

Mercedes-Benz SBC Brake Bleeding Procedure

Professional workshop procedure for bleeding Mercedes-Benz Sensotronic Brake Control (SBC) systems fitted to vehicles such as W211, R230 and W219 chassis.

Tested Diagnostic Equipment

- Mercedes STAR / Xentry
- Bosch KTS
- Launch diagnostic systems
- Snap-on diagnostic systems

Important Procedure Notes

- Battery charger support is NOT mandatory. The bleeding procedure can be performed with the engine running.
- Once the SBC bleeding procedure has been initialised, a brake pressure bleeder MUST remain connected to the brake fluid reservoir.
- Brake pressure bleeder pressure must remain at approximately 2.5 bar throughout the procedure.
- Always follow the exact bleeding instructions displayed by the diagnostic equipment being used.
- On front brake calipers it is mandatory to press the brake pedal a minimum of 5 times on each side, as instructed by the diagnostic procedure.

Required Equipment

- SBC-compatible diagnostic equipment
- Pressure brake bleeder capable of maintaining 2.5 bar
- DOT 4+ brake fluid meeting Mercedes-Benz specification
- Bleed hose and waste container
- Protective gloves and eye protection

Safety Notes

- Never disconnect hydraulic brake lines while SBC is active.
- Do not allow the brake fluid reservoir to run low.
- Brake fluid damages paintwork — clean spills immediately.
- Ensure the pressure bleeder remains connected during the entire bleed sequence.

Preparation Procedure

- Connect diagnostic equipment and identify the vehicle.
- Enter the SBC module and select brake bleeding / workshop mode.
- Remove old brake fluid carefully without introducing air into the system.
- Fill the reservoir with fresh DOT 4+ brake fluid.
- Connect pressure bleeder and maintain approximately 2.5 bar pressure.

- The vehicle may remain running during the procedure.

Main SBC Bleeding Procedure

- Follow the bleed order specified by the diagnostic equipment.
- Attach bleed hose to the caliper.
- Open bleed nipple slightly.
- Run the SBC bleeding routine through the diagnostic system.
- Allow fluid to flow until air bubbles are no longer present.
- Close bleed nipple before the bleed cycle finishes.
- On front calipers, press the brake pedal a minimum of 5 times per side as instructed by the diagnostic system.
- Repeat procedure for all wheels.

Post-Bleed Checks

- Remove pressure bleeder.
- Adjust brake fluid level to MAX mark.
- Clear any SBC fault codes.
- Cycle ignition OFF and ON.
- Check brake pedal feel.
- Road test vehicle carefully and recheck for leaks or warning lights.

Typical Bleeding Order

Step	Wheel
1	Rear Right (RR)
2	Rear Left (RL)
3	Front Right (FR)
4	Front Left (FL)

This document is intended for experienced technicians familiar with Mercedes-Benz SBC systems. Always follow manufacturer-approved safety procedures.