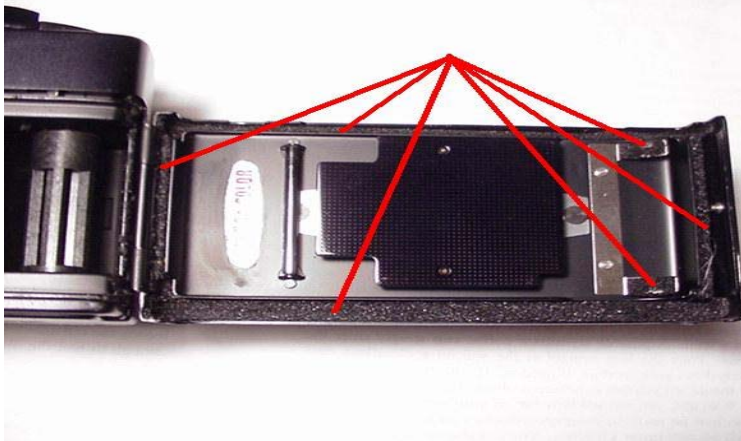


ProSeal Instructions for Konica Auto C3

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 one of the better small rangefinders of the period, and the job you're doing now is very important in repairing one of its most common problems.

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) Solvent--denatured alcohol is the best for this particular camera. (3) 2 or 3 paper towels or paper napkins. (4) some toothpicks or your bamboo tool—if you have access to a wooden cuticle stick, this is also a handy tool. (5) a safety razor blade, hobby knife, or small scissors. (6) a small screwdriver (7) a pair of tweezers (8) a metal straightedge to use in cutting foam pieces. Now, let's take a look inside your camera:



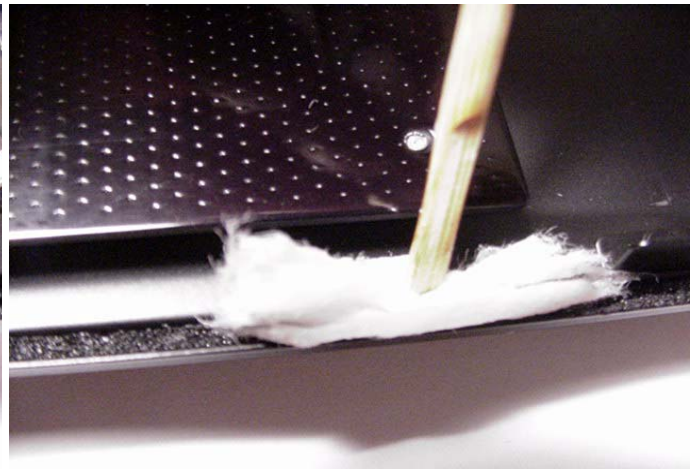
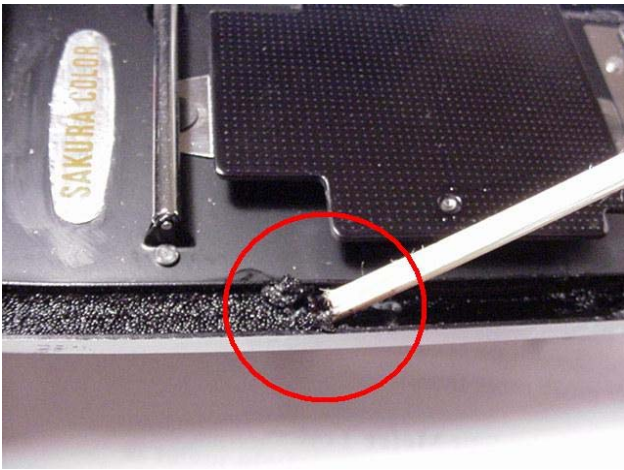
To the left, you see old deteriorated foam on the inner edges, the hinge area and the latch end of the film door. There will be foam on both the top and bottom edges of the door. You will also notice foam pads on the two small spring tabs which hold the film canister in place. We'll be cleaning and replacing all of these pieces. In contrast to most cameras, this one did not come with a seal in the long thin body slot.



These cameras are usually a real mess. To the left, you will notice the foam runs partially up the door on the latch end. You will also see a bit of thread or a hair caught in the old gummy foam...not uncommon. To the right, you will see the old foam has stuck to the body everywhere it touches it. It is very important to clean this old goo off.



To the left, you see I'm dropping solvent on the old foam using a dropper bottle. I will let this penetrate a minute or so and then I will use my bamboo tool to begin removing it. This is a lengthy and messy job. You will also need to use your bamboo tool and some bits of paper napkins or paper towels to clean the areas better. Just take your time and take a break for some tea if you need to. See images below...



Work carefully with the paper napkin piece and solvent to completely clean the film door of all the old foam, and then be sure to wipe the body where the old foam would have touched it. You want the whole area to be nice and clean, including the crevasses and areas behind the baffle plates (at the hinge and latch end area). Try to use bamboo or wooden tools so as not to scratch the paint.

