

## Airbag

### Airbag system, safety precautions

#### **WARNING!**

- ◆ *Airbag components must only be checked, removed, installed and/or repaired by qualified Service department personnel.*
- ◆ *NEVER conduct tests on airbag system components with a test light or multimeter.*
- ◆ *The airbag system must only be checked when installed in the vehicle, using the VAG1551 scan tool.*
- ◆ *Before starting work on any part of the airbag system, disconnect the battery Ground (GND) strap. No waiting time is necessary after disconnecting the battery. When reconnecting the airbag system to a power supply source (i.e. reconnecting the Ground strap), the passenger compartment must NOT be occupied.*

#### **CAUTION!**

- ◆ *Airbag units must be installed immediately after being removed from their packaging.*

- ◆ *If the work is interrupted during the installation, return the airbag unit to its packaging.*
  
- ◆ *DO NOT leave an airbag unit unattended.*

**CAUTION!**

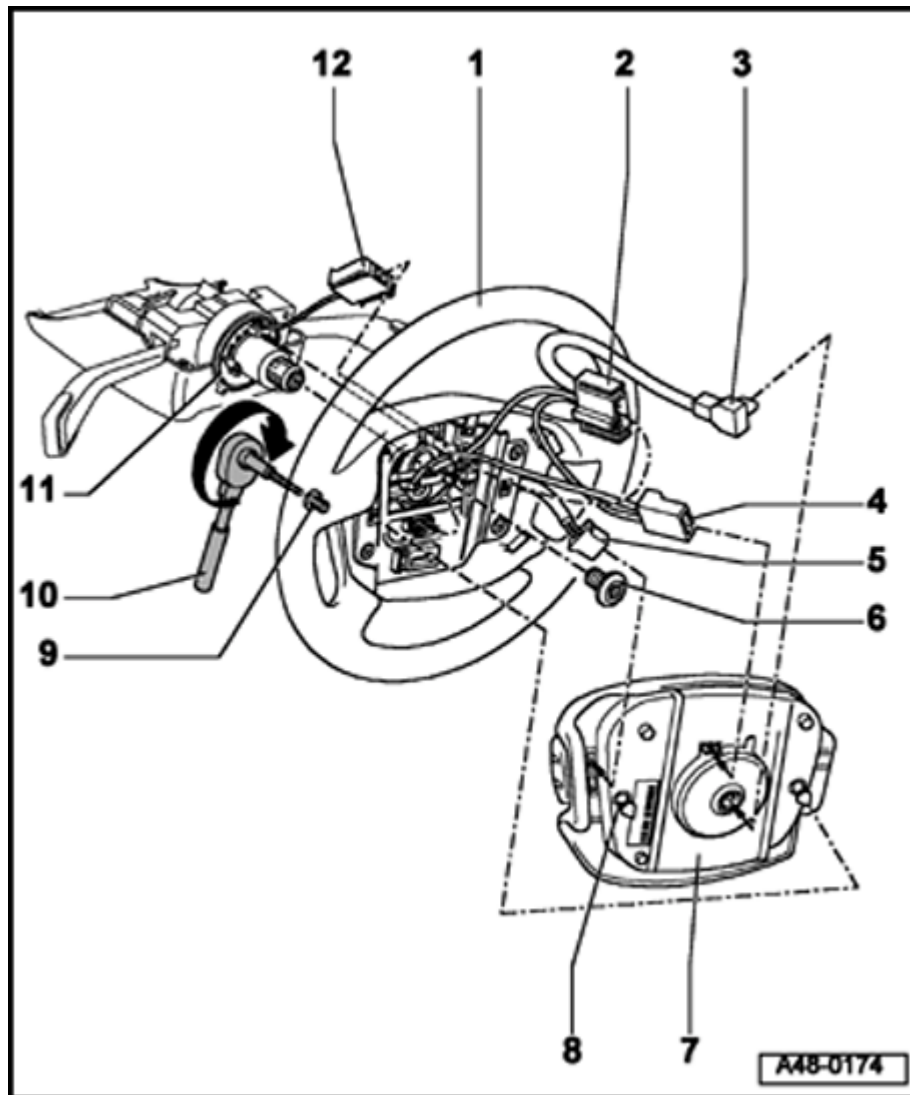
- ◆ *After removal from the vehicle, ALWAYS set the airbag unit down with padded side facing upward.*
- ◆ *Airbag system components must not be opened, disassembled or repaired. Always use new parts.*
- ◆ *Airbag units which have dropped onto a hard surface or show signs of damage must not be installed in the vehicle.*
- ◆ *Airbag units have a limited service life. Airbag units must be replaced after 14 years. On vehicles ➤ m.y. 1997, also replace sticker on B-pillar. On vehicles m.y. 1997 ➤ there is no longer a sticker on B-pillar, replacement info. must be recorded in the service record.*
- ◆ *Airbag units which have not been activated should be placed in the airbag unit transport container, marked and returned to the Warranty Parts Test Center for proper disposal. DO NOT deploy airbag in the vehicle.*
- ◆ *NEVER treat airbag units with grease,*

