

Management Gestion	Service / reception Réception / service	Service / workshop Atelier / service	Service / warranty Garantie / service	Parts and Accessories Pièces et accessoires	Sales Ventes
For use within the BMW Organization only SIB.DOT		Group: 34 SI Bulletin # 34 90 98		BMW Canada Inc. Quality and Service Engineering	Date: April, 08 Page: 1 of 2

# BMW Service information

## Brakes

## Brake squeal

### All models

The following information is intended to provide accurate information regarding brake squeal conditions. Please use this information when discussing this matter with BMW owners.

The design of BMW brake systems utilize friction materials developed to meet a diverse array of stringent requirements and to provide an unsurpassed level of performance under a wide range of operating conditions. BMW's braking systems are consistently rated among the best of the world's car manufacturers, by many well respected automotive publications, including Auto Motor und Sport, Road and Track, Car and Driver among others. Brake performance testing typically includes stopping distances from 100 km/h to 0, fade resistance and pedal effort, BMW models always score very high marks in tests relative to their competitive market segment.

The chemical structure of every brake pad changes with wear and temperature. The brake pads used by BMW are designed to keep high chemical stability under extreme temperatures. Deceleration from lower speeds, as in the conditions of city driving, do not allow semi metallic brake pads to reach an operating temperature which dissipates the resins used in production. When a car is mainly used in city traffic, the pads can become locally work-hardened and glazed, which may set up vibrations which are heard as a squealing noise. In no way does it impair the operation of the braking system or performance. Brake squeal is an inherent condition in the design of all brake systems currently offered to the public by automotive manufacturers.

With todays available brake components the design of the braking system must be a compromise between deceleration behavior, wear and comfort. It is a BMW philosophy to design brake systems that do not compromise safety or performance.

The actual amount of brake wear, and subsequent brake dust, are primarily determined by the type and style of driving. Driving mostly in cities with stop and go traffic causes considerably more wear relative to mileage than highway driving does.

BMW Canada Inc. does not recommend substitution of other brands of brake pads for the original equipment pads to address a brake noise concern.

**Fix it right the first time is our ultimate goal.**

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The continuous testing of new materials is ongoing and we assure you that BMW will select only those materials that fulfill our rigid criteria for optimum safety and performance.

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