



Quick Reference Guide
for the vehicle



The Ultimate
Driving Machine®

THE BMW X3.

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE.

BMW EfficientDynamics
Less emissions. More driving pleasure.

Contents

Your BMW X3 at a glance

Welcome on board

Your BMW X3 offers a wide range of equipment to make driving an enjoyable experience.

This Quick Reference Guide contains only the most important information to enable you to become familiar with the basic functions of your BMW X3.

For your own safety and the safety of others, please read the printed Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

Any updates made after the editorial deadline for the Owner's Manuals are located in the appendix of this Quick Reference Guide.

BMW hopes you get off to a good start and that you enjoy your BMW X3.

Figures and descriptions contain country-specific items and special equipment.

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4 Opening and closing

Remote control



Opening

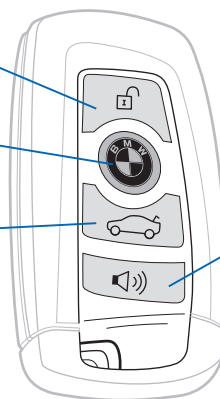
Unlocks the vehicle.

Closing

Locks the vehicle.

Opening the tailgate

Press and hold.



Convenient opening

Press and hold the Open button to open the side windows and the glass sunroof after unlocking.

Switching on the headlamp courtesy delay feature

Press briefly.

Panic mode

Press the button for at least 3 seconds to set off the alarm system.
Switch off by pressing any button.

Personal Profile

Some of the vehicle's functions can be adjusted to individual requirements and stored for a maximum of three remote controls. Different settings are retrieved and implemented in the vehicle, depending on the remote control that is detected when unlocking the vehicle. The personal settings can be taken to another vehicle with the Personal Profile function.

The joy of driving without a remote control

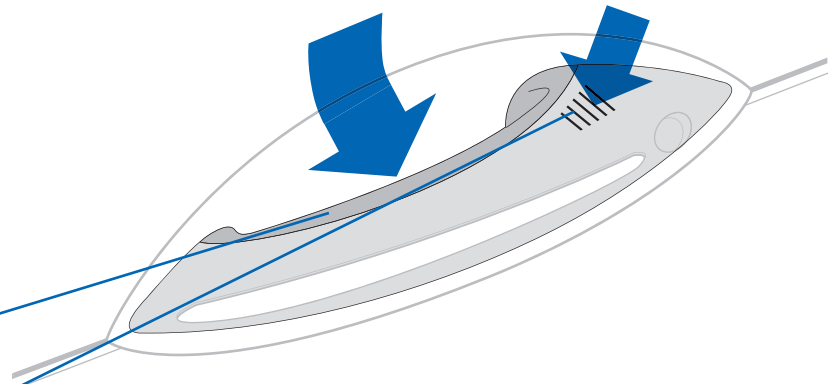
The Comfort Access system allows you to gain access to the vehicle and start the engine without pressing the remote control. The remote control is automatically detected in the immediate vicinity or inside the vehicle.

Opening

Take a firm hold of the door handle.

Closing

Press the panel with your fingers for approx. 1 second.



6 Seat, mirrors, and steering wheel

Electrically adjustable seat

Memory button

Memory buttons

Backrest tilt

Forward/back, height, seat tilt

Lumbar support

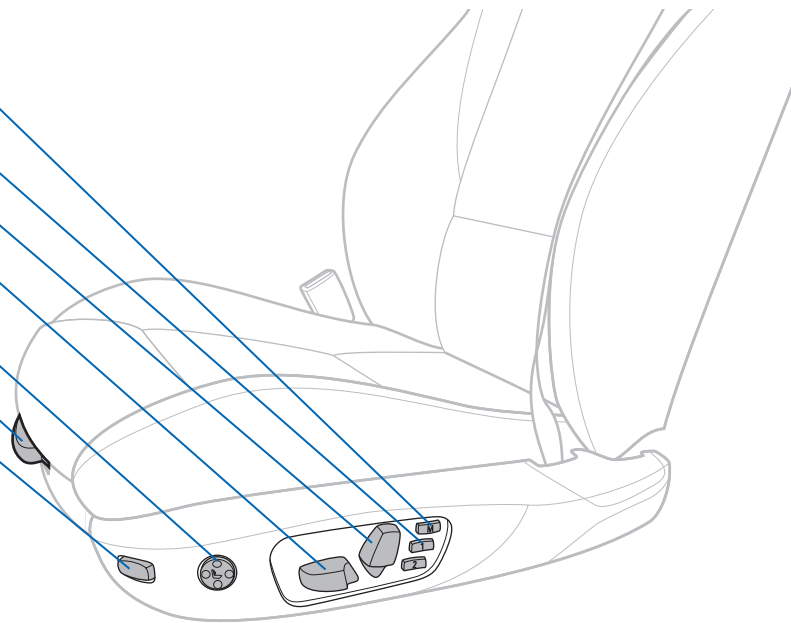
Thigh support

Backrest width

Seat and mirror memory

You can store and retrieve 2 different driver's seat and exterior mirror positions per remote control. The backrest width and lumbar support settings are not stored.

1. Ignition on.
2. Adjust the seat and mirrors.
3. Press the memory button; the LED lights up.
4. Press memory button 1 or 2.



