



International Carwash Association
Serving the Professional Car Care Industry

401 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611-4267
P 312.321.5199
F 312.245.1085
e-mail: ica@smithbucklin.com
www.CarCareCentral.com

Vehicle Alert: BMW 2002 and Later 7 Series New Keyless Ignition and Rain Sensor

The 2002 and later BMW 7 Series cars have a new keyless ignition with a remote control that is inserted into a slot in the dash, rather than a key...

Because of this unique ignition system, complications can occur when the vehicle enters a full service car wash where the customer must exit the car. BMW has provided the following instructions to clarify the correct procedure to allow a BMW Series 7 to proceed through a full service car wash.

1. Car is moved into position ready for wash.
2. Deactivate the rain sensor by pressing the button on the end of the wiper system lever on the right hand side of the steering wheel. The green rain sensor indicator light on the switch will go out. (Note: The rain sensor detects water on the windshield and will automatically turn on the windshield wipers).
3. To disengage the parking brake:
 - o If the *automatic hold* is activated (green "auto P" illuminated on the instrument cluster), press the parking brake push button *twice* to disengage the parking brake.
 - o If the *parking brake* is engaged (red P illuminated on the instrument cluster), press the parking brake push button once to disengage the parking brake.
4. Set the vehicle in N (neutral) position and turn the engine off by pressing the Start/Stop button *once*. The remote control *must* remain in the ignition lock. The car can now proceed through the car wash.

NOTE: N (neutral) is automatically set when the engine is turned off in Drive or Reverse and the remote control remains in the ignition lock. For safety reasons, the vehicle automatically sets to P (park) position after 30 minutes.

When the car exits the wash lane it may be restarted by stepping on the brake and pressing the Start/Stop button once, or it can be placed in Park by pressing the button on the end of the shifter stalk.

Although initially confusing and intimidating, the system will become simplified as usage becomes more frequent. Other car manufacturers are introducing this feature in the near future, so the car wash owner/operators must accept this new concept and educate their employees to the recommended procedures.

The International Carwash Association would like to thank BMW for providing the proper instructions for car wash operators to follow when washing the 2002 and later BMW Series 7 vehicles.