

slope; apply the handbrake, to avoid causing the gearbox to overheat. ◀

### Starting assistance

The starting assistance enables you to drive off smoothly on uphill gradients. It is not necessary to use the handbrake for this.

1. Hold the car in place by pressing the footbrake.
2. Release the footbrake and drive off without delay.

⚠ The starting assistance holds the car for about 2 seconds after the footbrake has been released. Depending on the car's load or if a trailer is being towed, it could roll back slightly during this period. After releasing the footbrake, move off swiftly straight away, as the starting assistance will no longer hold the car after about 2 seconds and it will start to roll back. ◀

### Safe braking

Your BMW is equipped with ABS as standard. Where a situation requires you to apply the brakes hard, you are advised to do so. Since the car remains steerable, you can avoid obstacles by turning the steering wheel as smoothly as possible.

The pulsating sensation at the brake pedal, combined with the sound of the hydraulic system operating, indicates that ABS is intervening.

### Wet roads

In wet conditions or heavy rain, apply the brakes briefly with slight pedal pressure every few kilometres or miles. When doing so, make sure that no other road user is endangered. The resulting heat dries the brake discs and pads. The braking force will then be available immediately if needed.

### Downhill gradients

⚠ To avoid impairing the efficiency of the brake system as a result of overheating, drive down long or steep descents in the gear that allows you to keep brake applications to a minimum. Otherwise even slight continuous

pressure on the brake could cause overheating, brake pad wear or even brake system failure. ◀

Engine braking action can be further improved by downshifting – if necessary to first gear. This will avoid overloading the brake. Downshifting in manual mode with the automatic transmission, see page 63.

⚠ Never drive with the clutch held down, with the transmission in neutral or with the engine switched off; engine braking action will not be present, or there will be no power assistance to the brakes or steering. Make sure that pedal functions are not impaired by floor mats, carpets or other objects. ◀

### Corrosion of brake discs

If the car is used only for short distances, is not used for lengthy periods or is subjected to only minor loads, the brake discs will be particularly susceptible to corrosion and the brake pads will collect dirt; this is because the necessary brake pressure for a self-cleaning effect has not been generated.

When the brakes are applied, corroded discs tend to judder, and even lengthy brake applications usually fail to eliminate this effect entirely.

### When car is parked

Moisture condensate forms in the automatic air conditioning and is discharged underneath the car. Traces of water on the ground are therefore normal.

### Before entering a car wash

Fold in the outside mirrors, see page 50, as they could otherwise sustain damage due to the car's width.

Useful hints on care of your BMW are provided in the booklet Looking after your car.

### Rear window wiper\*

Rear window wipers can sustain damage in car washes. If necessary, please ask the operator of the car wash about appropriate protection measures.

### With comfort access and automatic transmission

Insert the remote control into the ignition lock. The engine can be switched off with the selector lever in position N. See also page 38.

### Rule of the road

When entering countries where the traffic drives on the opposite side of the road to the country in which your car is registered, certain measures are necessary to avoid dazzling the drivers of oncoming vehicles.

### Halogen lights

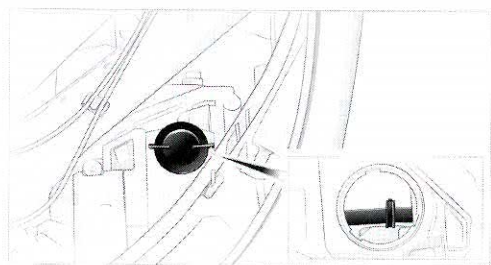
BMW Service is able to supply masking film. Note the instructions enclosed with the film when applying.

### Xenon headlights\*

⚠ Do not make adjustments while the headlights are still hot, otherwise there is a risk of burns. ◀

If you are not familiar with this type of operation, please contact BMW Service or a workshop that operates to BMW specifications and has suitably trained personnel.

1. Switch off the light and remove the remote control from the ignition lock.
2. In the engine compartment, turn the stoppers on the headlights anti-clockwise and remove.

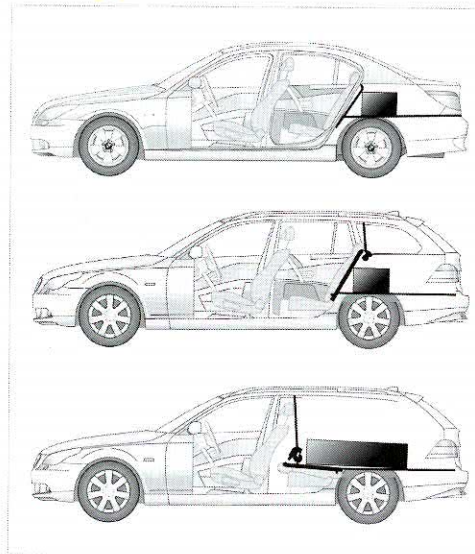


3. Driving on left: push each lever towards the middle of the car.  
Driving on right: push each lever towards the outer edge of the car.

### Loads

⚠ Avoid overloading the car, as this could cause the tyres' load capacity limit to be exceeded. The tyres could then overheat and sustain internal damage. This could lead to sudden pressure loss. ◀

### Loading



- ▷ Position heavy objects low down and as far forward as possible, ideally directly behind the rear seat back.
- ▷ Wrap protective material round sharp corners and edges.
- ▷ When carrying very heavy loads with no passengers on the back seat, insert each of the outer seat belts into their opposite buckles.
- ▷ Do not stack items higher than the top edge of the seat backs.
- ▷ Touring:  
Use the partition net to protect passengers, see page 118. Make sure that objects cannot poke through the partition net. Place protective material around sharp-edged or pointed objects which could strike the rear window while the car is on the move.