Seat, mirrors, and steering wheel 7

Manually adjustable seat

Backrest tilt

Height

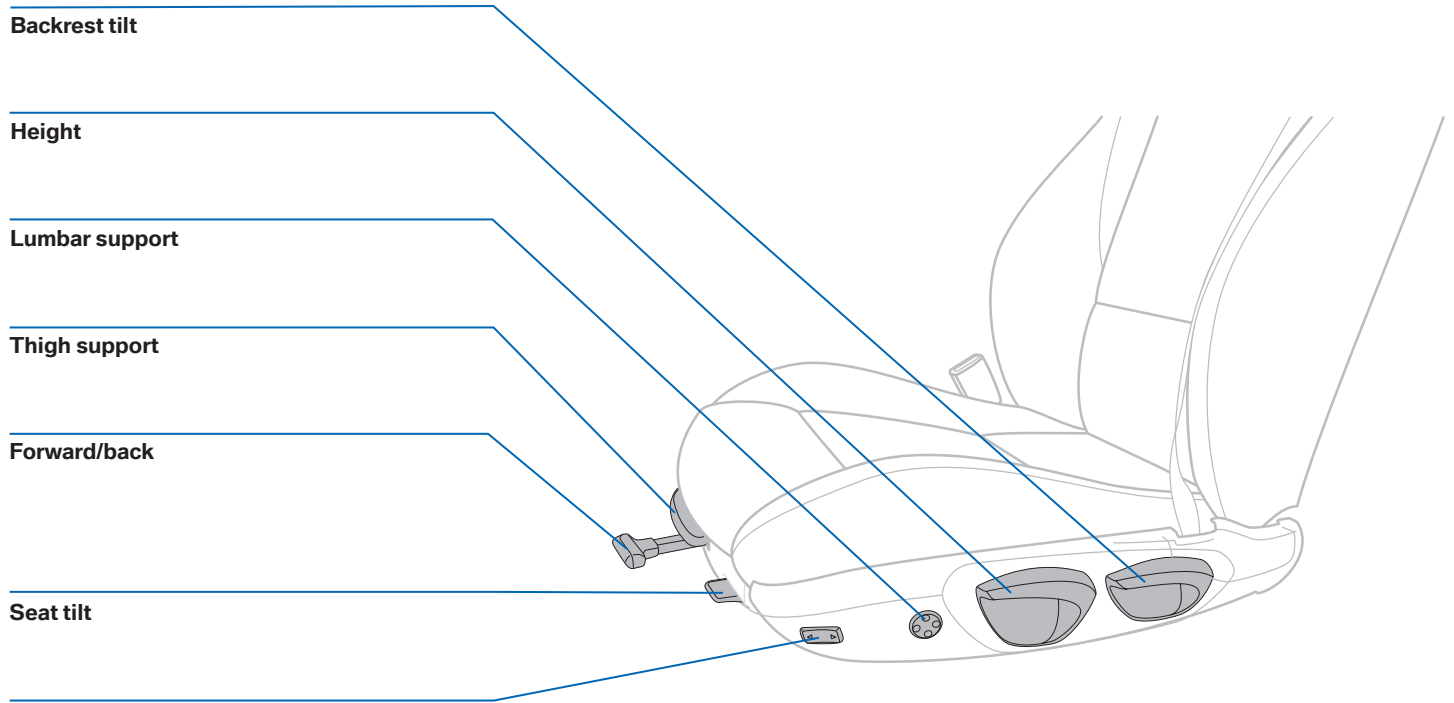
Lumbar support

Thigh support

Forward/back

Seat tilt

Backrest width



8 Seat, mirrors, and steering wheel

Mirrors

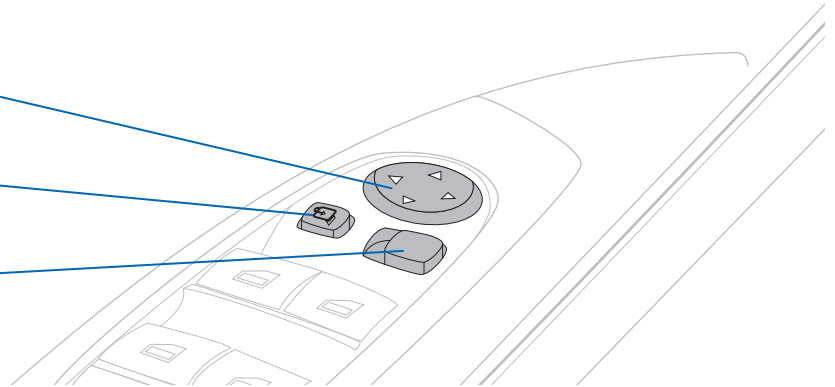
Mirror adjustment

Folding the mirrors in and out

Mirror left/right, Automatic Curb Monitor

To select the mirror: left/right

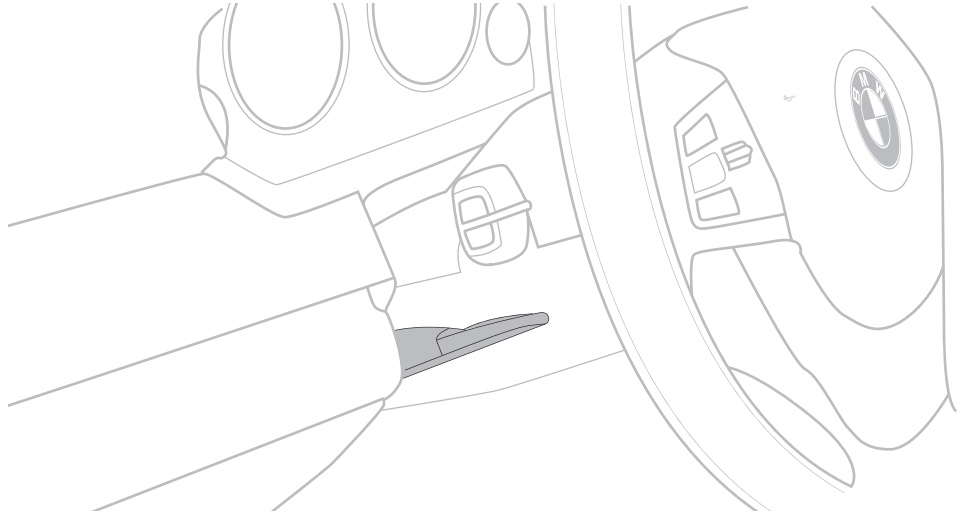
Automatic Curb Monitor on: switch set to driver's side mirror.



Steering wheel

Adjusting the steering wheel

1. Move the lever down.
2. Adjust the steering wheel to the seating position in longitudinal direction and height.
3. Move the lever back up.



10 Seat, mirrors, and steering wheel

Universal Garage Door Opener

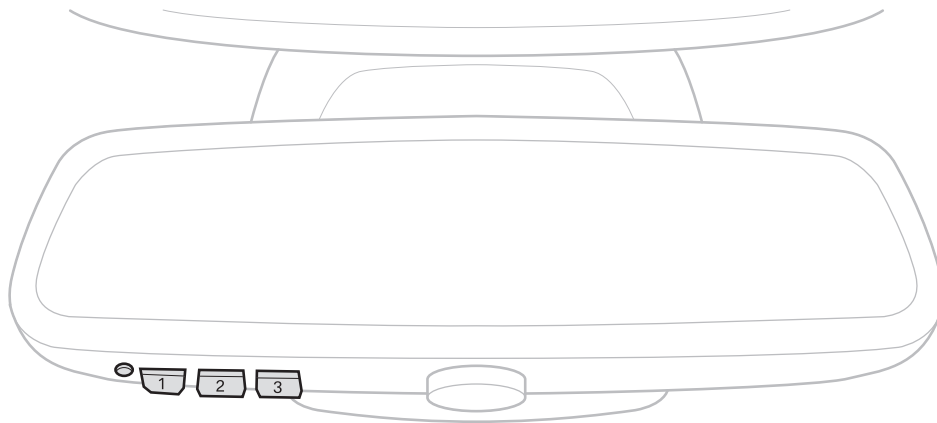
Programming

1. Switch on the ignition.
2. Press the two outer memory buttons 1 and 3 for approx. 20 seconds until the LED flashes.
3. Hold the hand-held transmitter 1 to 3 in/2.5 to 8 cm away from the memory buttons.
4. Simultaneously press the transmit button of the hand-held transmitter and the memory button of the integrated universal remote control – the LED flashes slowly.
5. Release both buttons when the LED flashes rapidly.

With alternating-code radio systems

The Universal Garage Door Opener and the device may need to be synchronized.

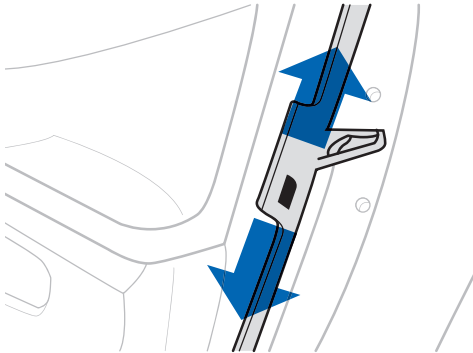
1. Park the vehicle within range of the remote-controlled device.
2. Program the Universal Garage Door Opener as described above.
3. Press the button on the receiver of the device being set up. You have approx. 30 seconds for the next step.
4. Press the programmed memory button of the integrated universal remote control for approx. 3 seconds. Repeat this step up to three times if necessary.



Note the additional information contained in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

Locking doors and windows for the rear

Push the locking lever on the rear doors down. The door can now be opened from the outside only.



Child restraint systems

To mount and use the LATCH child restraint fixing systems, observe the operating and safety information from the system manufacturer; otherwise, the level of protection may be reduced.

LATCH child restraint fixing system

Before installing LATCH child restraint systems, pull the belt away from the region of the child restraint system.

Make sure that both lower LATCH anchors have properly engaged and that the child restraint system is resting snugly against the backrest.

Firmly press the installation guide into the gap between the seat upholstery and backrest. Continue to press until the two funnel-shaped guides snap into place in the LATCH support brackets. The installation guide can be removed simply by pulling.



Safety switch for the rear

Press the button on the driver's door if children are being transported in the rear.

This locks various functions so that they cannot be operated from the rear.

Refer to the following section in the Owner's Manual: Transporting children safely.

2 Displays and controls

Around the steering wheel

Activating turn signals

Push the lever up or down beyond the resistance point.

Canceling turn signals

Push the lever as far as the pressure point.

Brief signaling/triple turn signal activation

Push the lever up or down to the pressure point.

High beams

Push the lever forward.

Computer

Press the upper button on the lever.

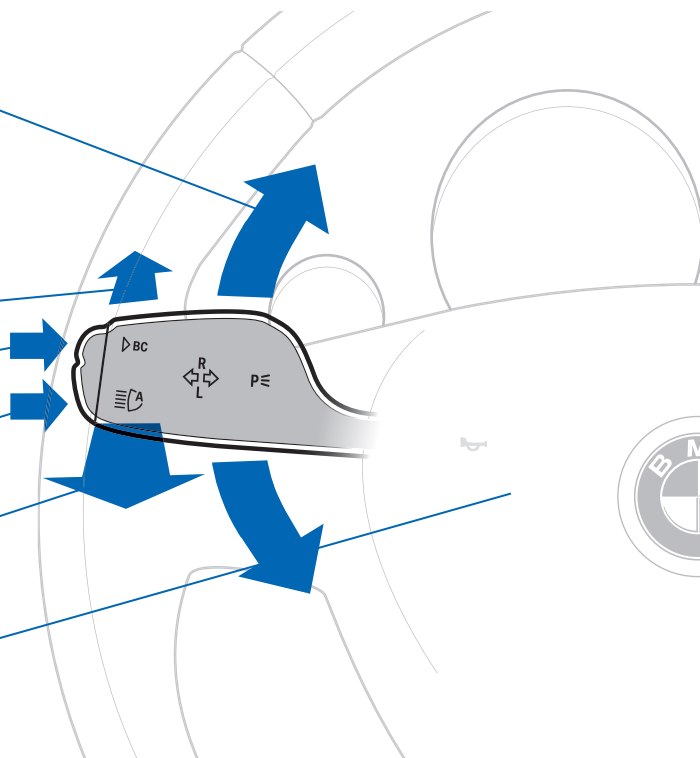
High-beam Assistant

Press the lower button on the lever.

