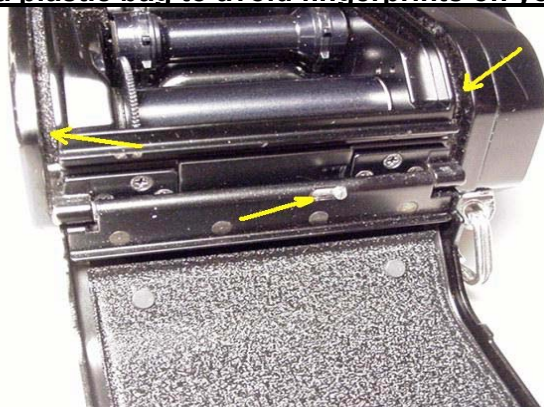


ProSeal Instructions for Nikon F2 SLR

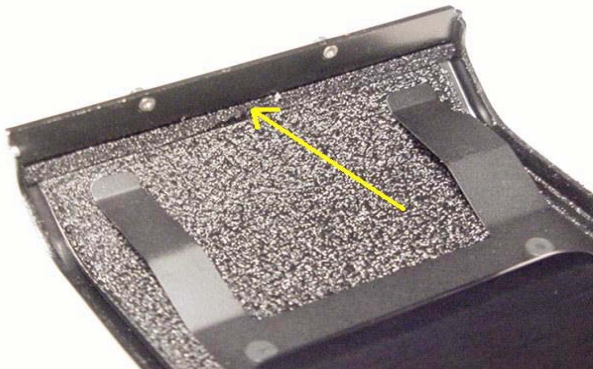
Please read these instructions **completely** before you start. Knowledge strengthens confidence, and like most jobs, this is better done right the first time. I think you'll find it rewarding and fun, and I've tried to keep these 4 pages as easy and logical as possible. This is a very popular and well-designed SLR, 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) 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.

Please begin by removing your pentaprism and your focus screen. You may cover your finger with a plastic bag to avoid fingerprints on your focus screen.



As you look inside the hinge area, you'll see a small screw there (the middle arrow). Slide it downward, and you'll be able to remove the film door. Removing your film door will make our work easier and less cumbersome. You will notice there is no seal material used for the hinge end seal on this model. The arrows on the sides point to the body slot seals, which we will clean and replace later.



As you look at the latch end, you will see there was a thin seal used here. In this image, you can see the old foam has begun to lift as it has deteriorated. The measurement of this seal piece is 1.5mm thick x 2mm wide x 52mm long, and it should be cut from self-adhesive open-celled foam.

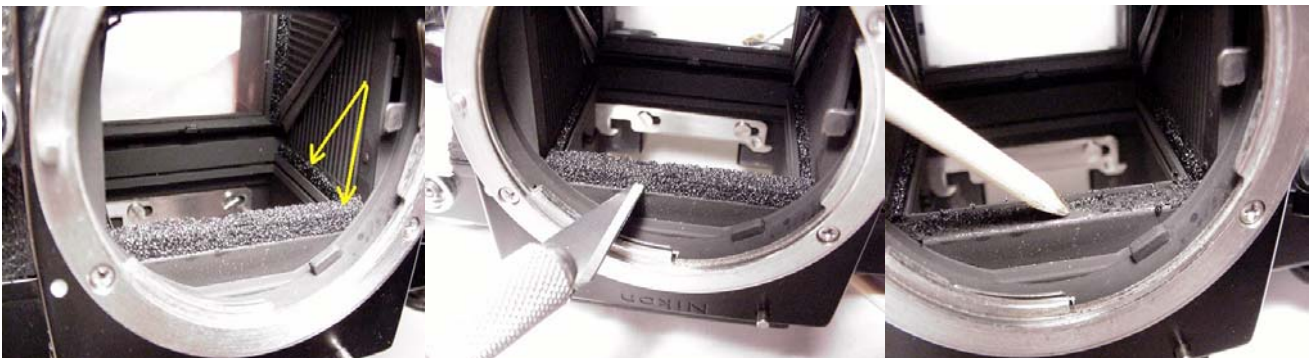


To the left—Using paper and masking tape, I make a mask to keep the shutter curtains clean. Do not cover the film door slots in the body. In the middle frame, I push a small bit of paper towel or napkin into the slot and saturate it with denatured alcohol. Be careful to start at the film frame reset lever and work away from it, not pushing anything into it or under it. In the right frame, you can see I am using the thin end of my bamboo tool to push the bit of paper towel through the slot to clean it. Repeat for the bottom slot, cleaning all areas of the slots completely.

