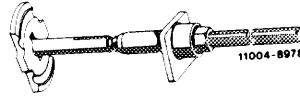


**32-205 Removal and installation of front spring  
(In combination with removal and installation of front axle half on vehicles following an accident)**

**Special tools**

Spring tensioner for front spring



123 589 04 31 00

Socket 32 mm 1/2" square  
445 mm long for spring tensioner



201 589 01 09 00

**Note**

Removal and installation of front spring according to the method described below is recommended whenever the front axle half is about to be removed, e.g. on vehicles following an accident (damaged front end, if access with other spring tensioner is not possible).

In contrast to the normal method, for which the spring is tensioned by way of two pressure plates and can be removed in this condition, the spring is here tensioned by way of a single pressure plate against spring retainer on front end. The spring can then be slackened and taken off after the front axle half has been removed.

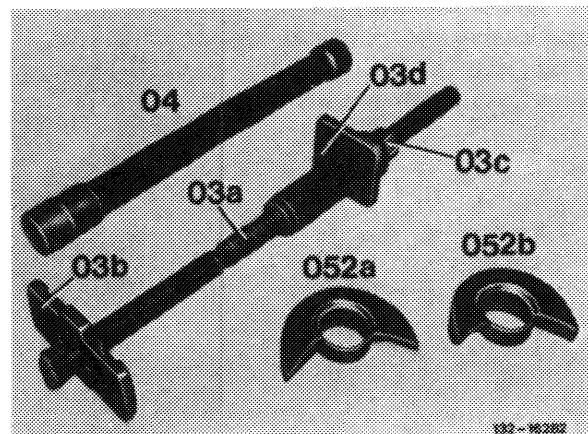
To install front spring, align end coil in relation to lower spring retainer by means of an auxiliary control arm prior to tensioning.

The auxiliary control arm should be a used, lower control arm of the respective model.

The spring tensioner comprises a tensioning screw (03a), tensioning plate (03b), nut and a guide sleeve (03c) and mounting plate (03d).

The spring tensioner is designed to permit operations by means of an impact wrench.

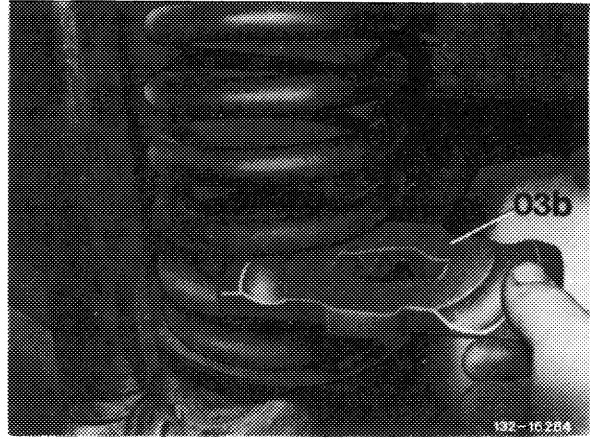
- 03a Tensioning screw
- 03b Tensioning plate
- 03c Nut with guide sleeve
- 03d Mounting plate
- 04 Socket
- 052a Contour plate left } model 116 only
- 052b Contour plate right }



## Removal

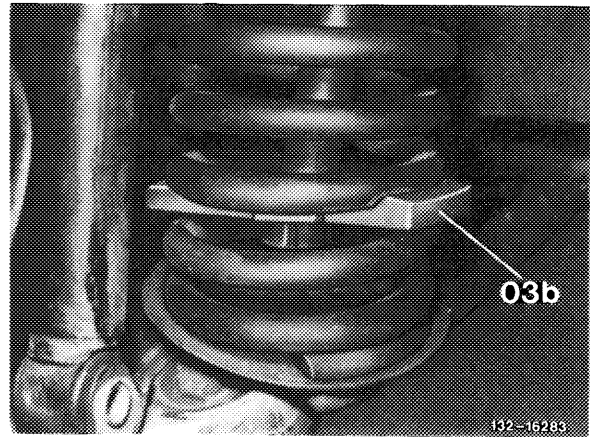
- 1 Jack-up vehicle at front, remove front wheel.
- 2 Slip tensioning plate (03b) of spring tensioner in-between second and third lower spring coil, making sure that the narrow side of the tensioning plate points in driving direction.