Headlamp flasher

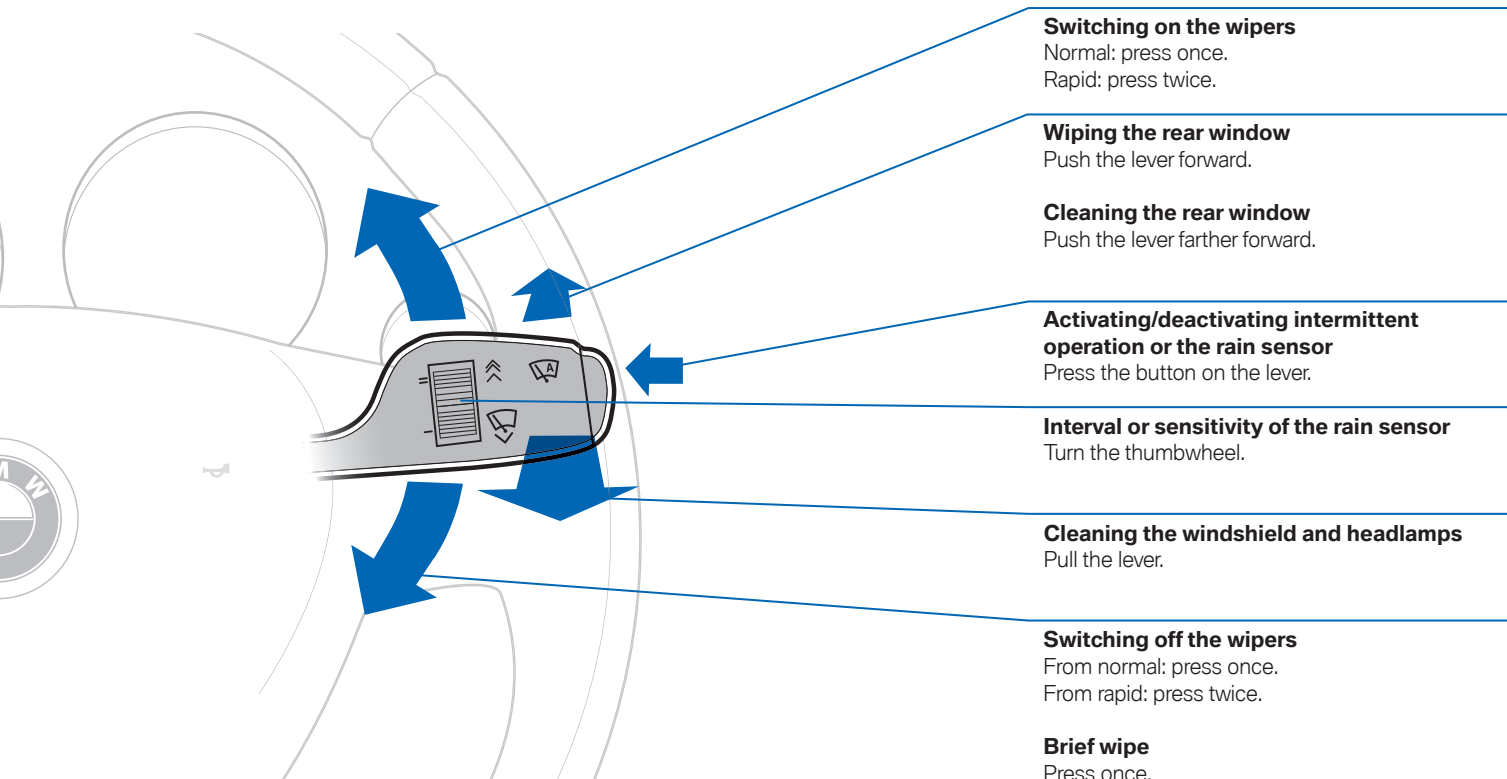
Pull the lever.

