

# The Ultimate Guide to Buying a BMW M3 (2001-2006)



## Buyer's Guide to the BMW E46 M3: Buying a BMW M3 (2001-2006) by Zach Codings

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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The BMW M3 is a legendary sports car that has been thrilling drivers for decades. The E46 generation, produced from 2001 to 2006, is widely regarded as one of the best M3s ever made. If you're considering buying an E46 M3, this guide will provide you with everything you need to know to make an informed decision.

## **Key Features**

The E46 M3 is powered by a naturally-aspirated 3.2-liter inline-6 engine that produces 333 horsepower and 262 lb-ft of torque. This engine is known for its screaming exhaust note and linear power delivery. The M3 is also equipped with a 6-speed manual transmission, a limited-slip differential, and a sport-tuned suspension.

The E46 M3 is available in both coupe and convertible body styles. The coupe is the more popular choice among enthusiasts, as it is lighter and more aerodynamic. The convertible is a great option for those who want to enjoy the open-air driving experience.

## **Performance Specs**

The E46 M3 is capable of accelerating from 0-60 mph in as little as 5.0 seconds. It has a top speed of 155 mph (electronically limited). The M3 is also very capable on the track, with excellent handling and braking performance.

## **Maintenance Costs**

The E46 M3 is a relatively expensive car to maintain. Regular maintenance costs can range from \$500 to \$1,000 per year. However, major repairs can be very costly, so it is important to budget accordingly.

## **Common Problems**

The E46 M3 is known for a few common problems, including:

\* Vanos system failure: The Vanos system is responsible for varying the timing of the camshafts. When it fails, it can cause a loss of power and engine damage. \* Throttle position sensor failure: The throttle position sensor tells the engine how much fuel to inject. When it fails, it can cause the engine to run rough or stall. \* Rear subframe mount failure: The rear subframe mounts can fail on high-mileage E46 M3s. This can cause the rear suspension to become loose and unstable.

## **Buying Tips**

If you're looking to buy an E46 M3, there are a few things you should keep in mind:

\* Do your research: Before you start shopping, take some time to learn about the E46 M3. Read reviews, talk to other owners, and get a general idea of what to expect. \* Get a pre-Free Download inspection: Before you buy an E46 M3, it is essential to get a pre-Free Download inspection. This will help you identify any potential problems with the car. \* Be prepared to pay a premium: The E46 M3 is a desirable car, so you can expect to pay a premium for a well-maintained example.

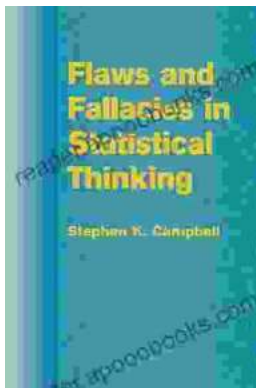
The BMW M3 is a truly special car that offers an exhilarating driving experience. If you're looking for a sports car that is both fast and fun to drive, the E46 M3 is a great option. Just be prepared to pay a premium for this legendary machine.



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