

BMW Z4 sDrive20i G29

2019-2026 · 2.0L B48 turbocharged 4-cylinder petrol (197 hp) rear-wheel drive roadster

Est. annual maintenance cost: €900-1,600

Date _____ Mileage _____ Price _____ Seller _____

What matters most: The B48 engine is well-proven, so focus on the convertible-specific items: roof drain blockages, water ingress in the boot, and cooling system plastic parts that wear after 80,000 km.

BEFORE THE VIEWING

Recall status (starter motor)

Cars built between July 2020 and July 2022 are covered by a starter motor relay recall. Contact BMW with the VIN to confirm it has been completed before visiting.

Service records and oil changes

BMW recommends oil changes every 15,000 km or 12 months. Ask to see the full service history, ideally from a BMW dealer or marque specialist.

MOT / TUV history

Request past inspection reports. Look for notes about oil leaks, suspension wear, or any advisories related to steering components on early 2019 cars.

AT THE CAR

Tyres and exterior condition

The Z4 runs a staggered setup (225 front, 255 rear on 18-inch wheels). Rears wear faster due to rear-wheel drive. Check all four for uneven wear, which can point to alignment issues.

Oil leaks under the engine

Look underneath the car near the oil filter housing (front of the engine, low down). Fresh oil residue or dripping can point to a cracked housing or failed gasket, a known B48 weak spot.

Coolant level and colour

Open the coolant reservoir cap (engine cold). The fluid should be blue-green and at the correct level. Discoloured or low coolant can point to an oil filter housing crack or water pump issue.

Boot and footwells for dampness

Lift the boot floor carpet and press the door sill carpets firmly. Any dampness suggests blocked soft-drainage channels. Water sitting unnoticed can damage wiring and boot-mounted electronics.

DURING THE DRIVE

Vibration at idle (engine mounts)

At a standstill with the engine running, feel for excessive vibration through the steering wheel and gear lever. The Z4's fluid-filled engine mounts can soften from around 60,000 km onward.

Roof operation (open and close)

Operate the soft top fully at least twice during the drive. Listen for grinding or hesitation, and watch for error messages on the dash. It should latch smoothly at both the front and rear.

Audio system (Harman Kardon)

If the car has the Harman Kardon system, play music at moderate volume for at least 10 minutes. Bass channels cutting out or crackling can point to an amplifier fault common on 2019-2021 cars.

NOTES

THIS CAR AT A GLANCE

Rear-drive roadster, built 2019-2026, shared platform with the Toyota Supra. The B48 engine is well-proven. Main ownership concerns are the plastic cooling system parts and soft-top drainage.

KNOWN WEAK POINTS

Oil filter housing leak

Housing warps or cracks after 80k km
€800-2,500

Electric water pump

Fails between 80k-120k km typically
€700-1,200

Soft-top drain blockage

Causes water ingress in cabin/boot
€150-800

Valve cover gasket leak

Gasket hardens after 80k-120k km
€600-1,000

Harman Kardon amplifier

Bass cuts out, mainly 2019-2021 cars
€300-1,200

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