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November / December 2024

Attention petrol heads: the M3 Touring by AC Schnitzer is here

It took well over 30 years for BMW to launch a Touring version of the classic M3 sports car for the first time. Even though a station wagon always symbolises a certain understatement and is normally more likely to be classified in the family car scene, the AC Schnitzer development crew found this apparent contradiction to be just the perfect challenge to optimise the M3 Touring, already well positioned in series production, even further in terms of improved sportiness.

Whether Touring or Saloon: the sixth model series G80/G81 is the most powerful M3 generation ever.

And that applies equally to the AC Schnitzer versions. There has never been more power and driving dynamics in a 3 series and certainly not in a station wagon. This extra power and sportiness can be felt in the M3 Touring by AC Schnitzer in every driving situation: on the race track as well as in everyday driving on public roads.

AC Schnitzer provides the expansion of the engine power with the performance upgrade from 390 kW/530 hp and 650 Nm to now 449 kW/610 hp and 750 Nm after the AC Schnitzer cure.

The AC Schnitzer twin sports rear silencer with two carbon "Sport" tailpipes on each side is a useful addition to the performance upgrade and as an individual conversion. The exhaust brings to the ear what makes every tuning fan's heart beat faster: a powerful, sporty sound with improved exhaust flow at the same time.

Carbon 'Sport' tailpipes with a diameter of 110 mm are also available for purely visual enhancement of the exhaust.

With the AC Schnitzer spring kit (lowering 15 - 20 mm on the front axle - the standard springs remain on the rear axle) or with the RS coilover suspension adjustable in compression and in rebound - including lowering, every M3 driver will realise when cornering that the true feeling for driving dynamics comes from Aachen.

"Better fast than hard" is the philosophy behind the AC Schnitzer suspension tuning, and you can feel it in every situation. The handling of the AC Schnitzer RS coilover suspension is basically the same as that of the standard version: good-natured load change reactions and gentle understeer at the limits are important - yet with the AC Schnitzer RS coilover suspension, significantly higher cornering speeds are possible, with absolutely comfortable everyday handling.

The Dynamic Package by AC Schnitzer is rounded off by a matching range of wheels.

The latest development is the AC4 lightweight forged rims in TechGold or black. They are a masterpiece of engineering and are characterised by their weight savings. Compared to conventional cast wheels, they can reduce weight by up to 25 - 35 %. Thanks to the noticeable reduction in unsprung masses and gyroscopic forces, the AC4 lightweight forged wheels enable significantly improved driving dynamics. Both acceleration and deceleration are improved by the lower mass, resulting in impressive handling characteristics. Cornering handling is also optimised, enabling a more precise and agile driving style.

The AC4 lightweight forged rims are available for the M3 as a mixed combination up to a maximum size of 10J x 20" at the front and 10J x 21" at the rear. The rims are fitted with 285/30 R20 or 295/25 R21 tyres. An alternative with a 20" wheel/tyre combination all round is also available.

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The AC3 wheels in Silver/Anthracite or Anthracite/Silver are also available for the BMW M3 as lightweight forged rims in 10.0J x 20 inch. Also these rims realise what basically appears to be contradictory: less weight with the same large wheel diameters. This advantage of forged technology also influences the driving dynamics. The road holding of the M3 models is improved even more by the mixed tyres offered. On the front axle, the 20-inch AC3 lightweight forged rims are fitted with 285/30 R 20 tyres, and even 295/30 R 20 tyres are used for the rear rims.

In addition, AC1 rims are also available as 20-inch conventional cast alloy rims.

If you want to continue using the standard tyres, you can fit your M3 with AC Schnitzer wheel spacers. These realise a widening of 7 mm on the right and left.

Improving downforce is the core subject of every aerodynamic conversion. And since the tuning professionals at AC Schnitzer are first and foremost concerned with function and only secondly with looks, the aerodynamic conversion for the M3 Touring is just as functional as that for its older brother.

The basis of the aerodynamics package is the black front splitter on the front axle, which can be fitted without further painting and which increases the downforce of the M3 by up to 40 kg*. This is complemented by front side wings, which were also developed specifically for the M3.

The new design package, consisting of a 4-piece deflector set for the front wings and two design elements for the bonnet of the M3, give the front end the finishing touch and a look all of its own.

At the rear of the vehicle, too, the signs are pointing to improved downforce. With the rear roof spoiler, which provides 20 kg* increased downforce, and the carbon rear diffuser (with or without additional brake light), the AC Schnitzer engineers have reached deep into the aerodynamic toolbox.

The AC Schnitzer side skirts form the visual link from the front to the rear. Side skirt and rear skirt protection film together with stickers complete the extensive range.

The interior design is also stylish and functional. The high-quality interior accessories such as aluminium pedals, aluminium footrest, Black Line aluminium cover for iDrive Controller and the key holder create a sporty and luxurious atmosphere in the vehicle interior.

All parents who have swapped their sports car for a station wagon can now breathe a sigh of relief: the AC Schnitzer version of the BMW M3 Touring is very happy to be an everyday family car, but also as happy to be on the racetrack - at least occasionally.

*all figures measured at 200 km/h

Victory: AC Schnitzer has been voted best engine tuner and best optical tuner at the "sport auto AWARD" by the readers of 'sport auto' magazine in November 2024. We say thank you!

AC Schnitzer recommends:







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