Blue E36 Switch Diagram

Key:
G = Green
BL = Blue
B = Black
Y = Yellow
W = White
→ = Results

Black Arrow is outline white arrow.
White arrow is filled in white arrow.

GBL + BL → Power with Black Arrow Depressed
GBL + B → Power with White Arrow Depressed

A. BLG + B → Power with Nothing
B. BY +BL → Power with Nothing

When situation (A), White Arrow Depressed turns off
When situation (B), Black arrow Depression turns off

E30 Switch Diagram (car wiring)

Key:
G = Green
P = Purple
B = Black
BR = Brown
→ = Results

Black Arrow is outline white arrow.
White arrow is filled in white arrow.

G + P → Power with Black Arrow Depressed
G + B → Power with White Arrow Depressed

C. BR + B → Power with Nothing
D. P +BRB → Power with Nothing

When situation (A), White Arrow Depressed turns off
When situation (B), Black arrow Depression turns off

Note: e30 switches have (2) two brown wires. The BRB one I am referring to is the brown wire that is ***below*** **the purple wire, *not* the one that is next to it**. Look carefully and you will understand. I suggest you mark this wire with a black Sharpie.

Testing e36 Switches

In order to install e36 switches into an e30, you need to know what wires do what. To do this, you will need to test the switch (this is not necessary if you have blue base switches as I have already tested those. See the wring diagram).

You will need:

1. Test light or multi-meter
2. Power source
3. 1 short piece of wire

The power source can either be a battery or a plug in power supply. I used a plug-in 12 volt power supply as seen below.

Start with one wire, hooking one side of the power supply to one wire and the other side of the power supply to one your test instrument. Then touch the other side of your test instrument to each wire until you get a reading. Do this also while holding in one button at a time. I.E. – Hold in the white arrow and see what wire lights up. Keep trying different wires until you can fill this chart:

→ = Results

Black Arrow is outline white arrow.
White arrow is filled in white arrow.

___ + ___ → Power with Black Arrow Depressed
___ + ___ → Power with White Arrow Depressed

E. ___ + ___ → Power with Nothing
F. ___ + ___ → Power with Nothing

When situation (A), White Arrow Depressed turns off
When situation (B), Black arrow Depression turns off

Now, once you know what wires do what, match up what they do to the e30 switches using the other diagram in this write-up. I.E. – With blue e36 switches, the green/blue wire on the switch is the green wire in the e30, the blue wire on the switch is the purple wire in the e30 and so on. Once you have them matched up, just splice them in and you're good to go!