Horn



Displays and controls 13

Around the steering wheel



14 Displays and controls

Around the center console

Control Display

Hazard warning flashers

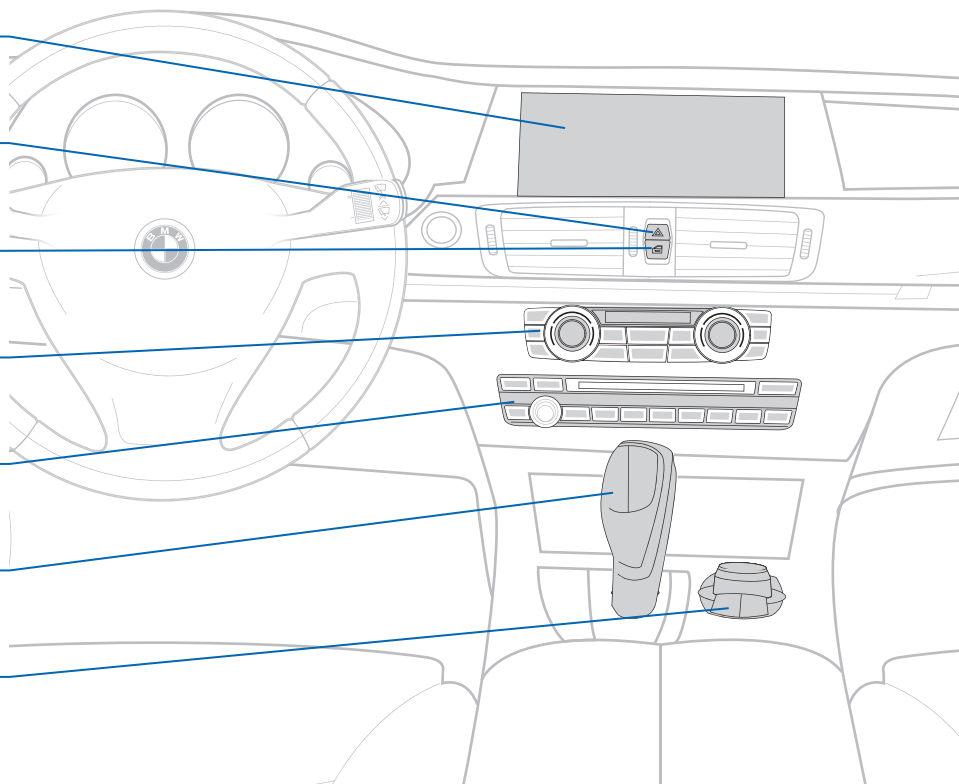
Central locking

Automatic climate control

Entertainment

Selector lever

Controller with buttons



Displays and controls 15

Automatic climate control



16 Displays and controls

Automatic climate control with enhanced functions

Changing the direction of the air flow

Opening and closing the air vents

Air volume
AUTO intensity

AUTO program

Air distribution, windshield,
and side windows

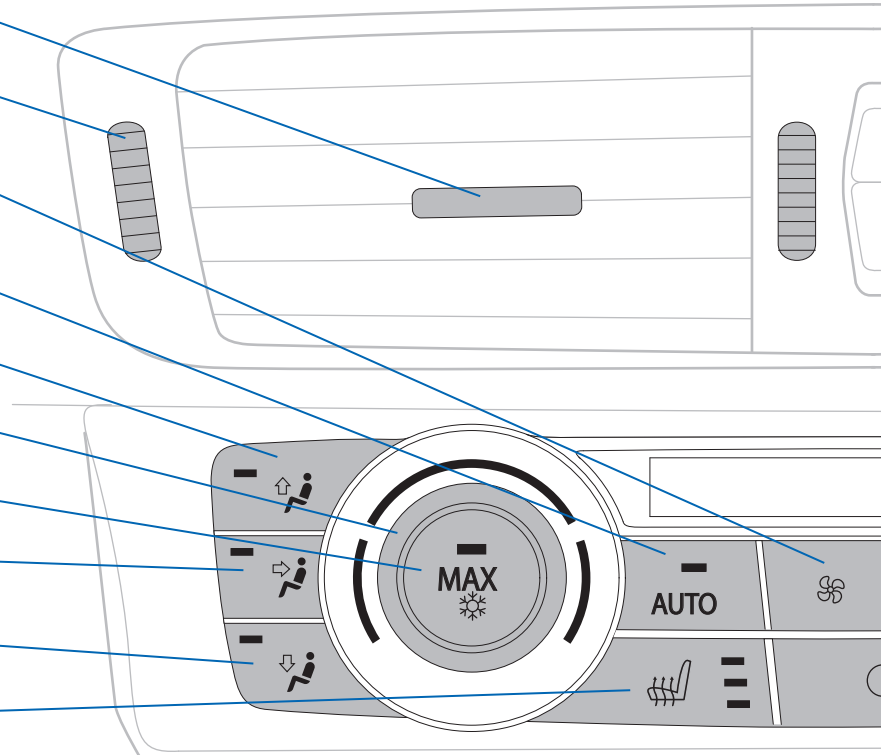
Temperature, left

Maximum cooling

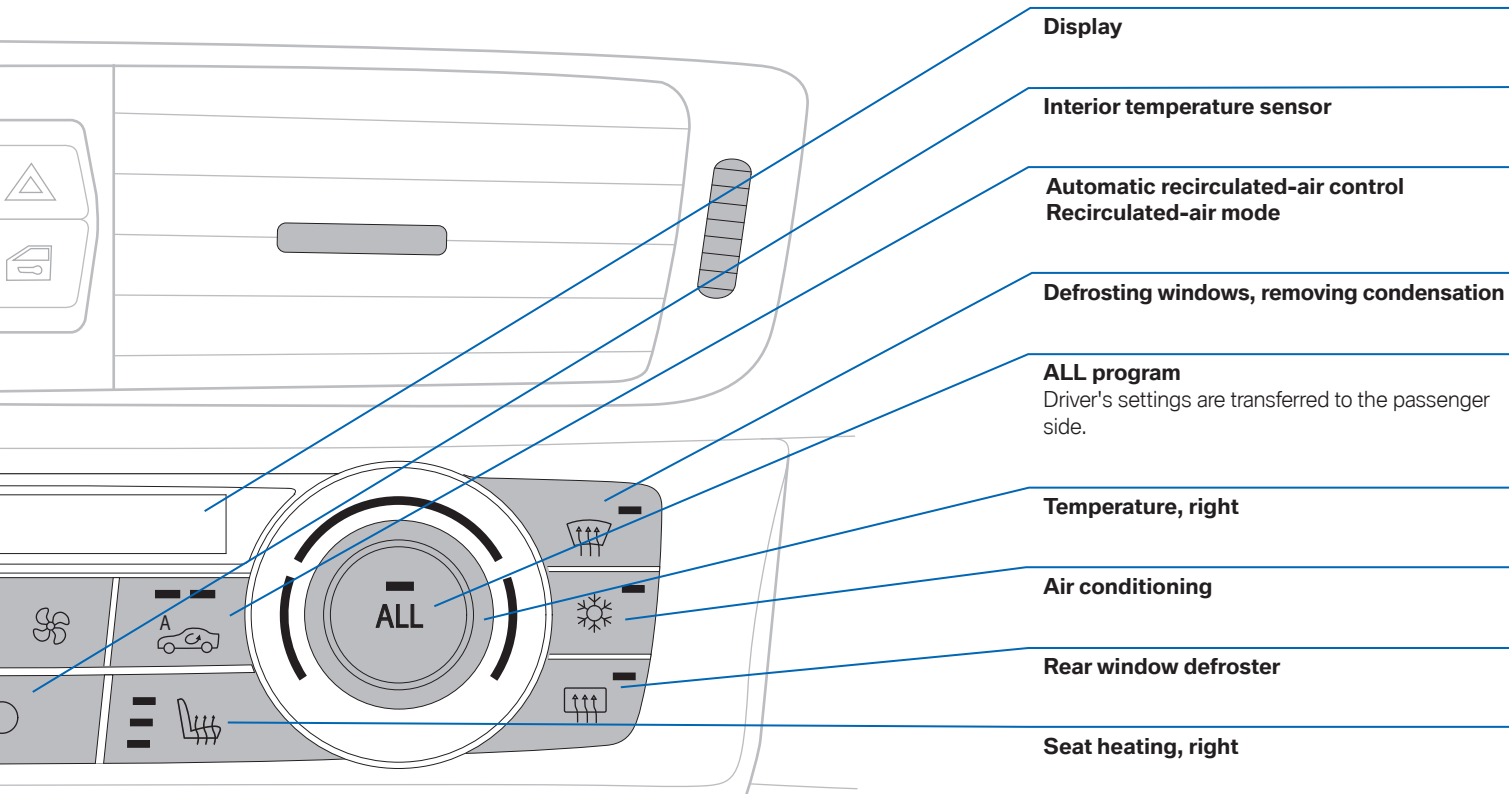
Air distribution, upper body area

Air distribution, foot area

Seat heating, left



Automatic climate control with enhanced functions



18 Displays and controls

Automatic climate control

Changing the direction of the air flow

Opening and closing the air vents

AUTO program

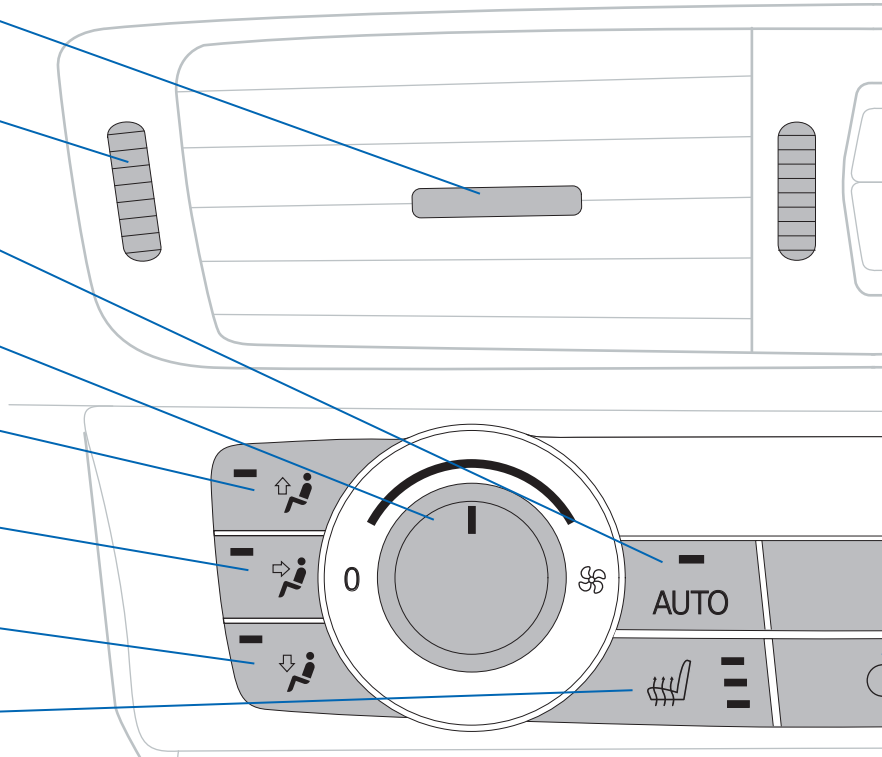
Air volume

Air distribution, windshield,
and side windows

Air distribution, upper body area

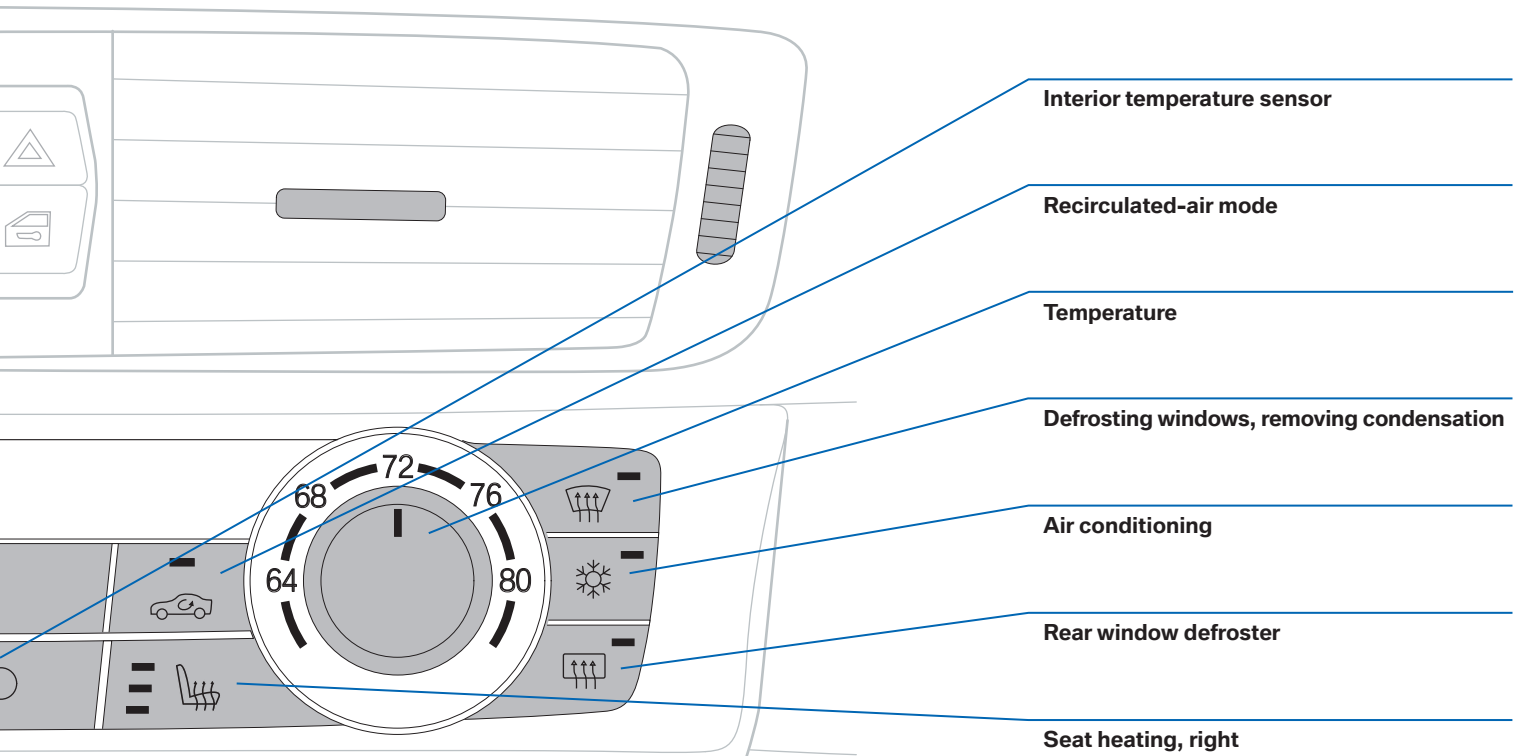
Air distribution, foot area

Seat heating, left



Displays and controls 19

Automatic climate control



20 Driving

Start/Stop button



Switching the ignition on/off

Press the Start/Stop button without depressing the brake pedal.

