

# The BMW M coupe

A daring expression of extreme performance





There is a shark in the goldfish pond.

No. It's not for everyone. It's not meant to be.

Take the wheel. Become one with a legendary GT heritage stretching back over 75 years.

Summon the ready power of 240 horses.

And put even more distance  
between yourself and the everyday.





You'll immediately sense the difference.

Power?

Power to make the M coupe  
the fastest street-legal BMW ever.

Handling?

Quite possibly the most responsive BMW ever built.

Excitement?

As in race-bred GT styling.

As in breakthrough performance.

As in one of the most thrilling  
driving experiences of your life.





A bold statement of adventure and passion.

For the true driving enthusiast,  
a contemporary GT sports car that  
redefines performance.

For the uncompromising individualist,  
an automobile that shatters the mold.

For the faint of heart? Never.





WAGON

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9





240 horses in a slick two-seater – it's enough to give you a whole new appreciation of the power-to-weight ratio. The race-bred thunder of the 3.2-liter straight six roars from dual twin exhaust pipes; an enhanced M suspension and massive M RoadStar 5-spoke wheels transfer the power to the pavement; and the M coupe slingshots you from 0-60 in a thrilling 5.1 seconds.\* And four-wheel ventilated disc brakes big enough for the larger M3 (12.4" front/ 12.3" rear) balance the picture with serious stopping power.



\*BMW test results. Please obey local traffic laws.




**Pushing the envelope**  
of pure performance



**The M coupe:**  
a classic display of high technology.

European interior shown.  
Analog clock, voltmeter  
and oil temperature gauge  
included in U.S. vehicles.



Distinctively intimate and meticulously detailed, the M coupe has a look all its own: Chrome bezels set off the sport instrumentation – including an engine-oil temperature gauge, voltmeter and analog clock. High-grade Nappa leather on the special M sport seats, armrests and console is standard – and is also available in stunning two-tone color combinations. The three-spoke M sport steering wheel, specially tuned 9-speaker Harman-Kardon audio system, and side-impact airbags are likewise all standard.








A totally new shape: muscular, aerodynamic – practical? Absolutely: the easily accessible cargo area opens up exciting possibilities for a two-seater escape. And large rear-quarter windows slope sharply upwards from pronounced wheel arches for a panoramic view.

Most importantly, the hard-top GT styling of the M coupé gives it the most rigid body BMW has ever built. Combined with its flawless 50/50 weight distribution, this rigidity translates directly into precise, predictable handling.

A large, dark background featuring a spiral-bound notebook on the left side. The notebook's pages are open, showing a space-themed image of a full moon and stars. The text is overlaid on the right page of the notebook.

Now that you've arrived,  
**get ready to  
take flight.**

# Interior and Exterior Color Combinations.

## Standard Colors

## Metallic Colors

<b>Dakar Yellow II</b> 337	<b>Alpine White III</b> 300	<b>Imola Red II</b> 405	<b>Evergreen</b> 358	<b>Boston Green</b> 275	<b>Arctic Silver</b> 309	<b>Cosmos Black</b> 303	<b>Estoril Blue</b> 335
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Interior Leather	Code No.	337	300	405	358	275	309	303	335
Black	Q6SW	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Dark Gray	Q6TT	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Imola Red	Q6IM		●	●			●	●	
Evergreen	Q6EV		●		●		●	●	
Dark Beige	R3SN		●	●	●	●		●	●
Kyalami Orange	Q6KY							●	
Estoril Blue	Q6ES		●				●		●

## Interior Leather Colors



Black    Dark Gray    Imola Red    Evergreen    Dark Beige    Kyalami Orange    Estoril Blue

Uninhibited, uncompromising,  
and driven to extremes.



## Standard & optional features for the M coupe & Z3 coupe 2.8.

### Performance & efficiency

	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
DOHC 24-valve in-line 6-cylinder engine:		
3.2-liter	S	-
2.8-liter	-	S
VANOS variable valve timing (intake camshaft)	S	-
Double VANOS steplessly variable valve timing	-	S
Dual resonance intake system with 3rd (turbulence) intake passages	-	S
Electronically controlled engine cooling	-	S
Direct ignition system with cylinder-specific knock control	S	S
5-speed manual transmission with direct 5th gear	S	S
4-speed electronically controlled automatic transmission with 3 selectable shift modes	-	OPT

S - Standard

OPT - Optional

C - Installed by BMW center.

- - Not applicable.

1 - M aerodynamic mirrors.

2 - Heated-seats option includes heated outside mirrors, windshield-washer jets & driver's door lock.