*cleaners or similar materials.*

♦ ***NEVER expose airbag units to temperatures above 100° C (212° F), even for short periods.***

Removing and installing airbag unit:

⇒ [Repair Manual, Body Interior, Repair Group 69](#)



## Driver-side airbag unit, removing and installing

### **WARNING!**

**Observe all safety precautions before starting work on any part of the airbag system ⇒ [page 48-62](#) .**

#### **1 - Steering wheel**

- ◆ Removing and installing ⇒ [page 48-67](#)
- ◆ Secure loose wiring

#### **2 - Harness connector for spiral spring**

#### **3 - Harness connector for airbag unit**

#### **4 - Harness connector for electrostatic discharge**

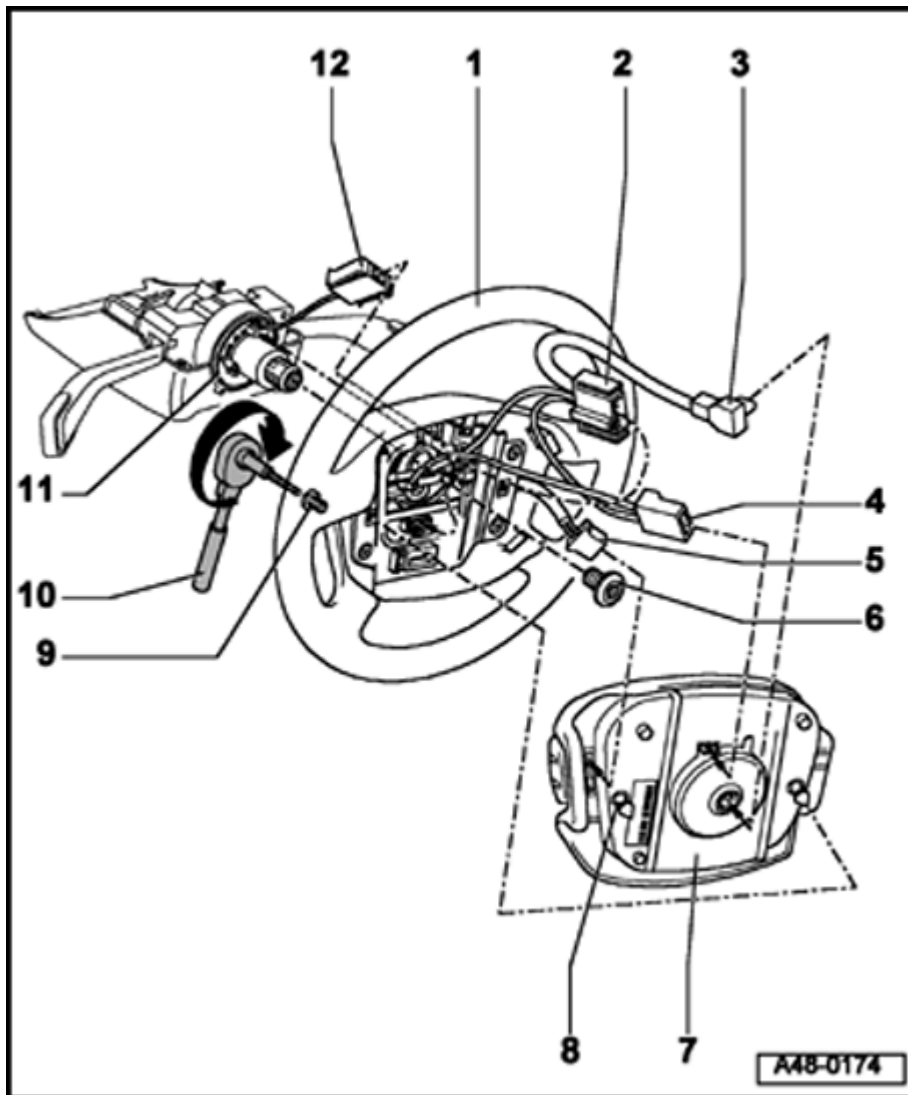