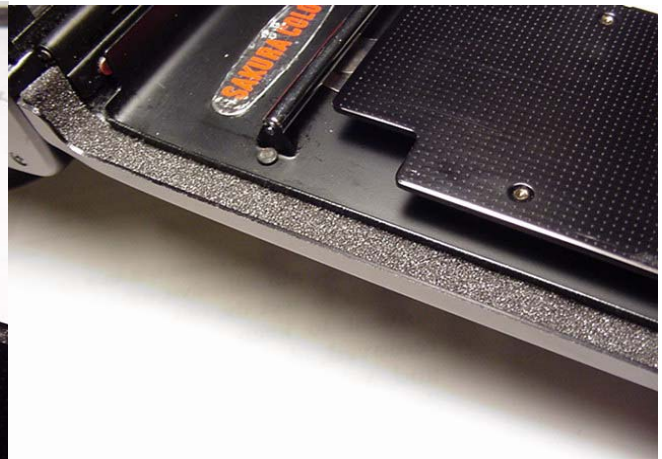
IMPORTANT NOTE: Observe the precautions on the solvent can. Work in a well-ventilated area and avoid too much skin contact or contact with eyes, and don't drink it.

When your door and body area is clean, you will need to cut the foam pieces we'll be using. For the latch end, you will use 3mm thick self-adhesive foam. Cut one piece 44mm x 8mm. For the hinge end, you will use 2.5mm thick self-adhesive foam. Cut one piece 44mm x 8mm. For the side of the film door which uses the wide strip of foam, you will use 1.5mm thick self-adhesive foam. Cut one piece 125mm x 6mm. For the side of the film door which uses the thin strip of foam, you will use 1.5mm thick self-adhesive foam. Cut one piece 125mm x 2mm. For the film canister tabs, you will use 1.5mm thick self-adhesive foam. Cut two pieces 5mm x 10.5mm.

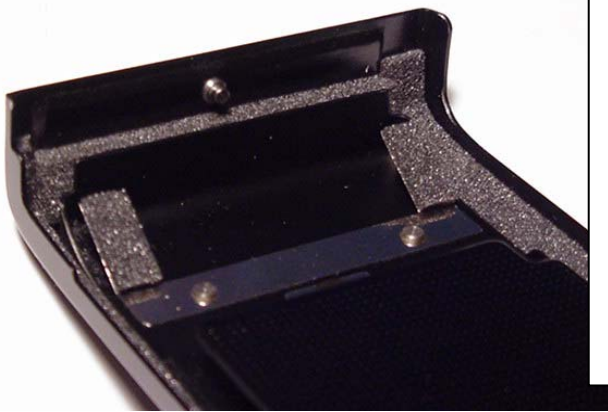
~~INSTALLING THE FOAM~~



To the left, you will see I've started with the thin seal piece which runs across the top of the film door. I remove the backing paper and wet the strip by licking it very well. Sometimes I'll put the entire piece in my mouth. This keeps the adhesive from sticking for several minutes, and this will allow you to install the piece and adjust it as needed. Below, you will see I am using the thin end of my bamboo tool to guide the piece into the slot. To the right of that image, you will see I have repeated this procedure for the lower slot. When my saliva has dried (usually 20-30 minutes), I will press these pieces down for a final fit.

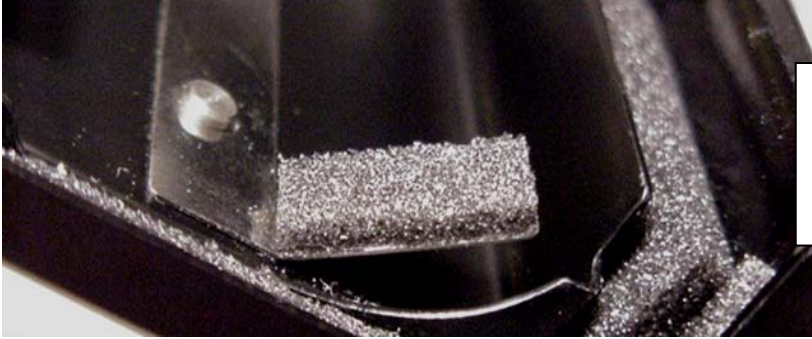


After the edge pieces have dried and are pressed down, I will install the hinge end piece. Again, I will lick this piece and get it very wet. As you see to the left, I work the piece in behind the baffle plate (it will slide down as long as it is wet). To the right, you will see I have worked it down as far as I need it, and I will adjust to be sure it is straight before it dries. Since this piece is thicker (and since I will make it wetter), it will require several hours to dry.



To the left, you can see I've done the exact same thing with the latch end seal. I will adjust it as needed (it should be just slightly above the edge of the baffle piece). Once it is dry, I will press it down for a final fit using the thin end of my bamboo tool. I will usually let these pieces dry overnight. The original foam shrunk as it deteriorated, and your new foam will do a much better job of sealing. Note the side pieces run up the door as per original.

With this work completed, you only have one task left to finish. You will see I have replaced the small pads on the film canister tabs. As with the other seals, licking them will make them easier to install correctly.



Looking just like new again. It is nice when you can use professional grade foam and do a pro restoring job, isn't it?

Now you're finished, and your camera is 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 the material in my kits, and you should **never** use inferior materials as a substitute. Using the best costs no more. Remember—your camera is a precision piece of equipment. Do not compromise it or risk damaging it by using low-grade foam or foam of an improper thickness or density.

About licking the self-adhesive side: You'll be working with small pieces of foam with one sticky side, and you'll be working in close quarters. Make it easy on yourself by licking the adhesive side before you install the pieces. This will de-activate the adhesive temporarily, and keep the material from sticking to your fingers or tweezers as badly, too. After your saliva has dried, you can press the piece down for a final seal.

Jon Goodman --- 2007