03b Tensioning plate



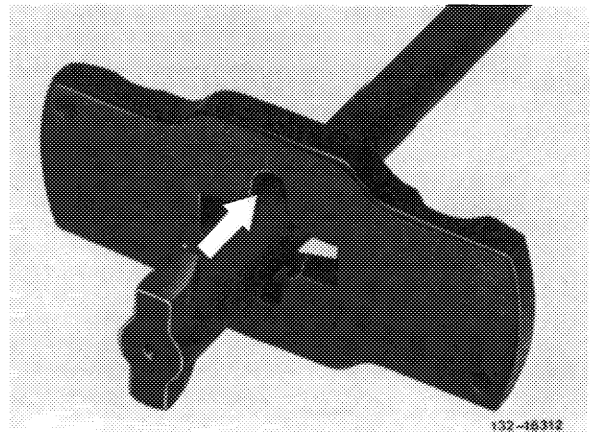
- 3 Introduce tensioning screw (03a) of spring tensioner from direction of engine compartment into slot of tensioning plate and hook to tensioning plate by means of a 90° turn.

03b Tensioning plate



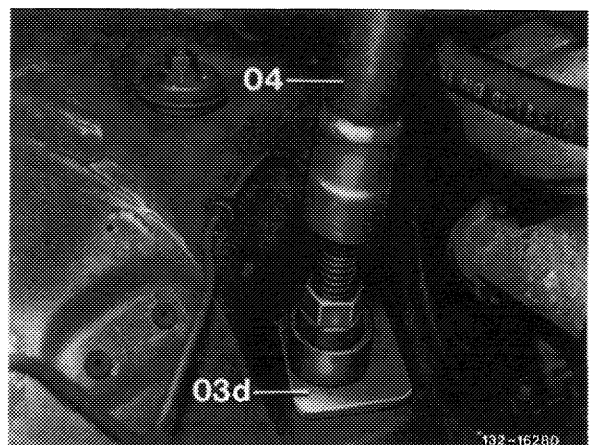
### Attention!

The webs of the tensioning screw and the guide sleeve should be correctly located in grooves of tensioning plate. Danger!



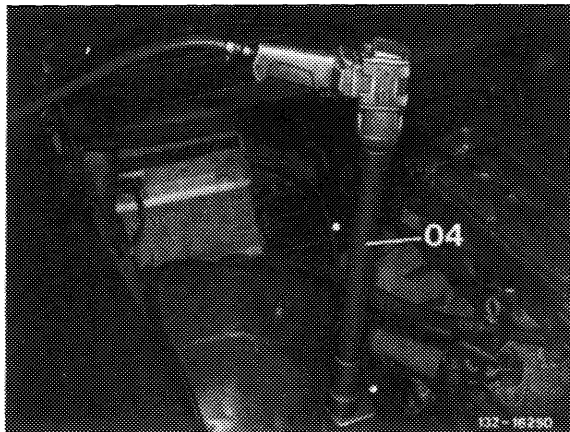
- 4 Tighten tensioning nut by means of socket (04), making sure that the supporting plate (03d) is correctly seated and that the tensioning screw is not rotating in tensioning plate.