3 - Instrument-panel areas, console sides, armrests/door pulls & upper door ledges.

4 - Console, steering-wheel spokes, inside door-handle surrounds, shift knob & instrument cluster: available as of 9/98 production.

5 - Includes instrument & center-console control switches, shift-boot surround, inside door handles, door lock buttons, handbrake release button & headlight switch.

6 - Includes instrument surrounds, inside door handles, door lock buttons, handbrake release button & headlight switch.

7 - No spare tire on M coupe.

### Handling, ride & braking

	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
Strut-type front suspension	S	S
M calibrated sport suspension system	S	-
Semi-trailing-arm rear suspension	S	S
Front & rear anti-roll (stabilizer) bars	S	S
Twin-tube gas-pressure shock absorbers	S	S
Engine-speed-sensitive variable-assist power steering	S	S
4-wheel disc brakes, vacuum-assisted:		
Ventilated front & rear discs	S	-
Ventilated front discs	-	S
Antilock braking system (ABS)	S	S
All Season Traction	S	S
Limited-slip differential	S	S
16" x 7.0" cast-alloy wheels, Double Spoke Design (Style 47)	-	S
17" x 7.5" front / 17" x 8.5" rear cast-alloy wheels, Radial Design (Style 32)	-	OPT
17" x 7.5" front / 17" x 9.0" rear cast-alloy wheels, M RoadStar Design (Style 40)	S	-
225/50ZR-16 performance radial tires	-	S
225/45ZR-17 front / 245/40ZR-17 rear performance radial tires	S	OPT

### Exterior & aerodynamics

	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
Body-color bumpers w/ hydraulic energy absorbers	S	S
Front spoiler w/ brake/differential cooling air scoops	S	-
Halogen Free Form low-beam headlights	S	S
Halogen Free Form foglights	-	S
2 speed + intermittent windshield wipers with single-wipe control, speed-sensitive intermittent wiping & automatic switch from low wiper speed to intermittent when vehicle comes to a stop	S	S
Dual power outside mirrors	S <sup>1</sup>	S
Heated outside mirrors, windshield-washer jets & driver's door lock	S	OPT <sup>2</sup>
Chrome exhaust outlets	4	2
Metallic paint	S	OPT

### Safety & security

Dual-airbag front-impact Supplementary Restraint System (SRS)	S	S
Safety belts with automatic pre-tensioners and force limiters	S	S
Side-impact airbags	S	S
Integrated deployment logic for safety-belt tensioners, airbags & Impact Sensor: in event of accident, unlocks doors and activates interior & hazard lights	S	S
Central locking system with double-lock anti-theft feature	S	S
Coded Driveaway Protection	S	S
BMW Remote Keyless Entry Security System	C	C

### Ergonomics, luxury & convenience

	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
Illuminating master key	S	S
Courtesy lights with time delay	S	S
Cruise control	S	S
Electronic analog speedometer & tachometer	S	S
LCD main & trip odometer	S	S
Service interval indicator	S	S
Analog clock	S	-
Onboard Computer	-	OPT
4-way power driver's & passenger's sport seats	S	S
Heated seats	S	OPT <sup>2</sup>
Leather-wrapped steering wheel	S	S
Leather manual-shift boot, handbrake grip & boot	S	S
Nappa leather upholstery (seats & door trim)	S	S
Extended Leather interior trim	S	OPT <sup>3</sup>
Wood shift knob & console trim	-	S
Aluminum-look interior trim	-	S <sup>4</sup>
Chrome Line interior trim	S <sup>5</sup>	OPT <sup>6</sup>
Power windows with 1-touch operation & closing from exterior door locks	S	S
Power tilt moonroof	OPT	OPT
Air conditioning	S	S
Anti-theft Harman Kardon AM/FM stereo radio/cassette audio system with 9 speakers (including subwoofer), mast antenna	S	S
In-dash CD changer/radio	OPT	OPT
Pre-wiring for BMW CD changer, BMW Cellular Phone System & Remote Entry Security System	S	S
BMW Cellular Phone System	C	C
Coinholder and dual cupholders	S	S
Cargo net	S	OPT
Tool kit in spare-tire compartment	S <sup>7</sup>	S

## Tech Specs for the M coupe & Z3 coupe 2.8.

General	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
Curb weight		
Manual	3131	2943
Automatic	-	3031
Weight distribution, front/rear, %:		
Manual transmission	50.0/50.0	50.6/49.4
Automatic transmission	-	51.3/48.7
Wheelbase, in.	96.8	96.3
Track, front/rear, in.	56.0/58.7	55.6/58.8 <sup>1</sup>
Length x width x height, in.	158.5 x 68.5 x 50.4	158.5 x 68.5 x 51.4

