**Symptom of broken Sping and What to look for:**  
**1/**If you can't close the Trunk/Boot to the point of where the latch locks around the Hook and keeps the Trunk/Boot closed.  
**2/**The latch is not firm and can flop around back and forth Your Spring is broken.  
  
This is a very common problem with the E39 s I was told by a BMW Tech,  
Yesterday I went to close my Trunk/Boot and it would not stay shut. It would not lock so I went to BMW and asked for the spring that attaches to the Lock Mechanism to keep the hook in place. Well they said $337.90 for the lock because the spring is part of the whole unit. I said G%$ F#@ked.http://s1.bimmerfest.com/forums/images/smilies/cursin.gif  
I went home and did a DIY on how to repair the lock yourself. Its a 15 minute job and you can get the spring at any hardware.  
The hardest part is getting the plastic cover off the Trunk without breaking any of the clips. Just take your time and use a Clip tool or a large flat headed screw driver.  
Tools you need.  
1.Large flat headed screw driver.  
2.Torx head for the 3 nuts that hold on the Lock.  
3.Long Nose pliers  
4. Small flat headed screwdriver  
  
Okay  
In the (1 picture) you have to remove the plastic cover the surrounds the lock.  
There are 2 Clips that you can see and all you do is use a small flatheaded screwdriver and prior the head out and then remove the base of the clip. (it is 2 parts and very fragile)  
Now take the large flat headed screw driver and slowly prior out the rest of the black plastic cover there are 4 more clips under the plastic cover that you can not see around the cover. Where the handle is that helps you to close the boot you have to carefully remove the cove and leave the handle attached to the trunk and don't try to pull it off or you will break it. Just work the cover off around the handle.  
  
Once you get the cover off you will see 3 Torx headed screws you have to take off.  
(See Picture 2).  
  
Now remove the Torx screws and the lock will come out easy.  
Then unplug the power plug that is attached to the lock.(See Picture 3)  
  
The unit will now come out but just take the lock unit off the [Metal hook](http://i.viglink.com/?key=56c6fd899e988f80a7d37f5ac70bc50f&insertId=efec79777eb3ab51&type=H&mid=38733&exp=60%3ACI1C55A%3A13&libId=k4mzo6qu01022q1c000DAc625vvrs&loc=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bimmerfest.com%2Fforums%2Fshowthread.php%3Ft%3D554311&v=1&iid=efec79777eb3ab51&opt=true&out=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.samsclub.com%2Fp%2Fhook-large-brush-nic%2Fprod13620633%3FCAWELAID%3D730010300000322049&ref=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F&title=D.I.Y%20Repair%20Trunk%2FBoot%20Lock%20Spring%20-%20Bimmerfest%20-%20BMW%20Forums&txt=%3Cspan%3EMetal%20%3C%2Fspan%3E%3Cspan%3Ehook%3C%2Fspan%3E) that connects to the main lock.(Picture 4)  
  
The spring should just fall out at this point if its has not already so keep a look out because you need it to match up a new spring at your hardware.  
(picture 5)  
  
Now use the new spring and install it as I have in (Picture 6)  
  
Now just reverse the above procedure and test your new lock and your done.  
  
Here is a great link if you need to Replace the Trunk Lock Actuator on an e39 and its not the spring [http://www.bmwtips.com/tipsntricks/t...20actuator.htm](http://www.bmwtips.com/tipsntricks/trunk%20actuator_files/trunk%20actuator.htm)