2 

**zolabmw** 

Registered User  
Location: Florida

Join Date: Sep 2010  
Posts: 32  
Mein auto: 2007 530xiT 6MT  
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**How different for an E61?**

This was really good - the problem is also present for E61 too - any comments on how similar the fix is?



05-06-2012, 10:18 PM

#3 

**burnie35** 

Old Timer (Really)  
Location: Central Florida

Join Date: Dec 2011  
Posts: 221  
Mein auto: 2009 BMW 535i Sport  
[View My Garage](#)


Well done! Thanks for taking the photos and posting for others to see. 

BMW CCA Member

2009 535i Sport, Jet Black | Cobb Stage 1 | BMS Drop-in Filter | BMS Led Angel Eyes | Michelin Pilot Sport A/S Plus (no runflats)  
2008 528i (Retired)  
2006 328ci (Retired)



05-07-2012, 07:26 AM

#4 

**dwlink** 

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: Philadelphia

Join Date: May 2007  
Posts: 1,076  
Mein auto: 530i  
[View My Garage](#)

Quote:

Originally Posted by **zolabmw**   
*This was really good - the problem is also present for E61 too - any comments on how similar the fix is?*

Can't really say how similar the fix would be as I'm not familiar with the trunk-area layout of things in the back of the E61. I'd suggest opening things up and having a look yourself. If you take pictures, I can look at them and give you my recommendations.

**2004 BMW 530i (his)** -Titanium Silver -Grey Dakota -Dark Poplar -Premium -Sport -Cold Weather  
-Xenons -Heated Rear Seats -Active Steering -Logic 7 -Sirius  
**2010 Lexus RX350 AWD (hers)** -Smokey Granite Mica -Black -Premium -Comfort -Nav -Tow Prep  
-Premium Sound -Wood Steering Wheel/Shifter





05-07-2012, 10:16 AM

#5



**txag\_530i**

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: Houston, TX

Join Date: Dec 2008  
Posts: 284  
Mein auto: 2006 530i  
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Quote:

Originally Posted by **burnie35**   
*well done! Thanks for taking the photos and posting for others to see.*

+1



05-07-2012, 12:00 PM

#6

**sonijp**

Registered User  
Location: NYC

Join Date: Feb 2012  
Posts: 1  
Mein auto: 2008 BMW 535i  
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thanks!



05-07-2012, 01:17 PM

#7

**redhotdave**

Registered User  
Location: Lake Wylie SC

Join Date: Feb 2012  
Posts: 40  
Mein auto: 2008 535i  
[View My Garage](#)

Quote:

Originally Posted by **txag\_530i**   
+1

another +1!!!!!!!



05-07-2012, 07:11 PM

#8

**mgokool**

Registered User  
Location: Brentwood, NY

Join Date: Jul 2008  
Posts: 55  
  
Mein auto: 2004 545i  
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thank you for this writeup!



05-07-2012, 09:34 PM

#9

**Damon54**

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: Dallas

Join Date: Apr 2011  
Posts: 175  
Mein auto: 545  
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Nicely done & thank you Sir!



#10

05-08-2012, 09:49 PM

**karlallen90**

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: clarksville, tn

Join Date: Apr 2012  
Posts: 104  
Mein auto: BMW 525i  
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Just a quick question. What did you move and why? Whats the benefit? I'm new to the BMW world and just kind of curious.