Starting the engine

Press the Start/Stop button while depressing the brake pedal.

Engine off/radio ready state

Press the Start/Stop button while the engine is running.

Driving 21

Lamps

Parking lamps

Lamps off
Daytime running lights

Automatic headlamp control
Adaptive Light Control
High-beam Assistant
Welcome lamps
Daytime running lights

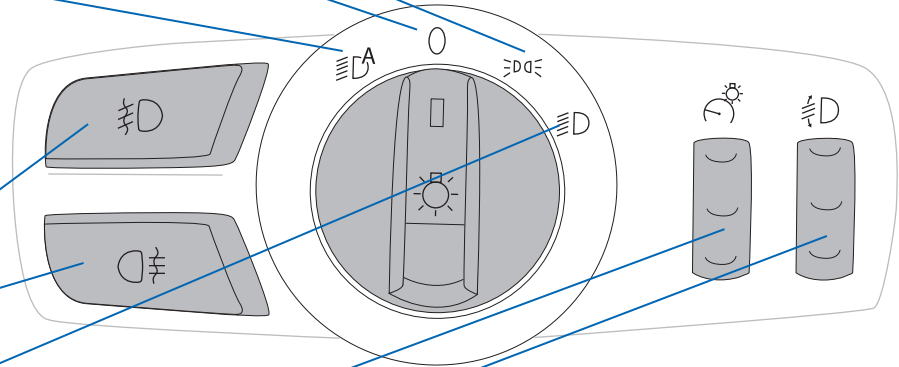
Front fog lamps

Rear fog lamps

Low beams
High-beam Assistant
Welcome lamps

Instrument lighting

Headlamp range control



22 Driving

Automatic transmission with Steptronic/parking brake

P button

When the vehicle is stationary, press the button to engage transmission position P.

Unlock button

To shift out of P or into R:

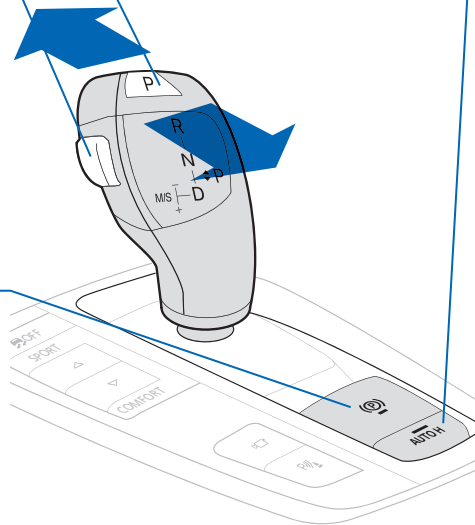
1. Depress the brake pedal while the engine is running.
2. Press the Unlock button.
3. Move the selector lever in the desired direction.

Applying the parking brake

Pull the switch; the LED lights up.

Releasing the parking brake

Press the switch with the brake pedal depressed or transmission position P engaged; the LED goes out.



Automatic Hold

Automatic application and release of the parking brake, in stop-and-go traffic, for instance.

To activate Automatic Hold:

Press the button; the LED and AUTO H light up.

To deactivate Automatic Hold:

Press the button again; the LED and AUTO H go out.

Before driving into a car wash, do the following so that the vehicle can roll:

1. Release the parking brake and deactivate Automatic Hold.
2. Drive into the carwash.
3. Depress the brake pedal if necessary.
4. Engage transmission position N.
5. Switch off the engine.

The vehicle can roll, provided that the ignition remains switched on.

Driving stability control system

Dynamic Stability Control DSC

DSC prevents traction loss in the driving wheels when driving away and accelerating. DSC also recognizes unstable vehicle conditions, such as fishtailing or nose-diving. Subject to physical limits, DSC helps to keep the vehicle on a steady course by reducing engine speed, and by applying brakes at individual wheels.

The program can be deactivated/activated using the Driving Experience Switch.

Dynamic Traction Control DTC

The DTC system is a version of the DSC in which forward momentum is optimized. The system ensures maximum forward momentum on special road conditions, such as unplowed snowy roads, but driving stability is limited.

The system and program can be deactivated/activated using the Driving Experience Switch.

Dynamic Damping Control

This system reduces undesirable vehicle motion when using a dynamic driving style or traveling on uneven road surfaces. The system enhances driving dynamics and comfort as required for the road surface and driving style.

The settings can be selected via the Driving Experience Switch.

Dynamic Driving Control

The Driving Experience Switch can be used to adjust the driving dynamics of the vehicle. For this purpose, various programs are available for selection that are activated via the two buttons of the Driving Experience Switch and the DSC OFF button.

Operating the programs



DSC OFF
TRACTION



SPORT+
SPORT
NORMAL

Note the additional information contained in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

24 Radio/CD/Multimedia Controls



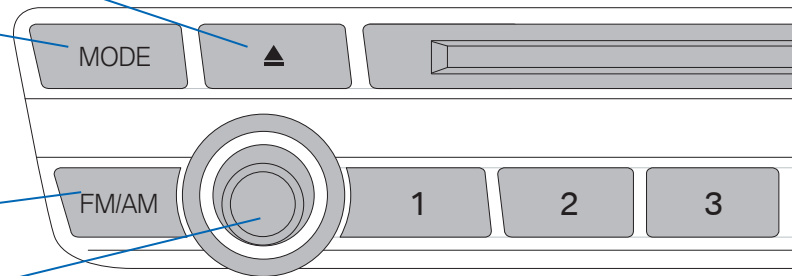
Ejecting the CD/DVD

Changing the entertainment source

Radio
CD/DVD
Music collection
External audio devices

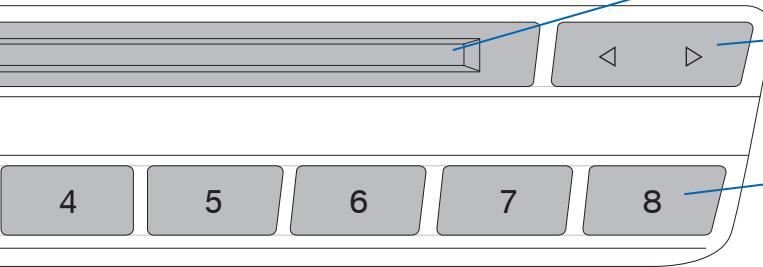
Changing the radio station waveband

**On/Off
Volume control**



Radio/CD/Multimedia 25

Controls



CD/DVD drive

Changing the station/track

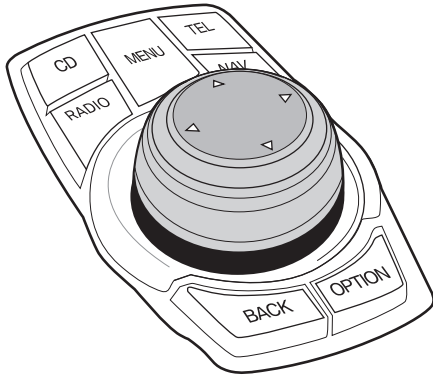
Programmable memory buttons

iDrive functions can be stored on the programmable memory buttons and called up directly, e.g., radio stations, navigation destinations, telephone numbers, and jumps into the menu.

26 iDrive Controller

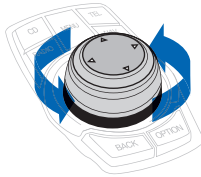


Controller with buttons



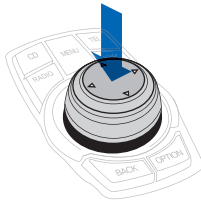
iDrive 27 Controller

Highlighting the menu item



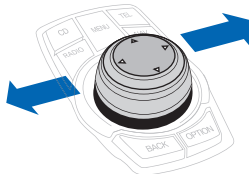
Turn the controller until the desired menu item is highlighted.

Opening the menu item

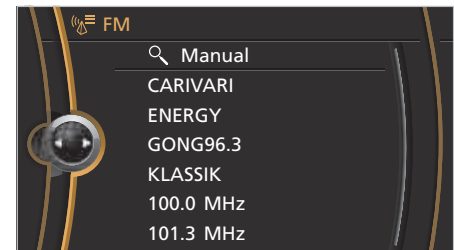
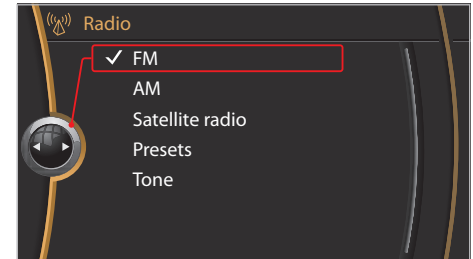
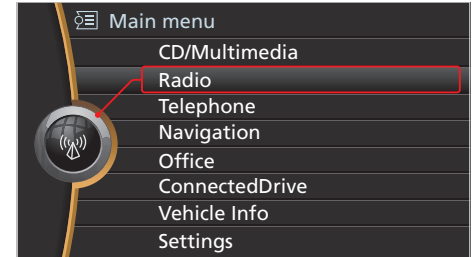


Press the controller.