04 Socket  
03d Supporting plate



5 Use impact wrench for tensioning spring, if available.

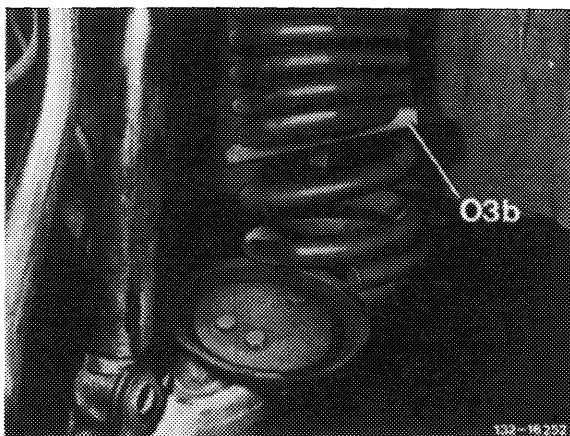
04 Socket



6 Tension spring until spring lifts off from spring retainer on lower control arm.

7 Upon removal of lower control arm or of front axle half, slacken front spring and remove.

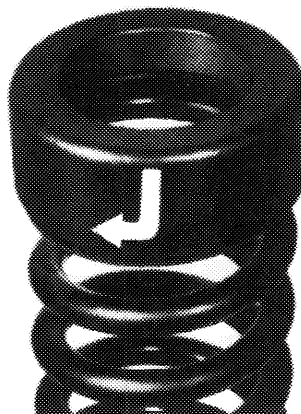
03b Tensioning plate



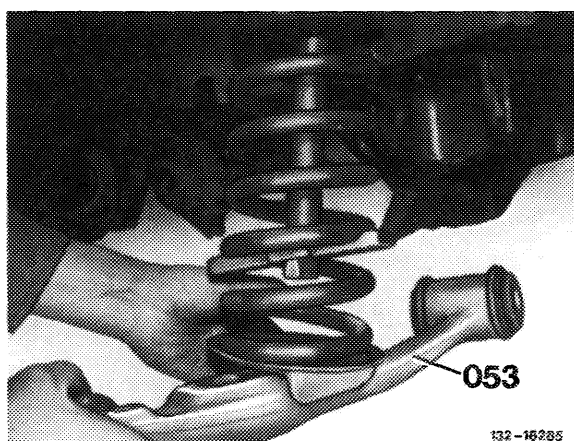
## Installation

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8 Place rubber mount on front spring and locate on spring by turning to the right. Attach rubber mount with textile adhesive tape to spring at two points.



9 Insert front spring with rubber mount and slackened spring tensioner. Locate spring with spring tensioner and auxiliary control arm (053) in such a manner that the lower end coil is in alignment with lower spring retainer.

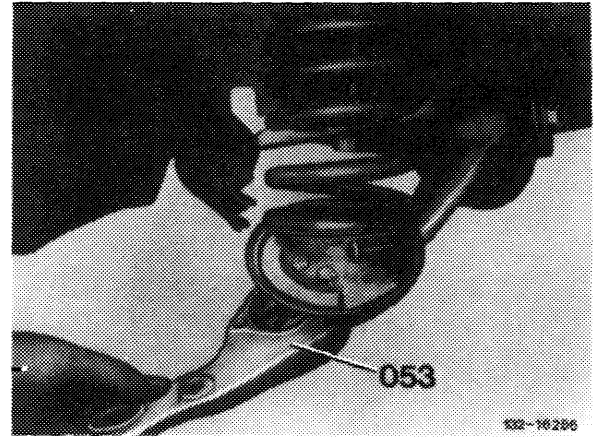


10 Position control arm eye against frame cross member and insert cam bolt.

11 Tension front spring.

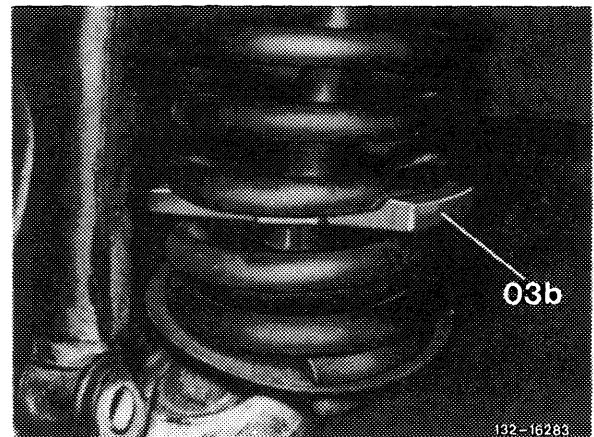
12 Remove auxiliary control arm.

13 Mount front axle half.



14 Slacken front spring.

Make sure that the lower end coil of spring rests correctly on spring retainer. If required, assist with a tire lever.



03b Tensioning plate