



SIB 41 01 20

2020-06-03

CREAKING NOISE FROM REAR INTERIOR

MODEL

E-Series	Model Description	Affected Option Code
G05	X5 Sports Activity Vehicle	Without 4UB (3 rd row seat)

SITUATION

A creaking sound can be heard from the inside of the rear of the vehicle on either side, around the rear seat backrests at the floor. Most commonly, this noise is a short series (2 or 3 times) of creaking or popping sounds coming from the area shown below, during acceleration from standstill:

**CAUSE**

Interference between two sheet metal panels just below the rear seat bracket.

CORRECTION

Rework the area with an additional weld to stabilize the two sheet metal panels.

PROCEDURE

1. Ensure the noise appears to be coming from the area of the rear seat mounts, just forward of the rear wheel arch inside the vehicle.
2. Remove both rear seat backrests following repair instructions **REP 52 26 020 “Removing and installing/replacing both backrests”**.
3. Remove the crossbeam support for the rear seat backrests to gain access to the seat bracket on the side which is making noise.
4. Ensure the noise is caused by interference of the sheet metal by retesting the vehicle with the aid of a second person. The second person should apply pressure against the seat bracket using a suitable prying tool. If the noise changes or goes away completely, continue to step 5. If the noise is unchanged, this bulletin may not apply, continue diagnosis.
5. For vehicles confirmed to have the noise from the area described, the vehicle will require an additional weld to be added to the **exact** location described. Any deviation to the exact location and instructions for weld installation will result in the vehicle returning for additional repair.
6. Using a spot weld removal bit, drill a hole through the top sheet metal panel only in the exact locations show below (blue dot). Do not drill completely through both panels..



7. Fill the hole with a single puddle weld, effectively connecting the top panel with the panel underneath.

8. 6 inches towards the front of the vehicle from the weld location is a body plug. Remove the body plug, and using a borescope, inspect the back side of the weld to ensure both panels were properly connected.

Shown below is an underside view of both panels. **A properly positioned weld will clearly penetrate both panels in the location shown (blue dot), holding them together.** A borescope inserted through the body plug cavity will allow for proper inspection.



9. Treat the area of the spot weld as necessary for rust prevention.
10. Retest the vehicle and reassemble if noise is no longer present.

PARTS INFORMATION

Obtain and confirm the part numbers for your specific vehicle by entering the chassis number in either ETK or AIR which takes into account specific equipment and/or options.

Part Number	Description	Quantity
07 14 9 148 299	Fillister head screw (M10x22)	8

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Covered under the terms of the BMW New Vehicle Limited Warranty for Passenger Cars and Light Trucks.

Defect Code:	4112063900	Floor panel, luggage compartment unpleasant noises
Labor Operation	Description:	Labor Allowance
52 26 020	Removing and installing/replacing both backrests (Main work)	Refer to AIR
Or:		
52 26 520	Removing and installing/replacing both backrests (Plus work)	Refer to AIR
And:		
41 00 009	Work time for drilling, checking and applying rust prevention after welding (excluding welding)	(WT)

Refer to AIR for the corresponding flat rate unit (FRU) allowances.

Work time labor operation code 41 00 009 is not considered a Main labor operation; however; it does require an individual punch time to support the FRU amount claimed and an explanation on the repair order and in the claim comments section.

And, if this is a:

Split Repair between a BMW authorized center's workshop (Mechanical) and a Certified Collision Repair Center (CCRC)/body shop or a third-party mobile welding service (Welding).

Sublet Code 3	Sublet as applicable (see below)	Reimbursement for a third-party CCRC/body shop or mobile welding service (welding)
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Invoice this in sublet on the repair order at the actual cost charged with no handling or markup. The sublet amount must also include any discounts or allowances.

It is your center's responsibility to review the repair cost estimate prior to the repair being performed. This will help ensure that the amount requested is customary, fair and reasonable. Also, it must not exceed the scope of the repair work described in this bulletin.

Itemize the claimed sublet amount on the repair order and in claim comment section.

Or, if a:

BMW workshop technician performs the complete repair (Mechanical and Welding)

Labor Operation	Description:	Labor Allowance
41 00 009	Work time for drilling, welding, checking and applying rust prevention	(WT)

Work time labor operation code 41 00 009 is not considered a Main labor operation; however; it does require an individual punch time to support the FRU amount claimed and an explanation on the repair order and in the claim comments section.

And, as applicable:

Sublet – Bulk Materials (RO and Claim Comments Required)

Sublet Code 4	See the sublet reimbursement calculation below	Reimbursement for the repair-related bulk material (Do not use the BMW part number for claim submission)
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Sublet reimbursement calculation for claiming the applicable repair-related bulk material (BMW part number) is at the dealer net price amount for the quantity used plus your center's handling.

Enter this material cost in sublet and itemize the amount on the repair order and in claim comment section.