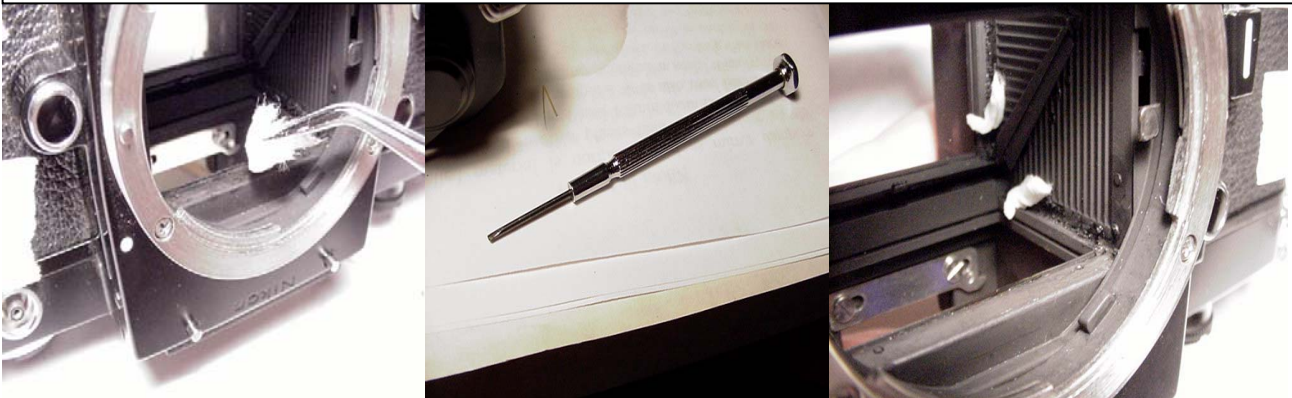


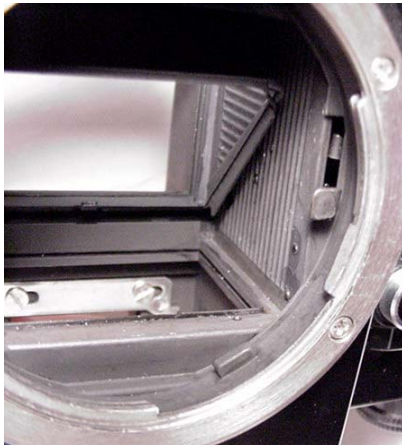
Left: I'm using the wide end of my bamboo tool to clean the old pentaprism seal off, being careful to work toward the back of the camera. Apply solvent to this seal to loosen it. Middle frame, the old seal has been cleaned completely. Right frame above, I've cleaned the latch end slot. First, I use a small screwdriver to lift the deteriorated foam out of the channel, and then I'll use a bit of paper towel and solvent to clean the area completely.

~~Cleaning the Mirror Damper Area and Installing the New Damper Pad~~

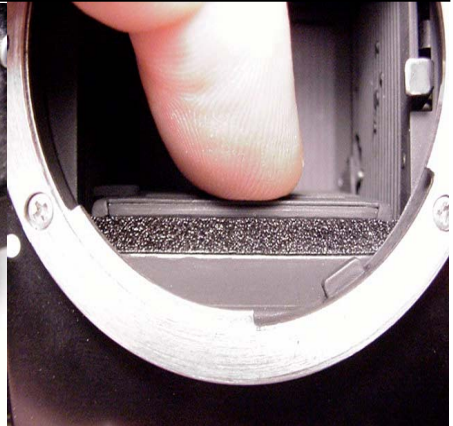
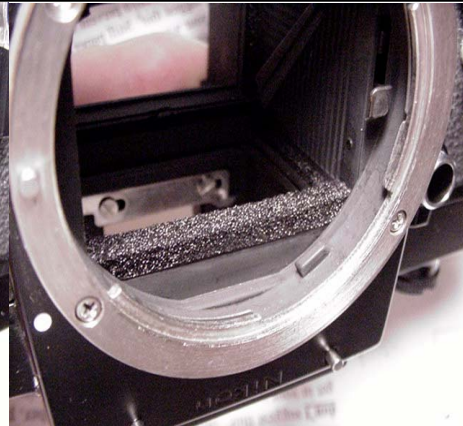
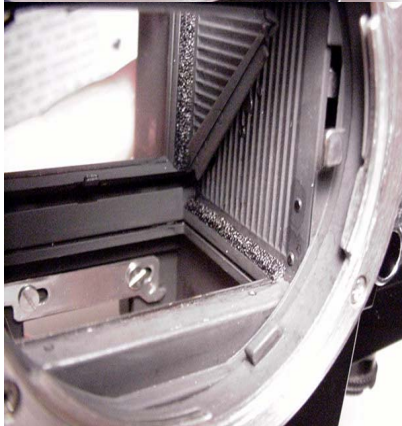


