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- Check all fluid levels
- Diagnostic check of engine
- Check all belts and hoses
- Supply & install spark plugs
- Check tires & pressure
- Check charging systems
- Lube all doors
- Check battery & cables
- Check all filters
- Check cooling systems

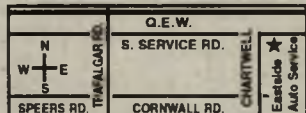
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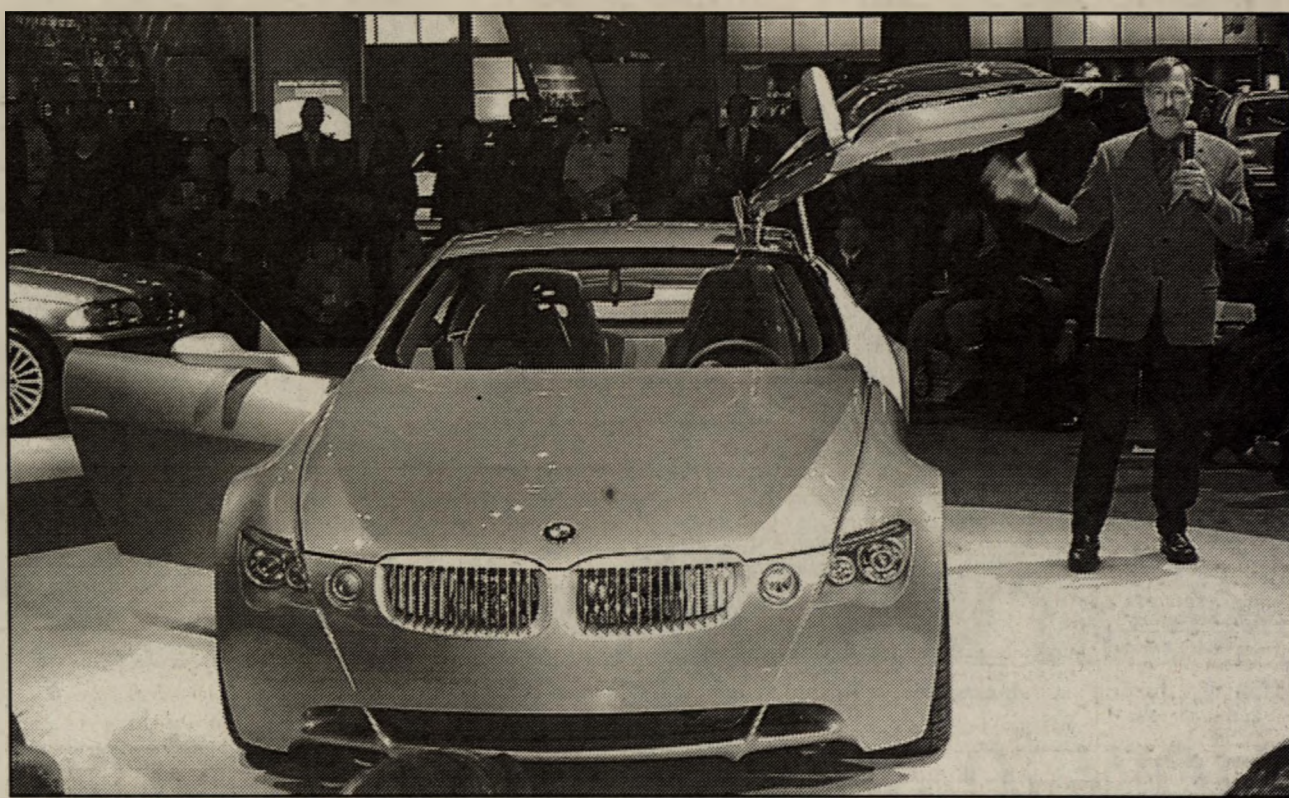
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BMW has unveiled the Z9 super touring car with turbocharged 3.9-litre, eight-cylinder diesel power.

BMW's concept car puts firm in hunt for world's top sportster

BMW wasted little time upping the supercar ante with the revelation of its Z9 concept car.