2004 525i



#11

05-09-2012, 12:06 AM

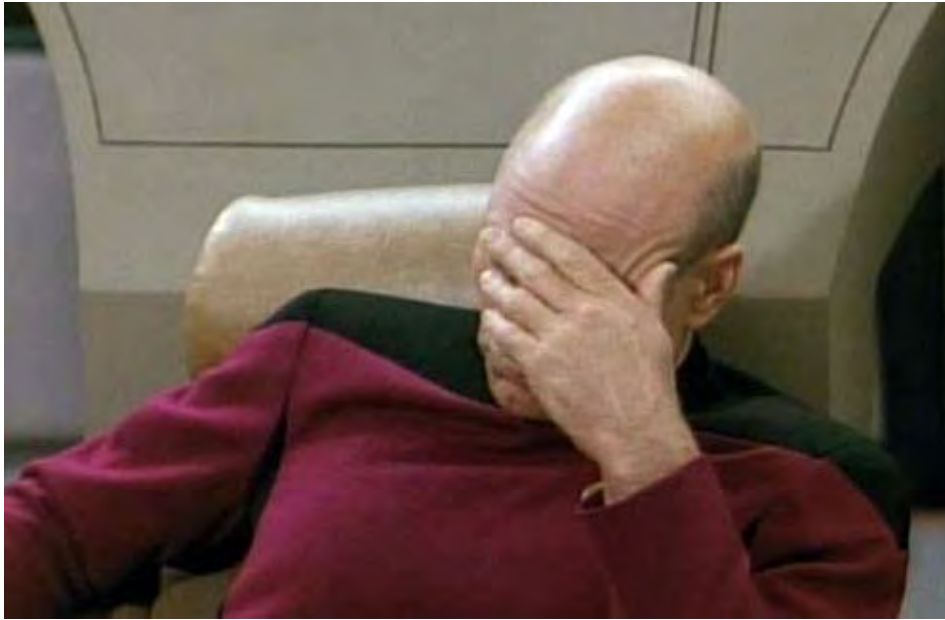
**dwlink**

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: Philadelphia

Join Date: May 2007  
Posts: 1,076  
Mein auto: 530i  
[View My Garage](#)

Quote:

Originally Posted by **karlallen90**   
*Just a quick question. What did you move and why? Whats the benefit? I'm new to the BMW world and just kind of curious.*



Did you even read the first 2 paragraphs of my post?

**2004 BMW 530i (his)** -Titanium Silver -Grey Dakota -Dark Poplar -Premium -Sport -Cold Weather  
-Xenons -Heated Rear Seats -Active Steering -Logic 7 -Sirius  
**2010 Lexus RX350 AWD (hers)** -Smokey Granite Mica -Black -Premium -Comfort -Nav -Tow Prep  
-Premium Sound -Wood Steering Wheel/Shifter



05-09-2012, 12:32 AM

**karlallen90**

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: clarksville, tn

#12

Join Date: Apr 2012  
Posts: 104  
Mein auto: BMW 525i  
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I apologize, when my computer loaded the page it took me straight to the pics, I didn't scroll up all the way, just to the first pic.



2004 525i



05-28-2012, 05:18 PM

#13

**redhotdave**   
 Registered User  
 Location: Lake Wylie SC

Join Date: Feb 2012  
 Posts: 40  
 Mein auto: 2008 535i  
[View My Garage](#)

I did this mod today, and thanks a TON for posting this as it helped ALOT!!!!!!! Thanks!



10-12-2012, 11:57 AM

#14

**lucasszy**   
 Registered User  
 Location: San jose CA

Join Date: Oct 2012  
 Posts: 19  
 Mein auto: 2005 530i 6MT  
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Doing this this coming weekend, since it started raining here in NorCal. Could you also post the part numbers for the drivers side trunk trim with the cubby hole and storage bin on the side. Mine has a flat liner, and I'd love to have the cubby and plastic oddments tray.

Great find here!



10-12-2012, 11:59 AM

#15

**ronmexico**   
 Registered User  
 Location: SATX

Join Date: Feb 2012  
 Posts: 14  
 Mein auto: 550i  
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I paid my shop ~\$100 to do this for me....

Wish this thread was around 9months ago.

Great work!



10-12-2012, 03:21 PM

#16

**dwlink**

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: Philadelphia

Join Date: May 2007  
Posts: 1,076  
Mein auto: 530i  
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Quote:

Originally Posted by **lucasszy**

*Doing this this coming weekend, since it started raining here in NorCal. Could you also post the part numbers for the drivers side trunk trim with the cubby hole and storage bin on the side. Mine has a flat liner, and I'd love to have the cubby and plastic oddments tray.*

*Great find here!*

Mine is actually the old-style driver side trunk liner for the E60s. At some point BMW decided it would be better to put **some** of the electronics on the side of the trunk so they redesigned that side of the trunk liner to be less functional in exchange for the additional space for electronics.

See part 10: [http://bmwfans.info/parts/catalog/E60/Sedan/USA/530i-M54/LHD/N/2003/november/browse/vehicle\\_trim/trunk\\_trim\\_panel/](http://bmwfans.info/parts/catalog/E60/Sedan/USA/530i-M54/LHD/N/2003/november/browse/vehicle_trim/trunk_trim_panel/)

(you'll have to remove the space above between "info" and "/parts" or else the link gets blocked)

I believe any of the trims with the "oddment tray" will do. I have logic 7 so I'm guessing the part number for the trim panel in my car is 51 47 7 122 193.

**2004 BMW 530i (his)** -Titanium Silver -Grey Dakota -Dark Poplar -Premium -Sport -Cold Weather -Xenons -Heated Rear Seats -Active Steering -Logic 7 -Sirius

**2010 Lexus RX350 AWD (hers)** -Smokey Granite Mica -Black -Premium -Comfort -Nav -Tow Prep -Premium Sound -Wood Steering Wheel/Shifter



Last edited by dwlink; 10-12-2012 at 03:24 PM.



