



LeatherZ Z3/M Coupe Extended Leather Hatch Trim

<u>Do-It-Yourself Contents</u>	<u>Tools Required</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cotton Badding (Qty: 2)• Leather (Qty: 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Phillips Head Screw Driver

Removing the Hatch Trim

Open the hatch of your Coupe. On the inside of the trim piece, there is a recess/handle for closing the hatch. Inside the recess are two Phillips Head Screws. Remove these two screws and set them aside. On some coupes, there are plastic screw covers on top of the screw heads. If your car has them, you can remove the caps with needle nose pliers and then remove the screws. With the screws removed, you can remove the hatch trim. The trim is held in place with nine upholstery clips that will 'pop out' off of the rear hatch. The hatch trim should now be removed. **If you chose the Do-It-Yourself Kit, continue. If you had LeatherZ install the leather panel, skip down to the section on Reinstalling the Hatch Trim**

Do-It-Yourself Instructions

With the hatch trim removed, you can move inside to a table or workbench. You will want to lay down a blanket or towel on the work surface to protect the finish side of the trim. On the backside of the hatch trim, there are 15 Phillips Head Screws holding the carpet piece in place. Remove these screws. Figure 1 shows the location of the screws.



Figure 1

Once you have removed the screws, remove the carpeted section of the hatch trim. With the carpet removed, you will notice that each of the screws went into a 'stalk'. Lay the piece of leather in the trim, the leather has holes corresponding to each of the 'stalks'. You will need to slide the leather over each of the stalks. Take care not to break a 'stalk' even if some force is necessary to install the leather (it is normal to have to stretch the leather a little). Figure 2 shows the leather in place.



Figure 2.

With the leather in place, lay the cotton batting on top. You will want to avoid covering the 'stalks' with the cotton. We include 2 pieces of the batting so you can have the leather with less or more puffiness depending on which you prefer. We suggest you install with both variations (piece of cotton and again with 2 pieces) and decide which look you prefer. We use 2 pieces of batting on each of our cars. Figure 3 shows the cotton in place.



Figure 3.

With the leather and cotton in place, reinstall the carpeted section. When you reinstall the 15 screws, **do not over-torque them**. If you tighten the screws too much, you will the trim in, causing dimples in the plastic. If this happens, simply loosen the screws until you can no longer see the dimples. The screw heads only need to be snug up against the carpeted panel to keep it from rattling. This is not a structural connection.

With the 15 screws in place, make sure you are happy with the amount of padding you used. If you want to change it to the other thickness, now is the time to do it.

Reinstalling the Hatch Trim

Installation is the reverse of removal. Carefully line up the nine upholstery clips and push the trim against the hatch. You should keep one hand on the outside of the hatch and push your hands together, this will eliminate any stress to the hatch hinges. If you broke any of the fasteners, you will want to replace them or you may get a squeak/rattle. The BMW part number for the fastener is 51 41 1 973 500 and should be around \$0.10 each. Your local BMW dealer should have plenty of them in stock as it is a common part. With the trim back in place, reinstall the 2 Phillips Head screws in the recess for the handle.

Care Instructions

The most important factor that affects the life of leather is cleanliness. You should try to keep your LeatherZ Armrest (and all of your factory leather) as clean as possible. At least once per month, you should wipe the leather with a damp cloth and pat it dry with a soft cotton diaper. Tiny dirt particles rubbed into the surface of the leather will make it shiny and eventually thin the leather and cause cracks. Keeping the leather surface clean will prevent this. Every 6 months, you should treat the leather with Spinneybeck Leather Cleaner and Conditioner. The Spinneybeck leather maintenance products were specifically designed for the leather we use. We sell the Spinneybeck kit online, or you can buy it directly from Spinneybeck by calling (800) 482-7777. We also recommend Connolly Hide Food for cleaning and conditioning leather. We will not warranty any item that has been treated with any product other than these two products.

Customer Satisfaction

If you like my work, please drop me a line and let me know. Tell other Z3 and M owners. If you are not happy with my work, let me know. Let me make it right for you. -- Andy Maddux