- ◆ ➤ 1998 m.y. only

#### **5 - Multi-function harness connector**

- ◆ Vehicles with multi-function feature only

#### **6 - Multi-point socket head bolt**

- ◆ Always replace
- ◆ 60 Nm (44 ft lb)



7 - Airbag unit

8 - Locking lugs

9 - Torx<sup>®</sup> screws

◆  $7 \pm 1$  Nm ( $62 \pm 9$  in. lb)

◆ M.y. 1998 ➤ locking lugs - 8 - replaced with Torx<sup>®</sup> screws

10 - Torx<sup>®</sup> bit socket (T30)

11 - Self-cancelling ring, spiral spring and slip ring

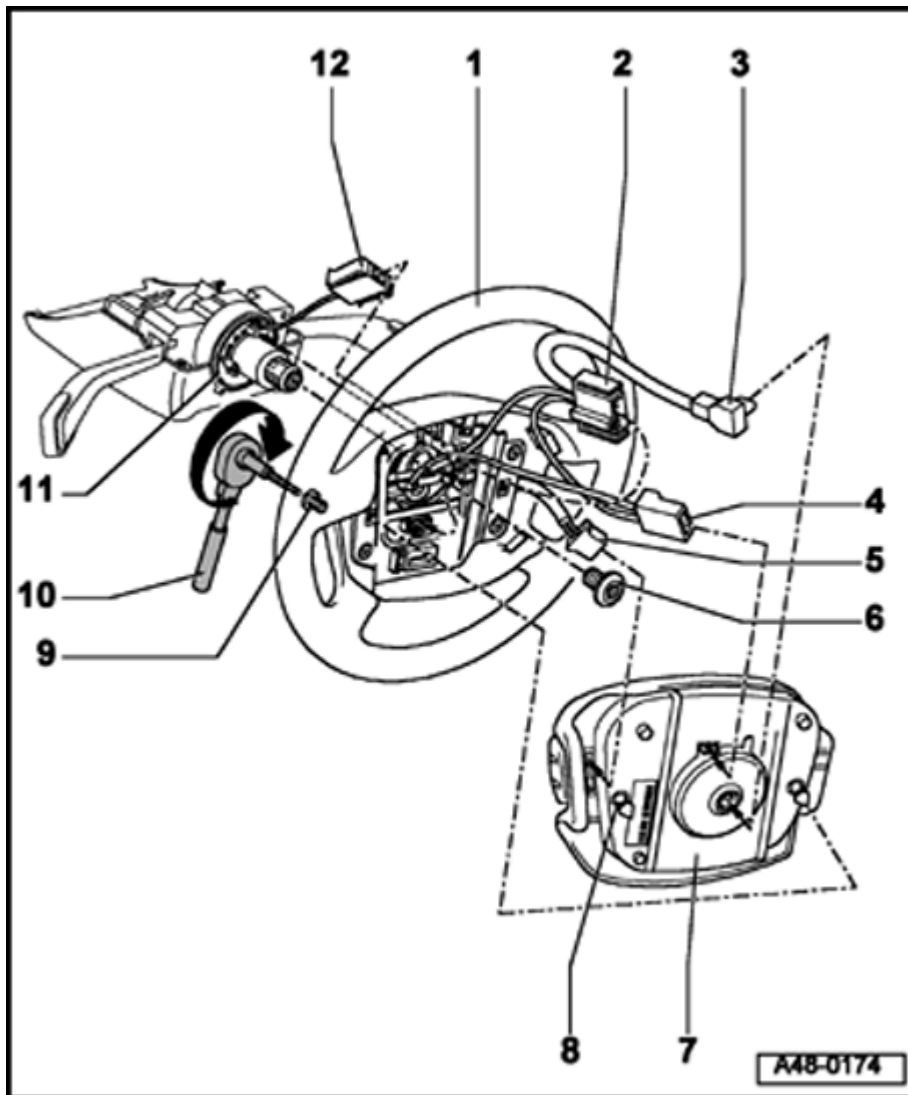
12 - Harness connector for heated steering wheel

