

ABS WARNING LIGHT ALL BMW's WITH ANTI-LOCK BRAKES

The anti-lock brake system (ABS) warning light may come on intermittently and normal troubleshooting procedures may not indicate any defects. This problem may occur when the vehicle is driven over 50 mph, or on cars that have recently had two new tires or snow tires installed. Check all four tires on the car to make sure that they are the same brand, tread design and size.

Size is the most important factor to check. Differences in tires may cause enough variance in rolling circumference (see illustration) to confuse the ABS control unit, which in turn may give a false signal to the ABS warning light. This especially holds

true when snow tires are mounted on the rear and they have substantially more tread than the front tires.

It should also be noted that some three series BMW's may experience a situation in which, during braking, the ABS will activate even though the brake application is light and the traction is good.

This may be caused by the pulse ring being loose on either front wheel hub, which allows the pulse ring to slip or rotate sending a false input signal to the ABS control unit. If this situation is found, you must replace the front wheel hub with the loose ring.