Changing between panels



After a menu item such as "Radio" is selected, a new panel is displayed.
Panels can overlap.
Move the controller either to the left or the right.
The panel changes.

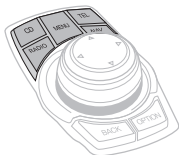


28 iDrive

Buttons on the controller

Opening the menus

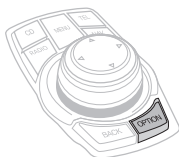
Press the button on the controller.



Opening the "Options" menu

Press the OPTION button.

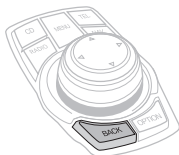
The "Options" menu consists of different areas: screen settings, for instance "Split screen". This section remains unchanged. Operating options for the selected main menu, such as for "Radio". If necessary, additional operating options for the selected menu such as "Store station".



Calling up the previous view

Press the BACK button.

Opens the display that was last shown on the Control Display.



Programmable memory buttons



iDrive functions can be stored on the programmable memory buttons and called up directly, e.g., radio stations, navigation destinations, telephone numbers, and jumps into the menu.

Saving a function

1. Highlight the function via the iDrive.
2. Press the desired button for longer than two seconds.

Executing a function

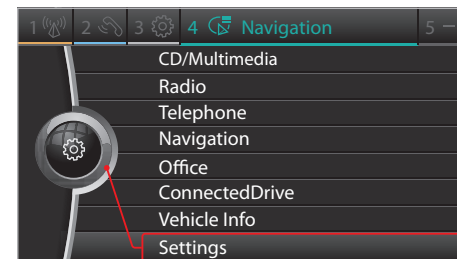
Press the button.

The function is executed immediately.

This means, for example, that the number is dialed when a phone number is selected.

Tip

You can also save content from the Integrated Owner's Manual to the programmable memory buttons.



Displaying memory button assignments

Briefly touch the button.

The button assignment is displayed at the top edge of the screen.

To display short information: touch the button.

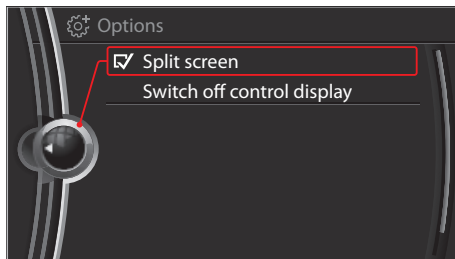
To display detailed information: touch the button for an extended period.

Tip

For easy access to the Getting Help features, you can save this function on the programmable memory buttons. In the "Options" menu, select "Display Owner's Handbook" and save it to a programmable memory button.

30 iDrive

Split screen/voice activation system



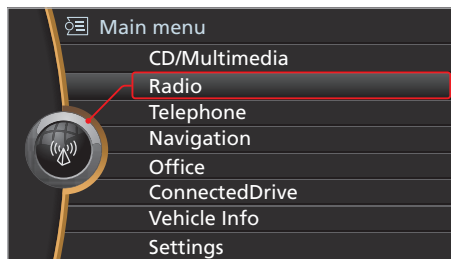
Split screen

Additional information, such as information from the computer, can be displayed on the right side of the split screen. You can set which information is displayed.

Switching the split screen on/off

1. Open "Options".
2. "Split screen"

The split screen is activated and the information remains displayed, even if another menu is selected.

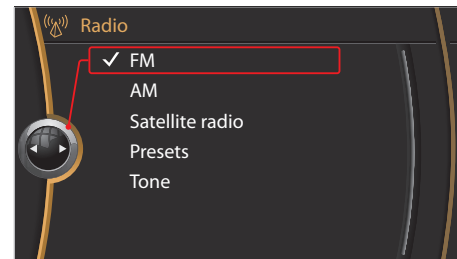


Voice activation system

The voice activation system can be used to operate functions by means of spoken commands. Most menu items that are displayed on the Control Display may be voice-activated.

Example: opening the FM waveband

1. Press the button on the steering wheel.
2. Wait for the signal.
3. Say >Radio<.



4. Say >F M<.

The list of available radio stations is displayed.

Having the possible commands read aloud

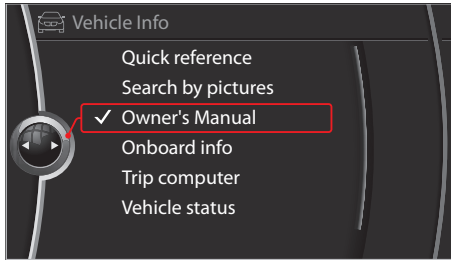
1. Press the button on the steering wheel.
2. Say >Voice commands<.

Tip

You can also open the functions directly using so-called short commands, such as >Map perspective view<. To give these commands, speak without hesitation, loudly, and clearly. Avoid background noise such as that caused by open windows.

Integrated Owner's Manual 31

Operation via iDrive

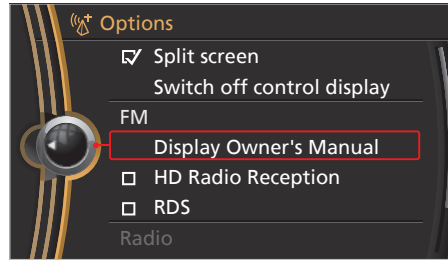


Integrated Owner's Manual

Your BMW X3 comes with an Integrated Owner's Manual, which contains all of the information necessary for you to make the best use of your vehicle. For your safety, the Integrated Owner's Manual is only displayed when the vehicle is stationary.

Searching for information

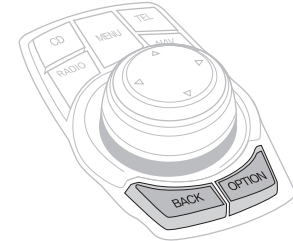
1. Open the main menu.
2. "Vehicle Info"
3. Select the desired function:
 - "Quick reference"
 - "Search by pictures"
 - "Owner's Handbook"



Getting help on selected menu items and screens

The Owner's Manual for the currently selected menu can be displayed.

1. Open "Options".
2. "Display Owner's Handbook"



You can switch between the Integrated Owner's Manual and the currently selected menu by using the BACK and OPTION buttons. This is particularly helpful for functions with multiple operating steps.

Printed Owner's Manual

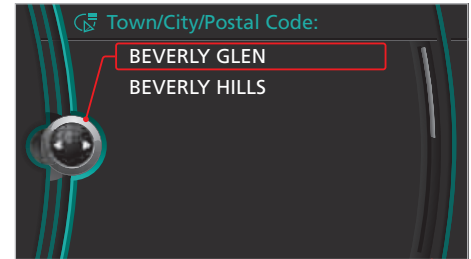
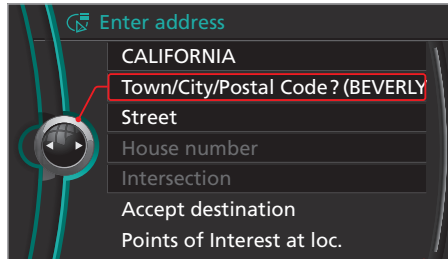
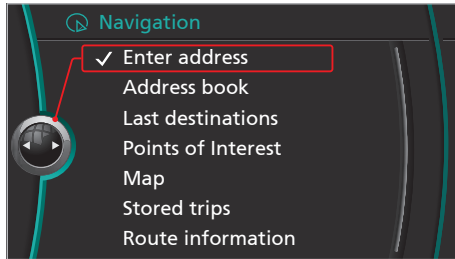
A printed Owner's Manual is contained in the vehicle document portfolio in the glove compartment or in the trunk.

Tip

Complex principles are explained quickly via videos in the Integrated Owner's Manual.

32 Navigation

Entering a destination

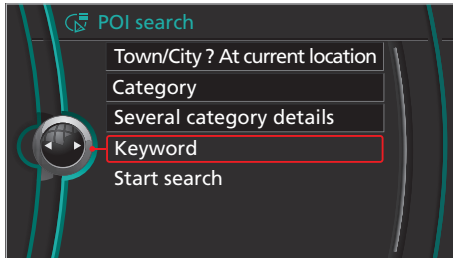


Entering a destination

1. "Navigation"
2. "Enter address"
3. Select "State/Province" or the displayed state or province.
4. Select "Town/City/Postal Code" or the displayed town/city/postal code.
5. Select the letters individually. The list grows smaller each time you enter a new letter.
6. Move the controller to the right and select a town/city from the list.
7. Enter a street in the same way that you entered the town/city.
8. If desired, select the building number or intersection.
9. "Accept destination"
10. "Start guidance"

Tip

You can also enter a destination using the voice activation system. Town/city, street, and building number can also be spoken in one command.