#### Removing

#### **WARNING!**

**Observe all safety precautions before starting work on any part of the airbag system** ⇒ [page 48-62](#) .

- Release steering column adjustment mechanism.
- Pull steering wheel outward and upward as far as possible.
- Turn steering wheel so that hub and spokes are in vertical position.



- Unscrew Torx<sup>®</sup> screws (in direction indicated by arrow) and remove airbag unit.
- Disconnect harness connectors - 3 - and - 4 - from airbag unit.
- Place airbag unit down with padded side facing upward.

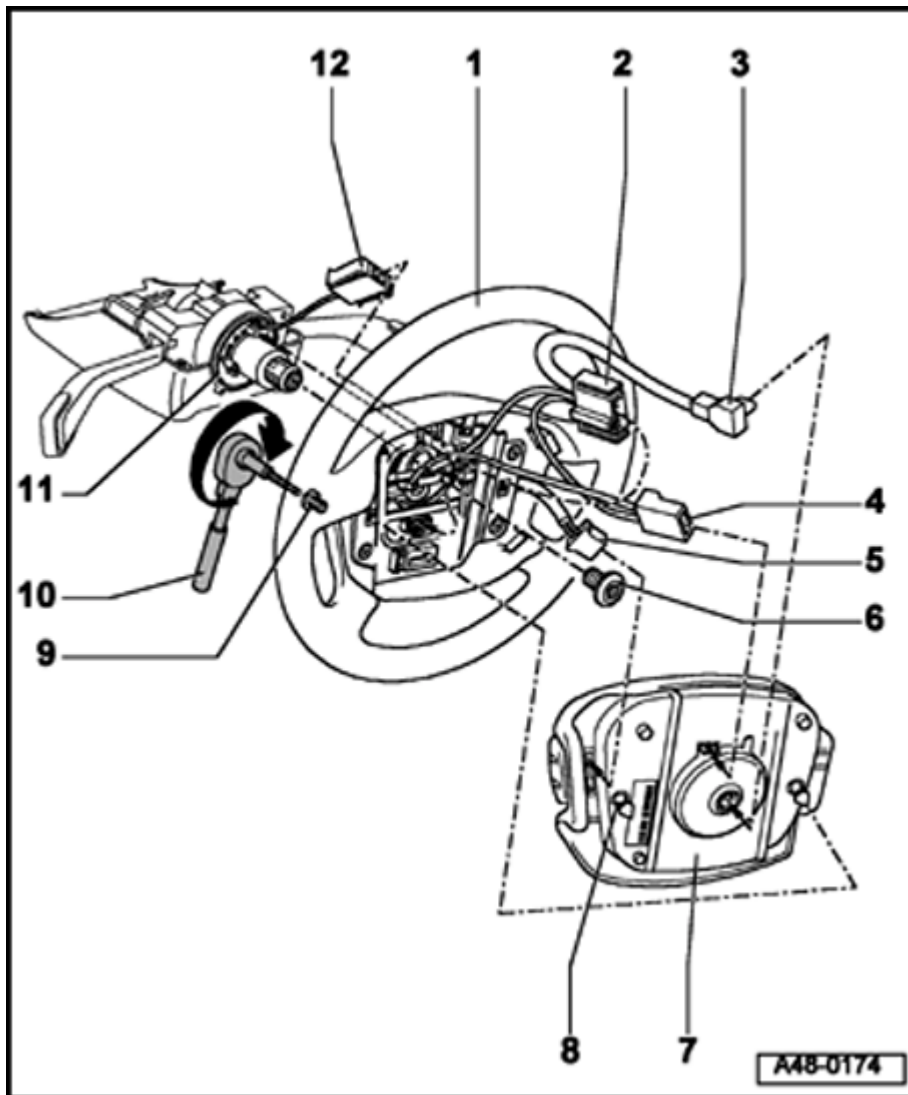
### Installing

- Make sure harness connectors and airbag unit engage properly (with audible click).

