

Service Information bulletins

Maintenance and general data

Towing

X5 E70

Situation:

The X5 E70 is equipped as standard with the systems "xDrive" (all-wheel drive system), electromechanical parking brake and electric gearshift.

The information below describes the special characteristics of these systems that have to be considered if the vehicle has to be towed:

xDrive (all-wheel drive system):

With xDrive, a servomotor in the regulated transfer case distributes drive torque as required between the front and rear axles. Under certain conditions, torque is still split between front and rear axles even if the servomotor is de-energised. This has to be taken into account, particularly if a car has to be towed.

Electromechanical parking brake (EMF):

The electromechanical parking brake is applied and released with the switch in the centre console. In the event of a malfunction, or if the battery is flat, while the parking brake is applied, it can be released mechanically.

(In principle, the EMF can be released mechanically even if there is no fault present).

Electric gearshift inhibitor (parking lock):

The electric gearshift inhibitor is activated when the engine is switched off (parking lock is engaged). Exception: The selector lever is in position "N". On vehicles with Comfort Access, the remote control must also be in the ignition lock. In the event of an electrical malfunction or if the battery is flat, the parking lock in the automatic transmission will be engaged and can be released mechanically.

Effect:

xDrive:

If one axle is raised and the wheels are suspended in hanger bags or on a towing trolley, the input from the axle on the road surface could drive the wheels out of the contact area of the towing mechanism. If the wheels of the raised axle are held in position by means of straps, the transfer case will suffer damage.

Electromechanical parking brake:

If the parking brake is not released, the rear wheels will be locked.

Electric gearshift (parking lock):

If the parking lock is not released, the rear wheels will be locked.

Affected vehicles: X5 E70

Procedure: xDrive:

The X5 should be completely raised for towing.

Towing is permissible on all four wheels, albeit with the following restrictions:

- Maximum speed: 42 MPH
- Maximum distance on tow: 90 Miles
- The electromechanical parking brake and electric gearshift inhibitor must be released.

Important:

If the electromechanical parking brake and the electric gearshift inhibitor (parking lock) need to be released, e.g. because the battery is flat, it is important that the following sequence is observed:

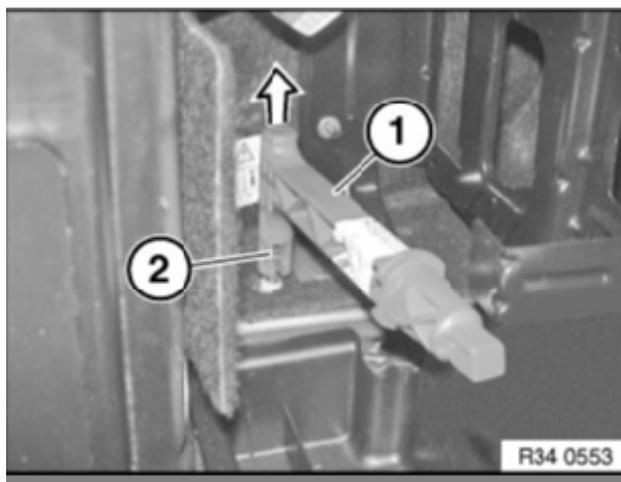
1. First release the electromechanical parking brake manually
2. Then release the electric gearshift inhibitor (parking lock) in the automatic transmission manually

Procedure for releasing the electromechanical parking brake and the parking lock (see instructions in the Owner's Handbook).

The release tool can be found in the vehicle tool kit under the floor of the luggage compartment.

