

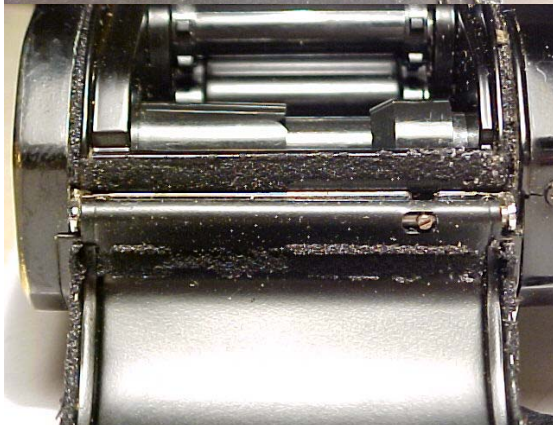
## ProSeal Instructions for Fujica AX-3 style SLR

Please read these instructions completely before you start. Knowledge strengthens confidence, and like most jobs, this is better done right the first time. I think you'll find it rewarding and fun, and I've tried to keep things as easy and logical as possible. This is a very well-designed SLR, and the job you're doing now is very important in repairing one of its most common problems. The one I'm using as a model has been very well used and somewhat neglected, but we're not going to worry about that.

Here are some things you may need: (1) a safe surface to work on—I like to use a piece of cardboard about 1.5' by 1.5', but you can work on fiberboard, newspaper or anything else handy—the important thing is to protect the surface beneath you. (2) Naphtha (cigarette lighter fluid is the same thing) or denatured alcohol for a solvent. (3) 2 or 3 paper towels. (4) some toothpicks or your bamboo tool—if you have access to a wooden cuticle stick, this is a handy tool. (5) a safety razor blade, hobby knife, or small scissors. (6) a small screwdriver (7) a pair of tweezers. Now, let's take a look inside:



As you look at the hinge end of the film door, you'll see a small screw in a slot. Pull it downward with your fingernail, and you'll be able to remove the film door. Once the film door has been removed, set it aside. Removing your film door will make it much easier to clean and replace the old seal material.



←As you look at your film door, you will see the old seal foam at the end. Our first job will be to clean it. Using solvent and a bit of paper towel or napkin, first clean the old foam from the door edges. Then proceed as described below.→



Use your small screwdriver as a dropper (or an old dropper bottle) to carefully drop naphtha (lighter fluid) or denatured alcohol on any old foam on the door. Use enough to saturate it, but not to the point of dripping. Let it sit a minute or so and then begin scraping it off. You may use a toothpick with the end broken off, the wide end of your bamboo tool, a wooden cuticle stick, or anything that will not damage the paint. Your work will go better if you are patient and give the solvent time to dissolve and loosen the old adhesive. IMPORTANT NOTE: Observe the precautions on the solvent can. Work in a well-ventilated area and avoid too much skin contact or contact with eyes, and don't drink it. To correctly re-seal the camera, you'll need to remove the pressure plate. Please see below:



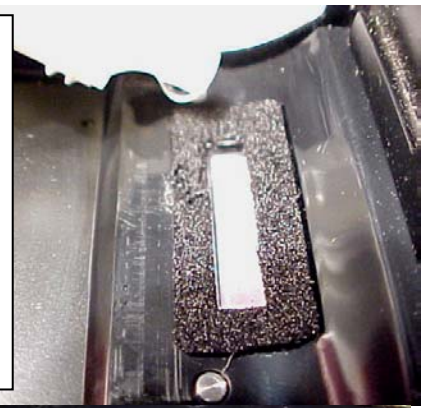
You see two slots to the left. **The indented side faces the hinge**, and you may press back on this side until the spring clip is clear of its pin. The other side will "snap" out when pressed. You can see the difference. To the right, I begin cleaning the old pad off.





Left: The pressure plate pad is replaced with 1.5mm foam. You may replace the plate by reversing the steps to remove it.

Right: The film window seal. Apply solvent to it, and remove it carefully. Use Naphtha, denatured alcohol, or any plastic-safe solvent here.