### **WARNING!**

***Make sure the passenger compartment is not occupied before connecting the battery Ground (GND) strap.***

- Switch ignition on then connect battery Ground (GND) strap.



## Steering wheel, removing and installing

### **WARNING!**

**Observe all safety precautions before starting work on any part of the airbag system** ⇒ [page 48-62](#) .

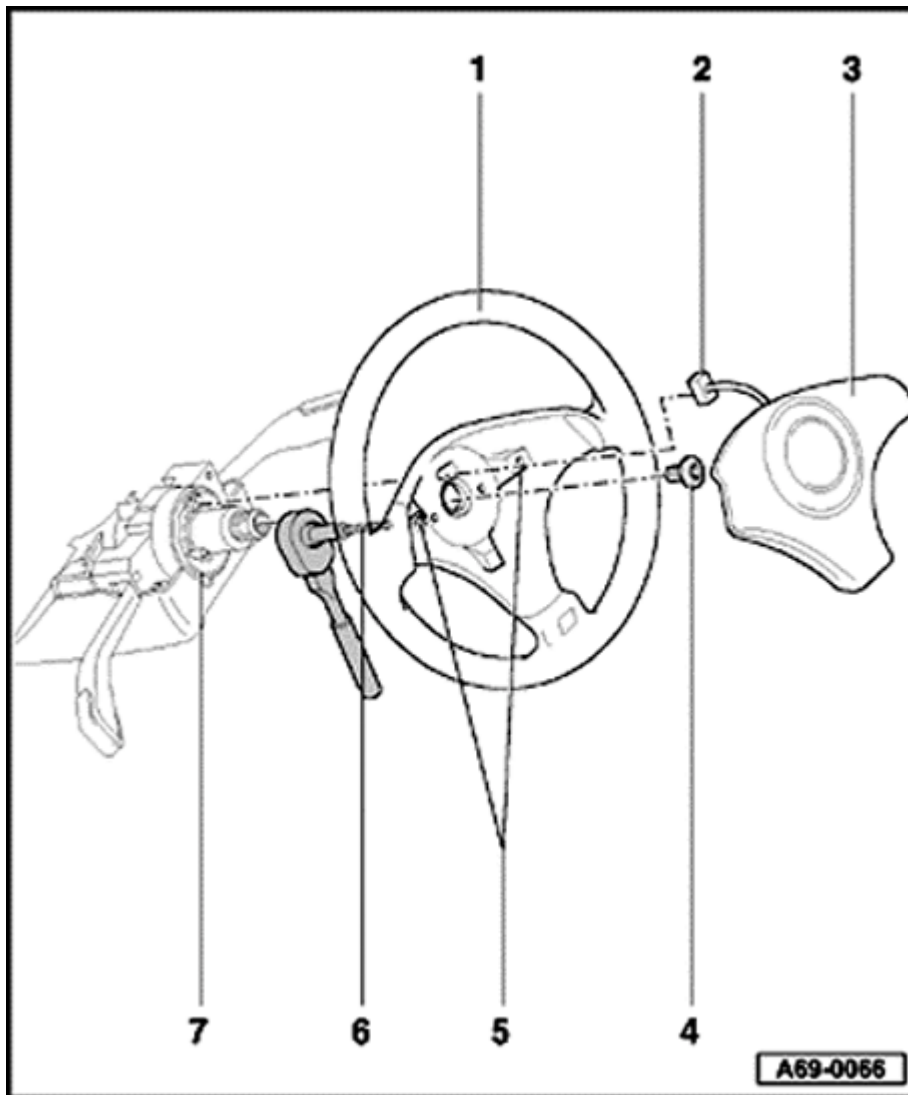
### Removing

- Remove airbag unit ⇒ [page 48-64](#) .
- Turn steering wheel to center position (wheels straight-ahead).
- Remove bolt - 6 - .
- Disconnect harness connectors - 2 - and - 12 - .

### Installing

- Install steering wheel in center position (wheels straight-ahead).
- Make sure harness connectors engage properly (with audible click).
- Install new bolt - 6 - and tighten to 60 Nm (44 ft lb).
- Install airbag unit ⇒ [page](#) ⇒ [Page 48-64](#) .





