

2021+DME Unlock and Tune Instructions

Updated: May 5th, 2026

DME Removal and Shipping

Please follow the instructions below carefully to ensure fast turnaround!

Step 1. Remove the DME(s)

- Please park the car in a safe place as the turnaround time is 3 to 5 days.
- Disconnect the battery negative terminal and ensure it will not come into contact with the negative post inadvertently. Keep the battery disconnected until the DME(s) are returned and reinstalled.
- Remove the DME(s)
- Record the 9-digit DME Serial number(s) found on the bottom left-hand side of the DME sticker. You will enter this into the Unlock Request Form.
- If V8 engine, label the DMEs “Driver” and “Passenger” to aid in reinstallation.

Step 2: Complete the Unlock Form

- Please fill out the below form:
[2021+ DME Bench Unlock Request Form](#)
- Once complete, please wait for the tracking slip, UPS shipping labels, disclaimer and other instructions.
- Print and paste the Tracking Slip to the back of the DME(s).

Step 3: Prepare the DME

- Place the DME(s) into ESD safe zip-lock bags.

Please note that the ESD safe bags are to be reused if in good condition. Additional bags can be purchased using the links below:-

[Resealable-Static-Shielding-Bags from U-line](#)

[Resealable-Static-Shielding-Bags from Amazon](#)

Step 3: Hard Case



Foam 2

Foam 1

Thin Base Foam Layer

Leave the thin base foam layer at the bottom of the case

Step 4: Pack the DME(s)

- Single DME



Place Foam 1 on the thin base foam layer and place the DME on Foam 1



Place Foam 2 on top of the DME

- Dual DMEs



Place the DME directly on the thin base foam layer.



Place Foam 1 on DME 1



Place DME 2 on Foam 1

Step 5: Lock the Case

- Leave two anti-theft seals in the case.
- Close the case lid and apply even pressure to compress the foam slightly for a snug fit.
- Secure both latches firmly and gently shake the case to ensure no movement or rattling is detected.
- The pressure valve on the front of the case should be open when in transit to prevent pressure buildup.
- Secure both sides of the case with the anti-theft seals. Additional seals can be purchased using the link: [Anti-theft seals from Amazon](#)
- In case of damage to the foam inserts, additional foam inserts can be purchased using the link: [Replacement Foam Inserts](#)

Step 5: Ready to Ship

- Affix the UPS shipping label to the outside of the box.
Optional: Place the hard case inside a suitably sized cardboard box and add padding as needed.
- Please drop off at a nearby UPS location or hand it to the UPS delivery driver during their routine pick-up of your other shipments.

Tune Process

Step 1: Apply the OBD Unlock Patch

- Once the DME(s) are back, ensure the DME(s) serial # in the Tracking slip matches the one on the DME sticker.
- Apply the OBD unlock patch to the DME(s) using the Autotuner tool with the plug-and-play harness:
 - For V8 engines: passenger side first, then driver side.

Step 2: Install DME(s)

- Install the DME(s) in the vehicle.
- Ensure the DME connectors are secured by locking the tabs.
- Reconnect the battery terminals.
- Ensure the engine starts and idles normally without any warning messages.

Step 3: Tune

- Complete the CarBahn SW and Warranty Request Form using the link below:
[CarBahn SW and Warranty Request Form](#)
- For CarBahn Tunes via Bootmod3/MHD, please contact software@carbahn.com
Note: Retail customers must get the OBD unlock patch applied before proceeding with the flash via Bootmod3/MHD.
- For CarBahn Tunes via Autotuner Slave Tool:-
 - Enable diagnostic mode.
 - Connect to the vehicle via OBD using the Autotuner tool.
 - Connect the Autotuner tool to the laptop with the provided USB cable.
 - In the Autotuner application, switch to OBD mode, perform a virtual read, and save file.
 - Respond to CarBahn's automated confirmation email by attaching the virtual read file.
 - Wait to receive the tuned file (typically within a few hours).
 - Download and flash the tuned file via OBD using the Autotuner Tool.
 - Clear codes with a professional scanner.
 - Disable OTA/Remote SW update (Refer to the next page).
 - Test drive.

Disabling BMW Remote Software Updates

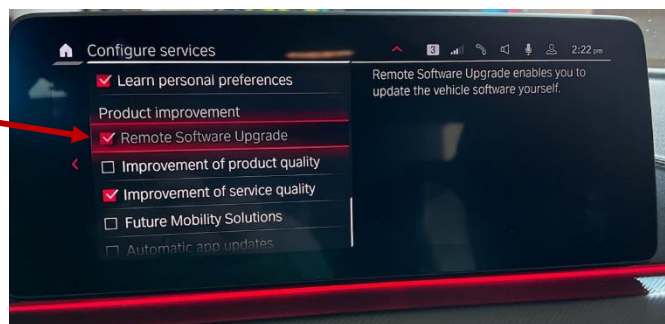
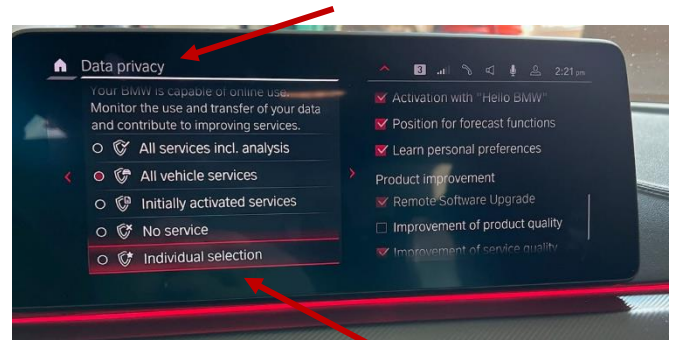
Follow these instructions to disable BMW's remote software updates. This is important to prevent CarBahn's tuned software from being overwritten!