**The film window seal is the most likely place your camera will demonstrate a light leak!** Clean the old seal off carefully and measure the area where it fit. First cut a rectangle to fit the area from 3mm open-celled foam. Then, using a sharp new X-Acto type knife, carefully cut out of the center a rectangle for the film window. Remove the paper backing, lick the adhesive side to delay the adhesive a moment, and carefully position it in place as I have done in the image to your right. **Personal note:** Please do not try to construct this seal from 4 separate pieces of foam. It will leak light if you do.



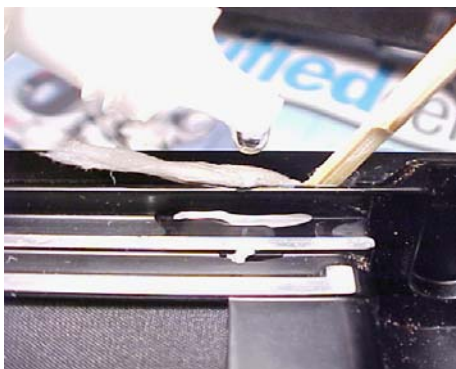
The hinge end seal is 1 27/32" by 1/8" wide.



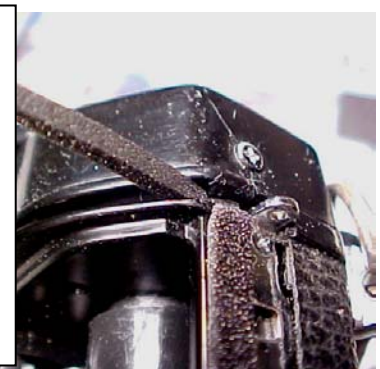
Left-the old seal material. Clean it off carefully. Right-the new seal installed. I chose to use the **1mm fabric seal** here. You could have used 1mm foam also, but never use substandard materials.



If you are worried about placing the seal correctly, simply lick (or moisten) the seal's adhesive side before you install it. This will delay the adhesive, allowing you to position the piece right where you want it to be. After 10 minutes or so, your seal can be pressed into place.



Left: moisten a bit of paper towel with solvent and push it through the slot to clean out the old goop. Be careful to avoid the film frame reset lever...it is about 1.5" from the hinge end. Repeat until all is clean. Right: begin installing the seal strip at the end of the slot. Push it in carefully with the thin end of your wooden tool.





Left, I continue around the corner with the seal strip. Do not let it turn over in the seal, and install with the “shiny” side facing out.  
 Right, I’ve trimmed the strip to end right at the film frame reset lever. I’ll tuck this piece in and start on the other side of the reset lever with another piece.



Three pictures tell the story: Begin at the very end of the slot. Push the “Seal Strip” into place with the thin end of your bamboo tool. Follow through the slot around the corner and trim so it ends right at the film frame reset lever (barely visible in the final frame above). Repeat for the remainder of the slot, starting at the film frame counter and progressing to the latch end. Repeat this for the slot at the bottom, and you’re done with that part.

Once you’ve finished the film door and the slots, you may press the hinge seal down for a final fit (if you moistened it) and replace the film door. Now to the mirror damper.....



The first picture shows the mirror damper assembly with the **original** foam in place. To remove the center frame, simply remove the two small Phillips head screws and set aside. Cleaning and replacing the foam will be very straightforward, and you can see I’ve done this in the middle section. In the final picture, you can see the two pieces on each side of the frame. The best way to replace these is to pick the old pieces out with tweezers, cut the new pieces to fit (use 3mm foam), and install with tweezers. For the piece atop the frame, I’ve used 1.5mm thick foam. You will see there is a thin line of foam running along the side of the focus screen. Please let it be. There is virtually no way (or need) to replace this foam without fully dis-assembling your camera. Replace the center section and fasten with the two small Phillips head screws.

Guess what? You’re finished, and your camera is back to “like new” condition and ready to enjoy again.

~~NOTES~~

These instructions were given to you as an accompaniment to a general seal kit, or for any of several reasons. You should be able to easily cut your own seal pieces from my seal material, and you should **never** use inferior materials as a substitute.