## Driver-side airbag unit (sport steering wheel), removing and installing

### **WARNING!**

**Observe all safety precautions before starting work on any part of the airbag system ⇒ [page 48-62](#) .**

#### 1 - Steering wheel

- ◆ Removing and installing ⇒ [page 48-70](#)

#### 2 - Harness connector for spiral spring

#### 3 - Airbag unit

#### 4 - Multi-point socket-head bolt

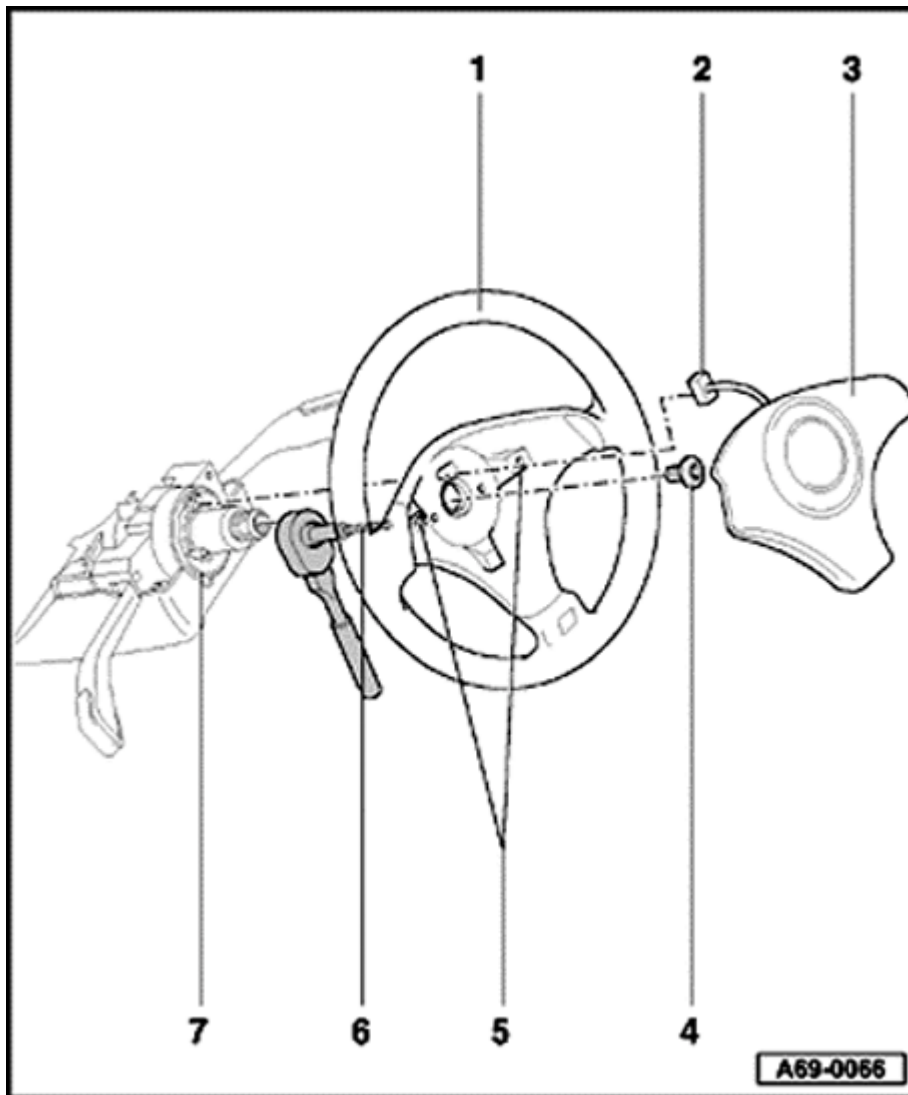
- ◆ Always replace
- ◆ 60 Nm (44 ft lb)

#### 5 - Torx<sup>®</sup> bolts (T30)

- ◆ 7 Nm (62 in. lb)

#### 6 - Torx<sup>®</sup> bit socket (T30)

#### 7 - Self canceling ring, spiral spring and slip ring



### Removing

- Using Torx<sup>®</sup> bit socket (T30) remove bolts mounting airbag unit.
- Disconnect harness connector - 2 -.
- Place airbag unit down with padded side facing upward.

