

Safety Instructions, Bodywork

General

- All operations are shown mainly by diagrams. Explanatory text is included only where it is important for specialist repairs affecting the vehicle structure.

The sequence of figures which include instructions for the working procedure reflect the sequence of operations. Repeated standard operations such as separation work or grinding down joint surfaces are not especially described, because this work is routine workshop practice.

In regions where both the separation and also the connection affect the strength and road safety of the bodywork, the repair methods described in this section must be adhered to.

Repair Information – Preparatory Work

- The locally applicable state laws and regulations must always be observed when cutting or working with materials.
- Make sure that there is suitable extraction of vapour and particles during all cutting, grinding and welding work.
- Always wear protective goggles and a filter mask when cutting or grinding.
- Fire Hazard – Observe the instructions on the containers when storing substances containing solvents.
- Fire and naked lights are forbidden.
- There must be enough fire extinguishers available, and they must have been serviced regularly.
- Environmental and Health and Safety regulations must always be observed.
- Because of the fire risk, protective sealants must not be applied to the area of the engine or exhaust system (e.g. catalytic converter, oxygen sensors).
- In the case of accidents which indicate a high degree of stress to the chassis, irrespective of any measurement of the axle geometry which has to be carried out, the following components must be specifically checked:

steering and steering linkages for perfect operation from full-lock to full-lock. Visual inspection for bending or cracks.

Chassis and all chassis parts such as spring struts, steering knuckles, pull rods, axle bodies, stabilisers and their fastening parts, for bends and cracks.

Rims and tyres for damage, cuts in tread and sides, running true and balance.

- All components removed or detached during repair work must be re-tightened in their original positions. Damaged components (e.g. micro-encapsulated bolts) must be replaced by new components.
- The battery ground cable must be disconnected for any work where there is a danger of an electrical short-circuit.
- Electronic control units may be damaged at temperatures above **80 °C/176 °F**.

Safety instruction, body panels

Sitting on body panels or distorting them in any other way is not permitted.

Body panels must not be excessively distorted, otherwise the gel coat may split. These splits may only become visible after three months.

The outer surfaces of panels are sealed with a thin layer of synthetic resin, which provides a smooth base for paint application.