Body	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
Type	2-seat coupe	2-seat coupe
Aerodynamic drag coefficient	0.37	0.37
EPA size classification	2-seater	2-seater

Accommodations	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
Seating capacity, persons	2	2
Shoulder room, in.	51.7	51.7
Head room, in.	36.7 / 37.7 <sup>2</sup>	36.7 / 37.7 <sup>2</sup>
Leg room, in.	41.8	41.8
EPA interior volume, cu. ft.	82.0	82.0
EPA cargo volume, cu. ft.	9.0	9.0

Engine & electrical	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
Engine type (both)	DOHC 24-valve in-line 6-cylinder	
Bore x stroke, in./mm.	3.40 x 3.58 / 86.4 x 91.0	3.31 x 3.31 / 84.0 x 84.0
Displacement, cu. in./cc.	3152	2793
Compression ratio	10.5:1	10.2:1
Variable valve timing	VANOS, intake camshaft, 2-stage	Double VANOS intake & exhaust camshafts, stepless
Power @ rpm, hp	240 @ 6000	193 @ 5500
Torque @ rpm, lb-ft	236 @ 3800	206 @ 3500
Fuel requirement	Premium unleaded	Premium unleaded
Fuel capacity, U.S. gal.	13.5	13.5

Performance data	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
Acceleration, 0-60 mph, sec. <sup>3</sup>		
Manual	5.1	6.3
Automatic	-	6.7
Top speed, mph <sup>4</sup>		
Manual	137	128
Automatic	-	128
Fuel Economy <sup>5</sup>		
City, manual	19	19
Highway, manual	26	26
City, automatic	-	19
Highway, automatic	-	26

Drivetrain	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
Drive system (both)	Front engine / rear-wheel drive with All Season Traction & limited-slip differential	
Manual transmission (both)	ZF-C, 5-speed	ZF-C, 5-speed
Ratios:		
1st	4.21:1	4.21:1
2nd	2.49:1	2.49:1
3rd	1.66:1	1.66:1
4th	1.24:1	1.24:1
5th	1.00:1	1.00:1
Reverse	3.85:1	3.85:1
Final drive ratio	3.23:1	3.15:1
Automatic transmission	-	THM R1, 4-speed 3 selectable shift modes
Ratios:		
1st	-	2.86:1
2nd	-	1.62:1
3rd	-	1.00:1
4th	-	0.72:1
Reverse	-	2.00:1
Final drive ratio	-	4.10:1

1 - With standard wheels.

2 - Without / with available moonroof.

3 - Preliminary data supplied by BMW. Actual acceleration results may vary, depending on specification of vehicle, road and environmental conditions; testing procedures and driving style. These results should be used for comparison only and verification should not be attempted on public roads. BMW urges you to obey all posted speed laws and always wear safety belts.

4 - Top speed electronically limited.

5 - EPA-estimated figures are for comparison purposes only. Your actual highway mileage may vary, depending on speed and trip length; actual highway mileage will most likely be lower.

TBA - To be announced.

Chassis	M coupe	Z3 coupe 2.8
Body / frame construction	Unitized steel	Unitized steel
Front suspension (both)	Struts, arc-shaped lower arms, coil springs, twin-tube gas-pressure shock absorbers, anti-roll bar (M coupe: BMW M sport suspension system)	
Rear suspension (both)	Semi-trailing arms, coil springs, twin-tube gas-pressure shock absorbers, anti-roll bar (M coupe: BMW M sport suspension system with modified rear axle anti-dive/squat geometry)	
Steering type (both)	Rack & pinion, engine-speed-sensitive power assist	
Overall ratio	17.8:1	15.4:1
Turns lock-to-lock	3.2	2.72
Turning circle, ft.	34.1	32.8
Antilock braking system:		
Front discs	12.4-in. ventilated	11.3-in. ventilated
Rear discs	12.3-in. ventilated	10.7-in. solid
Wheels: standard	Cast alloy, 17 x 7.5 front 17 x 9.0 rear	Cast alloy, 16 x 7.0 front 16 x 7.0 rear
optional	-	17 x 7.5 front 17 x 8.5 rear
Tires: standard	225/45ZR-17 front 245/40ZR-17 rear	225/50ZR-16
optional	-	225/45ZR-17 front 245/40ZR-17 rear



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The Ultimate Driving Machine®