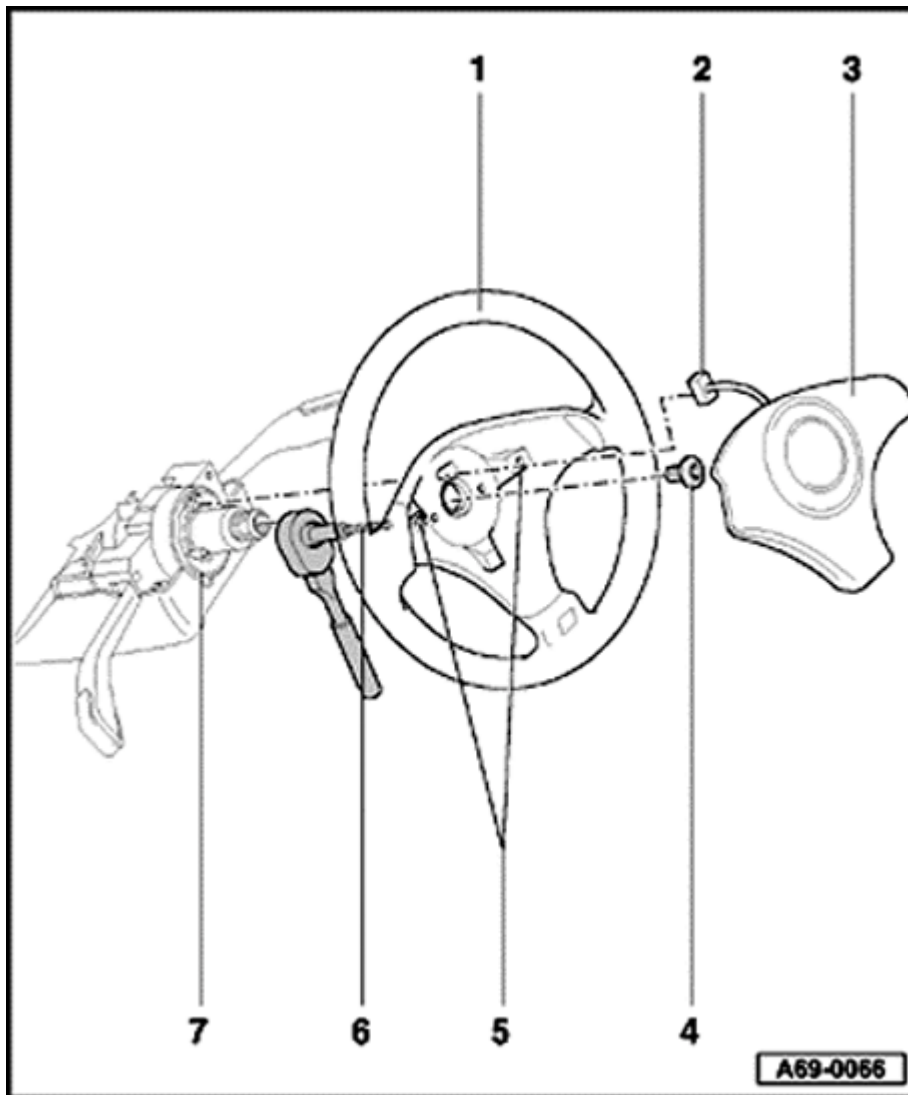
### Installing

- Make sure harness connector - 2 - engages properly (with audible click).
- Install airbag unit and tighten bolts to 7 Nm (62 in. lb).

### **WARNING!**

***Make sure the passenger compartment is not occupied before connecting the battery Ground (GND) strap.***

- Switch ignition on and connect battery Ground (GND) strap.



## Sport steering wheel, removing and installing

### **WARNING!**

**Observe all safety precautions before starting work on any part of the airbag system** ⇒ [page 48-62](#) .

### Removing

- Remove airbag unit ⇒ page ⇒ [Page 48-68](#) .
- Turn steering wheel to center position (wheels straight-ahead).
- Remove bolt - 4 - .

### Installing

- Install steering wheel in center position (wheels straight-ahead).
- Replace bolt - 4 - and tighten to 60 Nm (44 ft lb).
- Install airbag unit ⇒ page ⇒ [Page 48-68](#) .