To release the electromechanical parking brake:

- Secure the vehicle against rolling away, e.g. with chocks
- Open the rear left side trim in the luggage compartment



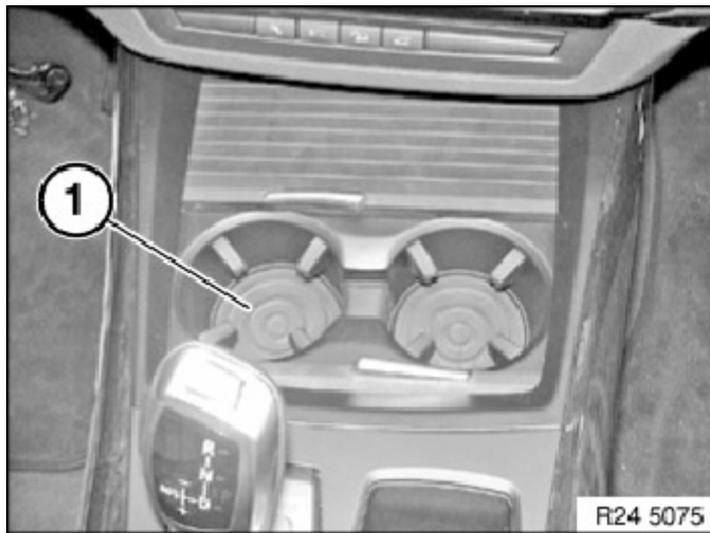
- Place the release tool (1) on the release point (2). Pull the release tool forcefully up in the direction of the arrow, against the mechanical resistance, until a distinct increase in force is felt and the parking brake is clearly heard to disengage.

Operation after mechanical release:

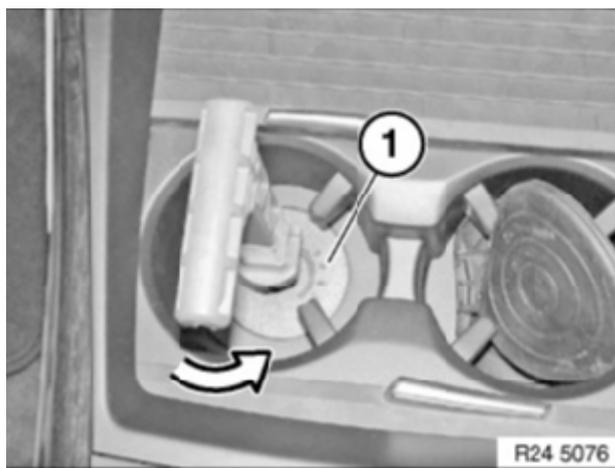
- Switch the ignition on
- Depress the brake pedal and press the brake button
- The indicator light in the instrument cluster goes out as soon as the parking brake is operational again.
- Any noises that occur are normal. This procedure may take a few seconds.

Procedure for mechanically releasing the gearshift inhibitor (parking lock):

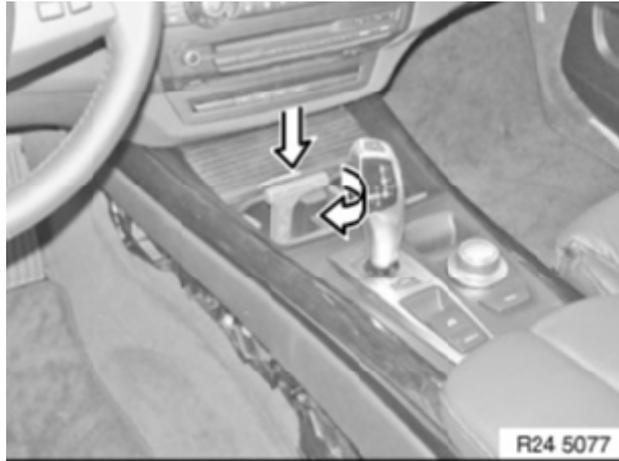
- Depress the brake pedal or secure the vehicle against rolling away



Slide the mat (1) covering the cup holder back and remove it



Open the lid (1) in the floor of the cup holder in the direction of the arrow with the release tool.



To release the gearshift inhibitor (parking lock):
Insert the release tool in the opening.

Turn the release tool clockwise to the stop and press it down.
The gearshift inhibitor (parking lock) is released.



To engage the gearshift inhibitor:

Remove the release tool in the direction of the arrow.
The gearshift inhibitor (parking lock) is engaged.