Not to be confused with the Z8 that is going on sale later this year and is the spiritual descendant of the BMW 507, the Z9 bears a family resemblance to nothing that has gone before.

Instead of multi-cylinder, multi-valve, supercharger power, the Z9 uses the eight-cylinder, 3.9-litre turbo diesel that produces more than 350 hp and 413 ft/lb of torque. Like the Z8, an aluminum spaceframe is used to lower weight.

With engine in the front and drive in the rear, the car features 20-inch wheels at the front and 21-inch at the

rear. The wide and broad body shape appears as if stretched over the frame like latex.

Worthy of note are the doors which are gullwing at both sides to allow back seat passengers to enter and exit easily. Integrated into each gullwing is a conventional front door to allow the front seat passenger or driver conventional access.

Operation of the doors is done remotely by a smart key. To start the car, the key is placed in a slot in the centre console. This opens a cover to reveal the instrument panel and a direct view on-board monitor.

Icy blues and luminescent greens in various shades and levels (à la iMac) are offset by the use of glowing

copper orange in places like the back-lite ventilation grids.

Four large buttons arranged in a square around a rotary knob control audio, communication, comfort and drive functions. The monitor is 8.8-inches square and can be used for a variety of functions from car-specific to navigation.

The Z9 is also fully functionally, not a styling exercise with a plywood engine. The fact that it is a "roller" indicates that BMW is going to decide in the near future on the Z9's future.

Considering that Mercedes-Benz has given the green light for the Vision SLR super car for 2003, the Z9, in a closely related form, cannot be far behind.

Match your car security system to value of your vehicle

Car theft is on the rise. One motor vehicle is stolen every 20 seconds, 22 percent of all thefts are items taken from motor vehicles, and another 15.6 percent are theft of motor vehicle parts and accessories such as cassette and CD players, CB radios and cellular phones. However, installing a security system in your vehicle can offer some protection from theft and may even deter would-be thieves.

TYPES OF SECURITY SYSTEMS

There are many different types of car security devices. Here are some examples:

- A blinking light on the dash or the doors lets thieves know that you have set an alarm (just knowing a security device is in use discourages many thieves);
- an electric hood lock foils thieves who try to disable your alarm by disconnecting your battery cables;

- sensors (which fill your car's interior with ultrasonic sound waves or microwaves) sound an alarm when a thief hits the window with a hard object, tries to open the hood, or attempts to tow away your car;

- field-disturbance sensors shield an open convertible or truck cargo bed with an invisible microwave field (an alarm sounds when a would-be thief enters the field);

- an ignition cut-off switch can prevent your car from starting;

- your stereo equipment can be protected by an electric shock strong enough to discourage any thief who touches it;

- and a homing device (or location recovery) that, installed in your car, enables police to pick up signals from your stolen vehicle, then follow them to find it.

COST

Some fully accessorized systems cost as much as \$1000. Other simple, active systems cost less than \$100. Less-expensive options are: locks for the steering wheel, accelerator and brake pedals, wheels, sunroof and T-tops; kits for etching your vehicle identification number on car windows and other parts (making it harder for a thief to sell them); and devices to lock your cassette or CD receiver into the dash or remove it when you leave the vehicle.

It's a good idea to match the system to the value of your vehicle, its contents, the degree to which vehicles like yours are known to be stolen, and the likelihood of crime in the area in which you park your vehicle. Bottom line — protect yourself and your car — the initial investment can save you money and grief by protecting you from theft.

— Courtesy of the Electronic Industries Association

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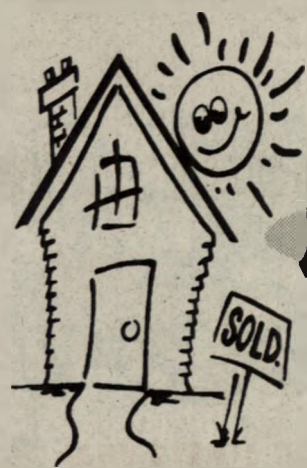
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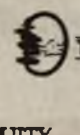


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