# BMW E34 (1989 – 1995) 5-series / BMW E32 (1987 – 1994) 7-series Features

The BMW E32 and E34 cars are hugely advanced for their age. They have features that put brand new cars to shame, even today. The oldest E32 (on which the E34 was based and has the same features), is 21 years old, meaning the start of its development was a few years before that. So what *that* essentially means is that everything you are about to see here was conceived and created almost 3 decades ago!

#### **Heated door locks**

When the temperature drops below 40 degrees, raising and holding the drivers door handle up activates lock cylinder heating. The heating element goes on for 30 seconds to melt away any ice that may have formed inside the cylinder, thus allowing you to insert the key and unlock the car.

#### Heated side mirrors

The outside mirrors are heated to prevent fog and/or ice accumulating on them, thus helping rearward visibility.

## **Glovebox Flashlight**

The glovebox contains a mini flashlight for use in emergency situations. It is automatically recharged using the cars on-board power, so there are no batteries to replace.

#### Closing the windows after the car is turned off

If you've already shut the car off and taken the key out, but didn't close a window, worry not. As long as you have not opened the door, the windows and sunroof can be operated even without the key inserted. This feature deactivates after 15 minutes or when you open the door.

#### Closing the windows/sunroof with the key

If you exited the car and forgot to close the window, you don't have to climb back in to close it. You simply insert the key into the door lock and hold it as far as it goes in the lock position. The windows and sunroofs are then automatically closed. You can release early if you don't want to close them all the way. This feature also works with your factory keyless entry if you keep holding the lock button.

## Speed sensitive windshield wipers

If you're stopped and have the wipers on intermittent, they move even slower. If you are on speed 1, they slow down to a fast intermittent when you stop. If they are on speed 2, they move at speed 1 when stopped.

## Intermittent wiper interval

To set your own wiper interval (which many people don't even know can be done), push the lever up to wipe once, then simply pull it back down to the off position. Wait however long you want the interval to be, and then put it back in the intermittent setting position. The interval is now however long you waited.

### Auto tilting passenger side mirror (late models)

The passenger side mirror automatically tilts down once the car is in reverse to allow you to see the curb and not damage your wheels/make it easier to park. However, for it to work, you must have the mirror switch toggled towards the drivers side.

#### **Explanation of vents**

Hot air is distributed out of all the vents except the rear center vent. Air conditioned air is distributed through the dash vents only. The rear center vent is merely a fresh air vent.

#### **OBC** freezing temperature alert

Once the outside temperature drops below 38 degrees, the gong is sounded and the temperature flashes on the OBC display. This is to alert you that ice may be starting to form on the road.

#### **Rear middle seatbelt holder**

The thing on the platform behind the seat that looks like some sort of UFO triangle is a receptacle for the middle seatbelt. The buckle is simply friction held inside it. Very cool.

#### Auto up/down windows

Early e34s had one touch down and up on the driver's window and sunroof only. Later models had one touch down on all windows and one touch up on driver's window. This feature can be retrofitted to early cars by changing the GM (General module) located under the rear seat on the driver's side. To get auto up/down to work, you don't hold the switch. You simply jab it and release. Many people can't get this right. Just imagine you're putting you are poking a very angry crocodile in the eye.

#### **OBC** Code feature

The CODE feature allows you to disable fuel delivery to the cars engine to keep it from starting. This is very useful if you're planning on parking in a theft-prone area. With key in position 1, press the code button, enter a 4 digit code using the 1000,100,10,1 buttons, then push S/R and remove the key. Any attempt to open the hood will set off the alarm, as well as 3 unsuccessful attempts at starting. To deactivate the feature, insert the key in position 1 or 2, enter the code and push S/R or simply start the car.

# **OBC** Vent feature

If you have the ventilation feature (if not, it can be retrofitted, see <u>www.bmwe34.net</u>), you have your car air itself out at two preset times. Simply push the TIMER button and enter a time then push S/R. The car will then ventilate itself at that time for 30 minutes.

## **Interior light features**

- If you had your headlights on, when the car is shut off, the interior light comes on for a short period of time giving you light to gather your loose stuff before exiting.
- With the car locked, pulling up on the driver's door handle, the interior light comes on for a few seconds. This can only be done twice before it deactivates. It reactivates once the car is unlocked then locked again.
- If you leave a door open, the interior lights automatically go off after 15 minutes to prevent the battery from draining.

## **OBC Hidden features**

There is many hidden features on your on board computer which can show you some very cool things (such as how many liters of gas you have left, your current consumption in liters per hour etc). To see how to get to them, download the following factory OBC training manual: <u>http://www.mediafire.com/?cx0z1zbbmzm</u> \*this will also teach you how to use all the other OBC features\*

## Program which order you want OBC features displayed on the dash

Want the date displayed before the time? Don't want the time at all? Hold down the OBC button on the indicator stalk until PROG1 or PROGRAM1 (pardon me for I don't remember which) shows up on the display. Then simply push the OBC buttons of things you want displayed, in the order you want. When you're finished, simply push S/R.

## Turning off the OBC dash display

If you're displaying OBC readout on the dash and want it to go away, just push the CODE button, and it is turned off.

## **Check control alerts**

With the e34, you don't have to worry about anything. Everything is monitored at all times. Never will you find yourself with low engine oil, washer fluid or even a burnt out taillight bulb without the car telling you.

## Height adjustable seat belts (front)

When the seat is moved front and back, the height of the seatbelt is automatically adjusted to compensate for the height of the driver, ensuring you don't get strangled by it in case of an accident.

# Rear window switch lighting

When the rear window switches are disabled from the center window switches/console, they are not illuminated. When they are enabled, they illuminate. (Note: I don't really remember ever seeing this myself, but I will try it. With the amount of electronics contained in the car, I can believe it).

## **Double-locking feature**

With the key turned past the normal lock position, the double-lock feature comes on. Basically once the car is double locked it can not be unlocked by pulling the door lock pins up. So if someone was to smash the window, they still can't unlock your car. This, coupled with the CODE feature and factory alarm (if you have it), means that your 13 to 19 year old car is safer than 95 percent of brand new cars.

## "I want more e34 stuff!"

Click the following link: http://forums.bimmerforums.com/forum/showpost.php?p=11772495&postcount=1

It contains awesome things such as e34 commercials, service manuals etc.