10-12-2012, 04:24 PM

#17

**Damon54**

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: Dallas

Join Date: Apr 2011  
Posts: 175  
Mein auto: 545  
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I thought the recall was all about moving this device & took care of the issue?

Not at all addressed by recall procedure. My mechanic was quite incorrect here.

Last edited by Damon54; 10-15-2012 at 11:55 PM.



10-15-2012, 12:00 PM

#18 

### **Locomotive**

Registered User  
Location: Clarksville, TN


Join Date: Jul 2011  
Posts: 91  
Mein auto: 08 BMW 535xi Monaco blue  
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Thanks! I'm amazed that's all that's down there. Great pictorial. I will hop on this one today.

08 535xi Monaco blue (mine)  
08 535xi Grey (hers)



10-15-2012, 03:23 PM

#19 

### **lucasszy**


Registered User  
Location: San jose CA

Join Date: Oct 2012  
Posts: 19  
Mein auto: 2005 530i 6MT  
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Did mine this weekend. Took about 15 minutes, and 5 of those was looking for a panel clip that flew out and I had to find. Easy peasy!



10-15-2012, 09:08 PM

#20 



**booyaazaa**   
Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: East Bay, CA

Join Date: May 2012  
Posts: 261  
Mein auto: '09 AW 535i  
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Nice job. 




2009 AW 535i  
-Sport, Premium Package, and Comfort Access

-20" Forgestar F14 Black Gloss, Remus Sport Exhaust, BMS DCI, RPI Scoop, Full Front 3M PPF, 35% tint all-around, Lux H8 V3 AE, LED interior lights, WeissLight License Plate LED, Trinity Smoked LED side markers, Bimmian Smoked Reflectors, Matte black grills, and Invisibulb turn bulbs.



10-15-2012, 10:38 PM

#21 

### **ArtchredTTU**

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: texas

Join Date: Dec 2010  
Posts: 388  
Mein auto: 550i  
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10-15-2012, 10:39 PM

### ArtchredTTU

Officially Welcomed to the 'Fest  
Location: texas

#22

Join Date: Dec 2010  
Posts: 388  
Mein auto: 550i  
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why didn't bmw do this in the first place..... #mindblown



10-27-2012, 11:38 AM

### Dishoom

Registered User  
Location: Florida

Join Da  
Posts:  
Mein au  
[View M](#)

Great write-up! I found it really useful in moving my modules this weekend. In my case, I had a couple of more moves. However, after relocating everything, I started to wonder if moving things on the side of the trunk, near the lights and just under the trunk surround is actually better than where it was located. It just seems more exposed and water can get into the sides of the trunk as well?

Given that the factory location is sandwiched between two layers of insulation, does water really get in there? There would have to be at least 3-4 inches of water before it would seep in between the gap of the two foam panels.

Here's what mine looked like before moving things. Sorry, didn't take pics of my relocated components.



2008 BMW 550i M-sport, 6sp SAT, Jet Black/Black Dakota leather, prem, nav

Mods: matte black grilles, 18% tint, GP Thunder 8000k AE, Nanoshield paint protection film, 15mm TMS space

*Last edited by Dishoom; 10-27-2012 at 11:40 AM.*



12-21-2012, 03:49 PM

**boost7**

Registered User  
Location: San Jose

#24



Join Date: Sep 2008  
Posts: 46  
Mein auto: 05 545  
[View My Garage](#)

sweet....more diy things for me to tackle while on winter break. Thanks dwlink



Today, 12:27 PM

**WMitty**

Registered User  
Location: Ireland

#25



Join Date: Jan 2011  
Posts: 1  
Mein auto: 523i

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**Wheel well only takes low profiles**

To say 'Thank You Dwlink 🙌' sounds inadequate so I'm going to add my story which builds on his work and may help someone else.

My car is;  
E60 N52 523  
Year 2005  
RHD  
Petrol

The car has RFTs which I want to replace with ordinary tyres. However this generates the need for a spare. I'm not keen on the spacesaver so I followed Dwlink's excellent tutorial and created some space. I tried to fit an ordinary 17" wheel (225/50 17). Unfortunately as the circumference of the opening at the top of the wheel well is greater than at the bottom, the wheel sits proud of the boot floor, which I don't like/want.

So we tried a low profile tyre which worked 😊. I decided not to go for a full set of low profiles so I'm back to the space saver 🙄

Botton line: This will work, and thanks to Dwlink is very easy to do but will only work fully if you are going to use low profile tyres.

I was very surprised by the amount of extra space which can be claimed by following this very simple process. I just have to think up stuff to fill it with



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[Bimmerfest - BMW Forums](#) > [BMW Model Discussions](#) > [5 Series](#) > [E60 \(2004 - 2010\)](#)  
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-- Bimmerfest 2009

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