Left—you can see the mirror damper in this camera consists of a front pad and two side pads. In the center, you can see how I remove the old pad using a thin X-Acto type blade. In the last image, you can see I'm using the wide end of the bamboo tool to remove bits of the old damper pad. Do not press against the ledge you will see behind where the old damper pad was mounted, as it could be bent. Below, I am using a bit of paper towel soaked in solvent held by a pair of tweezers to clean the front area. In the middle, you see a small screwdriver. I will use this to remove carefully the foam on the sides. It will be deteriorated, and it will come off easily. Then in the final frame to the bottom right, you can see I have placed a piece of paper soaked with solvent which I will slide back with the tip of the screwdriver to "mop" the slots clean.

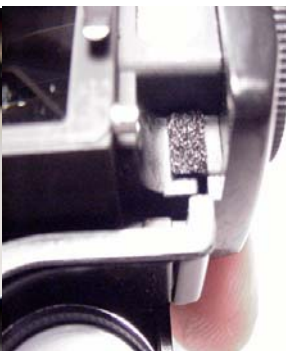




The damper area, cleaned of all old foam material. You will cut three pieces of foam to replace these pieces. The pieces on the side will be 1.5mm thick x 1.5mm wide x 26mm long. The front piece will be 3mm thick x 4mm wide x 40mm long. To install them, please remember to **lick** the adhesive side of the foam well. This will delay the adhesive property of it, and this will allow you time to install and position like a pro. Below, you can see I've installed one side piece. In the middle, I install the center piece (remember to lick), and after 30 minutes, your saliva will be dry and you can lift the mirror up to press against the damper to set it, as I am doing in the final frame. That wasn't so hard, was it? Have a glass of iced tea. You deserve a small break before we finish.



NOTE: Please do not place paper or tissue on your mirror in an attempt to keep it clean. This is an amateur's mistake, and it almost always leads to problems. One: You can trap bits of old seal underneath it, and these will be smudged onto your mirror. Two: this gives you a false sense of security, and this is not always a good thing. Three: your mirror could be scratched by the paper. Work like a pro. Work carefully and slowly. Consider the work you are doing as important as microsurgery and adopt that mental attitude.



You will notice there are two tiny pads under the pentaprism area. Very tiny, but we won't forget them. First, clean them off by dropping a bit of solvent on them and using the wide end of your bamboo tool. You can see the cleaned area in the middle. Also clean the area in the middle..with the i.d. plate on it. It will be sticky from the old foam. In the final image, you can see I've replaced the old pads with the new, and you can see where I align them. The new pads are 1mm thick, and 3mm x 6mm. Don't forget to **lick** them to make them easy to place and adjust.



Left: I use a bit of paper towel and solvent to clean the edges of the film door. These will have old sticky foam on them, and you don't want this to foul or stick to your new foam. Right, I install the new latch end seal. This is a 1.5mm x 2mm x 52mm piece of self-adhesive open-celled foam which I will lick well and install carefully. Once you have positioned it as you want, set it aside for 30 minutes and let your saliva dry. Then it can be pressed down gently with the thin end of your bamboo tool.

~~The Body Slots~~



Using a 2mm non-adhesive "Seal Strip," begin at the hinge end and push the strip gently into the slot with your fingertip as I've done in the first frame to the right. The slick (or glossy) side should face outward. In the middle frame, you can see I am following around the curve...using the thin end of my bamboo tool to gently guide the foam into the slot. In the final frame to the right, you see I have trimmed this piece so it will end just at the film frame reset lever, and I'm pushing the piece into the slot with the bamboo tool. I'll repeat this for the other side of the slot, and then I'll repeat this for the bottom slot. Once this is done, I'll re-attach the film door and close it. The door will be snug until the new seals adjust to their new settings.

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, using methods described in my general kit instructions. Your camera is a fine precision instrument, and the materials you are using have been carefully tested to be compatible with its design. You should **never** use inferior seal materials as a substitute. Using materials which are too thick or too dense could damage your camera, and a professional repair person would never consider doing that.

About licking the adhesive first...when you do this, you temporarily de-activate the "stickiness." This allows you time to position the piece correctly, and it keeps it from sticking to your fingers or tweezers. After 30 minutes or so, you can return and press it down again.

Jon Goodman --- 2006