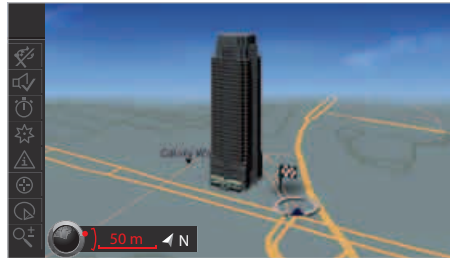


Points of interest

To select points of interest, e.g., hotels or tourist attractions:

1. "Navigation"
2. "Points of Interest"
3. Select the type of search, for instance "A-Z search"
4. Specify the "Town/City", "Category" and, if necessary, "Category details" and "Keyword".

A list of the points of interest is displayed.



Map view

Several types of map views may be displayed, such as a perspective view in 3D.

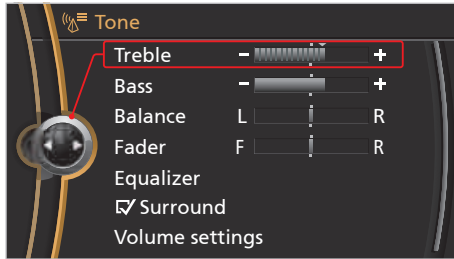
1. "Navigation"
2. "Map"
3. Open "Options".
4. "Settings"
5. "Perspective view in 3D"

Changing the scale

1. If necessary, move the controller to the right to change the map view.
2.  Select the symbol.
3. Turn the controller.

34 Entertainment

Tone/radio stations



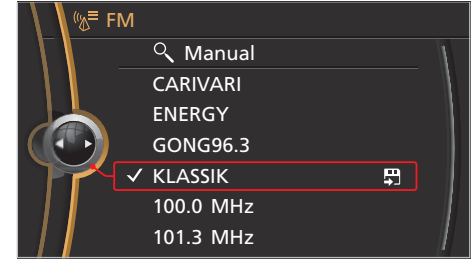
Adjusting the tone

1. "CD/Multimedia", "Radio" or "Settings"
2. "Tone"
3. Select the desired tone settings.
4. To adjust: turn the controller.
5. To store: press the controller.



Selecting a radio station

1. "Radio"
2. "FM" or "AM"



3. Select the desired station.

Tip

You can store your favorite radio stations on the programmable memory buttons 1-8. Use the iDrive to select the radio station and hold the desired button down for several seconds.

Entertainment 35

Music collection



Storing music

Music tracks from CDs/DVDs and USB media may be stored in a music collection in the vehicle.

1. Insert the CD/DVD into the CD/DVD player.
2. "CD/Multimedia"
3. "CD/DVD"
4.  Select the symbol for the CD/DVD drive.

5. "Store in vehicle"

The music collection is displayed.

The tracks are stored and played in sequence from the music collection.

Observe the following during the storage process:
Do not switch to the CD/DVD drive and do not remove the CD/DVD from the CD/DVD drive as this will interrupt the storage process.

Tip

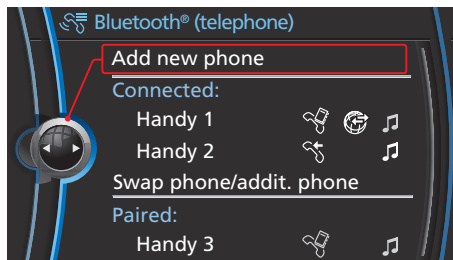
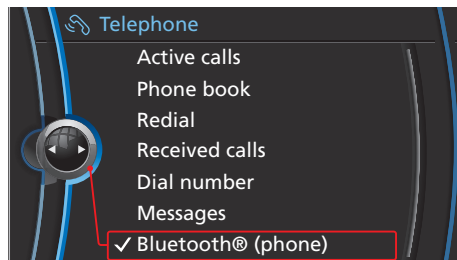
Music can be stored via the CD/DVD drive and compressed audio files can be stored via the USB interface in the glove compartment. Additional information can be found in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

Tip

While storing, you can switch to audio sources other than the CD/DVD drive without interrupting the storage process. Tracks from the current CD/DVD that have already been stored can be called up.

36 Communication

Mobile phone pairing



Pairing the mobile phone with the vehicle

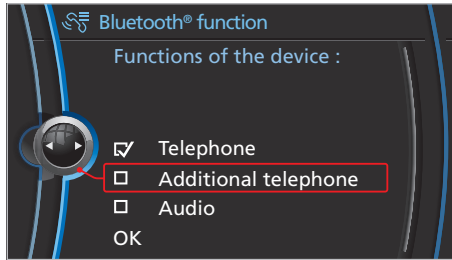
1. Switch on the ignition.
2. Activate Bluetooth on the vehicle and the mobile phone.
3. If necessary, adjust the mobile phone according to the Bluetooth presettings, e.g., connection not visible, neither with confirmation nor on the mobile phone.
4. Think of a 4 to 16-digit passkey in order to enter it later. The passkey is only required once for the pairing procedure.
5. "Telephone"
6. "Bluetooth® (phone)"
7. "Add new phone"
The Bluetooth name of the vehicle appears on the Control Display.
8. Use the mobile phone to search for Bluetooth devices; check your mobile phone's operating instructions. The Bluetooth name of the vehicle also appears on the mobile phone display.
9. Select the Bluetooth name of the vehicle on the mobile phone.
The mobile phone's display or the iDrive will prompt you to enter the Bluetooth passkey.
10. Enter the passkey on the mobile phone and via the iDrive.

Tip

Please ask your BMW center which mobile phones with Bluetooth interface are supported by the mobile phone preparation package.
You can obtain additional information on the Internet at: www.bmwusa.com/bluetooth

Communication 37

Using the phone



11. Select at least one function for which the mobile phone will be used.
12. "OK"

If pairing was successful, the mobile phone appears at the top of the list of mobile phones.

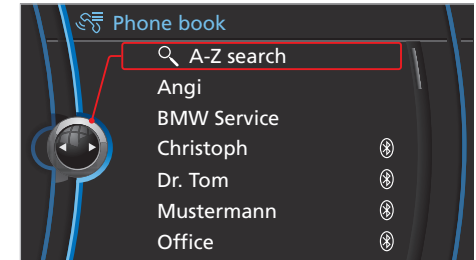


Dialing a number

1. "Telephone"
2. "Dial number"
3. Select the digits individually.
4.  Select the symbol to establish the call.

Accepting a call

-  Press the button on the steering wheel.



Selecting from the phone book

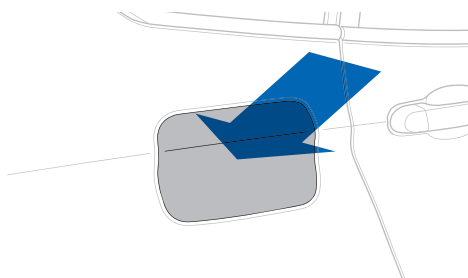
1. "Telephone"
2. "Phone book"
3. Select the desired entry.

Tip

Up to four mobile phones can be connected to the vehicle and used as a telephone, additional telephone, or audio player. Additional information can be found in the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

38 Refueling

Refueling/oil level



Refueling

To open the fuel filler flap:
Lightly press the rear edge.

Fuel quality

Unleaded gasoline without metallic additives:
BMW recommends using super premium
gasoline/AKI 91.
Minimum fuel grade: AKI 89.

Checking the oil level

The oil level is monitored electronically and shown
on the Control Display.

1. "Vehicle Info"
2. "Vehicle status"
3. : "Engine oil level"

For recommended oil grades, refer to the Owner's
Manual.

Note the additional information contained in
the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.

Flat Tire Monitor FTM

The system identifies a loss of pressure by comparing the speeds of rotation of the individual wheels as the car is traveling.

The system must be initialized with the correct tire pressure in order for it to reliably respond in detecting a flat tire.

1. "Vehicle Info"
2. "Vehicle status"
3.  "Reset"
4. Start the engine - do not drive away.
5. Start the initialization with "Reset".
6. Drive away.

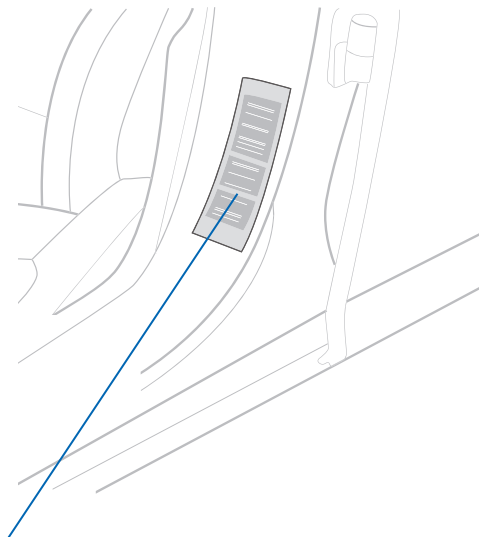
The FTM is not a substitute for carrying out tire pressure checks.

Tire Pressure Monitor TPM

The tire inflation pressure is measured in the four mounted tires. The system notifies you if there is a significant loss of pressure in one or more tires.