DISABLE SOFTWARE UPDATES IN BOTH PLACES (Mobile App and iDrive)

Step 1: Disable in the iDrive System

To Disable in iDrive 7:

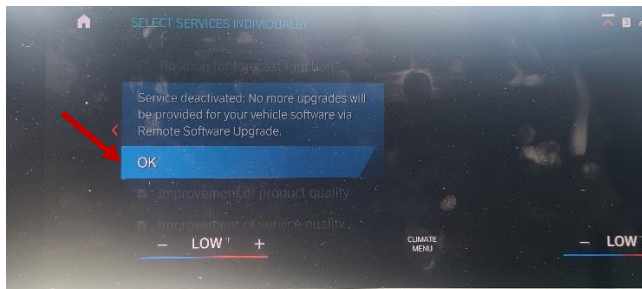
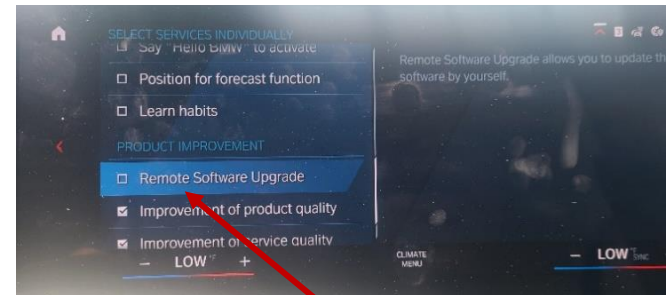
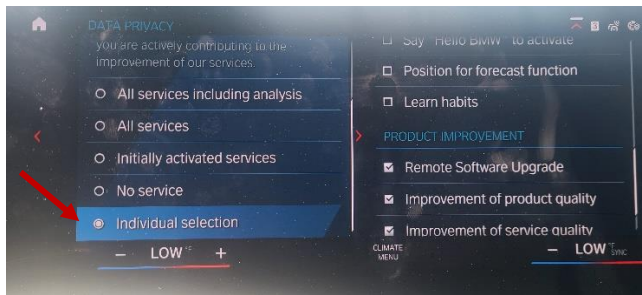
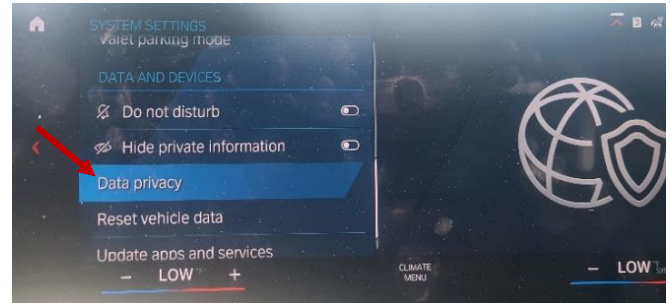
1. On the iDrive display, navigate to:
 - Menu → Car → Settings → General Settings
 - Data Privacy → Individual Selection → Product Improvement
2. Uncheck the "Remote Software Upgrade" box



Uncheck "Remote Software"

To Disable in iDrive 8:

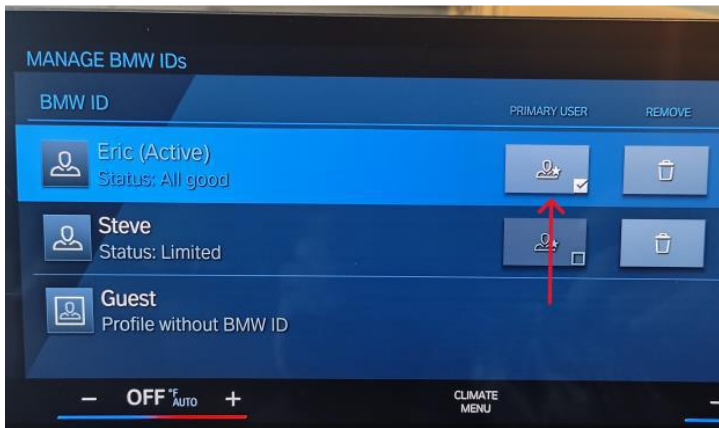
1. On the iDrive display, navigate to:
 - o Menu → All apps → System settings
 - o Data Privacy → Individual Selection → Product Improvement
2. Uncheck the “Remote Software Upgrade” box



Uncheck “Remote Software

If the Data Privacy option is missing:

1. Ensure the active BMW ID is configured as a Primary User. If not, configure the ID as a Primary User by making the selection in iDrive and following the instructions in the My BMW mobile app User Icon → Manage BMW IDs → Primary User Icon
2. Once the active ID is a Primary User, revisit steps 1 and 2 above



Step 2: Disable in the BMW Mobile App

To Disable in the Mobile App:

1. Open the BMW Mobile App
2. Navigate to:
Info Tab (Car Logo) → Settings → Remote Software Upgrade
3. Find “Download Automatically” and Toggle it OFF