The system must have been reset when the inflation pressure was correct; otherwise, reliable signaling of a flat tire is not ensured.

1. "Vehicle Info"
2. "Vehicle status"
3.  "Reset"
4. Start the engine - do not drive away.
5. Reset the tire pressure using "Reset".
6. Drive away.



Tire pressure

The pressure values for approved tire sizes and speeds up to 100 mph/160 km/h can be found on the driver's door post.

If the tire's speed rating code is not listed, use the tire pressure for the corresponding size, e.g., 245/45 R18.

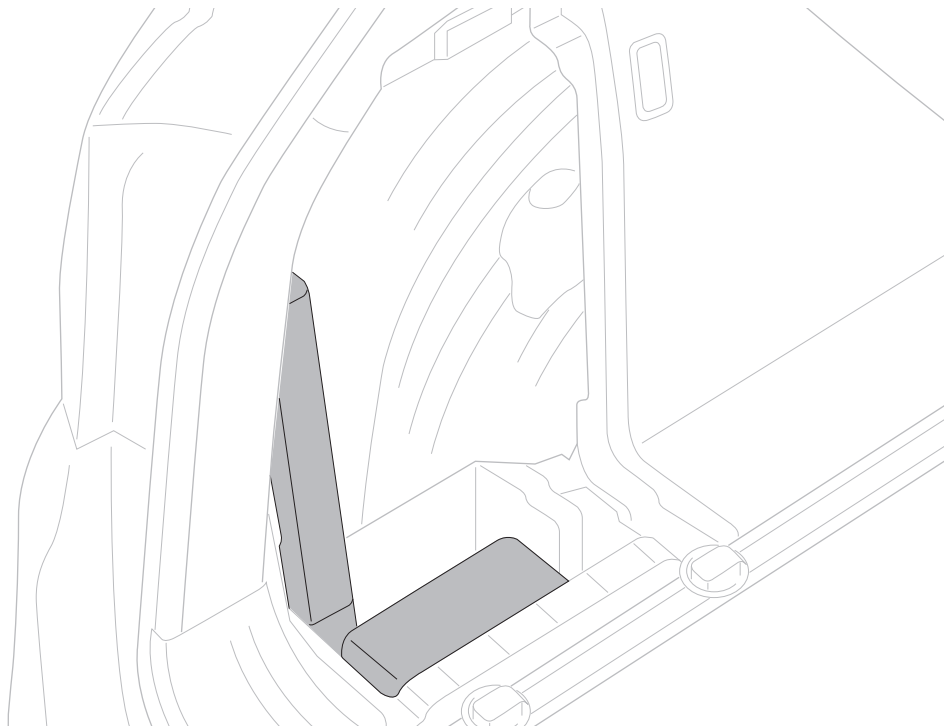
Check the tire pressure twice a month and reinitialize the FTM/TPM after adjusting the tire pressure and after changing a tire or wheel.

40 Giving and receiving assistance

Warning triangle, first aid kit

Warning triangle and first aid kit

The warning triangle and the first aid kit are located behind the left cover in the trunk. Release the holders to remove it.



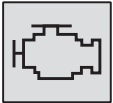
Socket for Onboard Diagnostics OBD

There is an OBD socket on the driver's side for checking the primary components in the vehicle emissions.

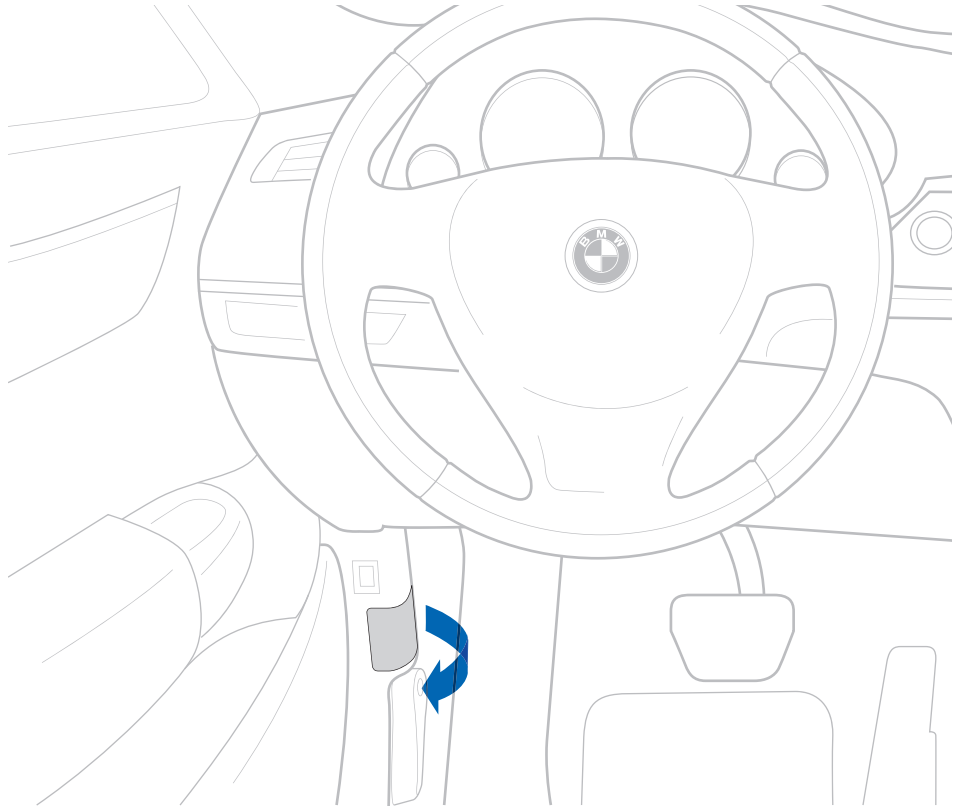
SERVICE
ENGINE
SOON

Emissions

The warning lamp lights up:
Emissions are deteriorating.
Have the vehicle checked as
soon as possible.

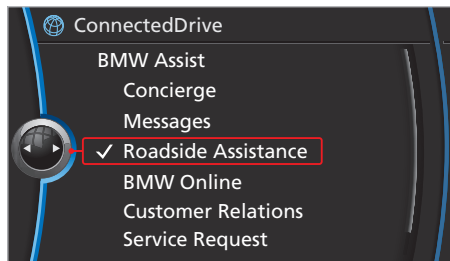
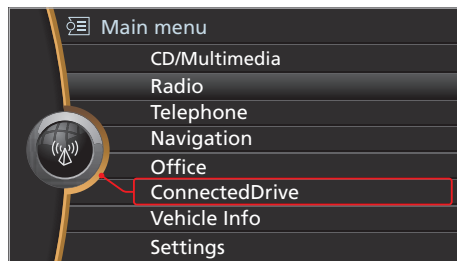


Note the additional information contained in
the Owner's Manual for Vehicle.



42 24/7 Access

BMW Assist™ and Bluetooth® system



BMW Assist Safety Plan

Combining GPS location technology with hands-free wireless communication, BMW Assist connects you with a trained response specialist 24/7 to help you with almost everything while on the road.

The BMW Assist Safety Plan provides:

- Automatic Collision Notification
- Emergency Request (SOS)
- Enhanced Roadside Assistance
- Stolen Vehicle Recovery
- My Info
- Remote Door Unlock
- TeleService
- Customer Relations

Easy Access

To initiate the services, just go to "BMW Assist" in the main menu and select the desired service, or push the SOS button on the overhead console.

What You Need To Do

You must complete, sign, and submit a subscriber agreement with your salesperson. To decline services, you must complete, sign, and submit a "Waiver and Release" document. If neither action is taken, your BMW Assist services will be remotely deactivated approximately 60 days after you take delivery of your new vehicle.

Bluetooth hands-free calling

The BMW Assist system includes Bluetooth hands-free calling capability with speech recognition. See page 36 or visit www.bmwusa.com/bluetooth for BMW approved handsets and pairing instructions.

Tip

You may even prepare some services offered by BMW Assist in the comfort of your home and send them via the Internet to your vehicle.

Tip

Upgrade to our optional Convenience Plan to receive directions, traffic and weather information, Critical Calling, Concierge services, online access to the Google Maps™ database, news headlines, up-to-date fuel prices, and stock indices in your BMW X3 with BMW Search. Push the SOS button, call toll-free at 1-888-333-6118, or log on to www.bmwassist.com to learn more.

BMW Roadside Assistance

Can be contacted if assistance is needed in the event of a breakdown.

Telephone

USA: (800) 332-4BMW (4269)

Canada: 1-800-267-8269

If possible, the vehicle and position data are transmitted in the process.

Towing

The only method approved for transporting vehicles with automatic transmission is to use a commercial flatbed carrier truck and to secure the vehicle to the flatbed truck with four nylon wheel straps.

When pulling the vehicle onto a flatbed carrier truck, only use the screw-in tow fitting found in the tool kit.

Refer to the detailed towing instructions in the Owner's Manual.

44 Appendix

Any updates to the Integrated Owner's Manual can be found [here](#).

More about BMW

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www.bmw.ca



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