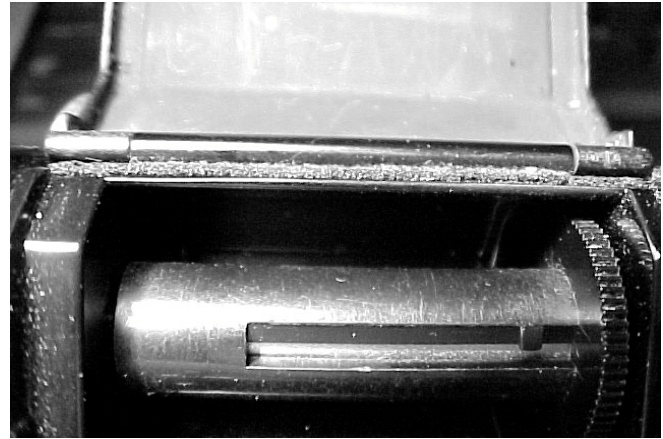


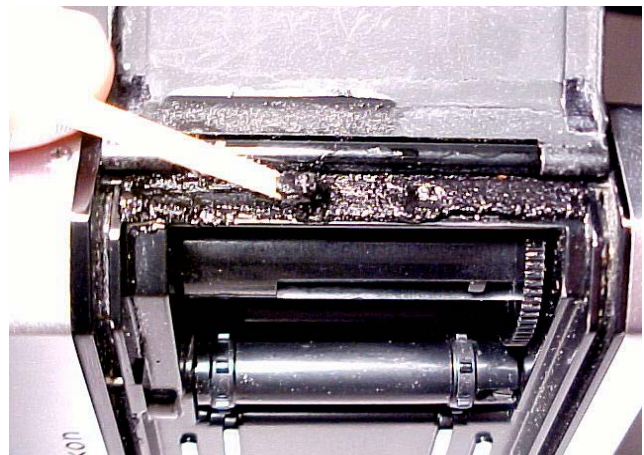
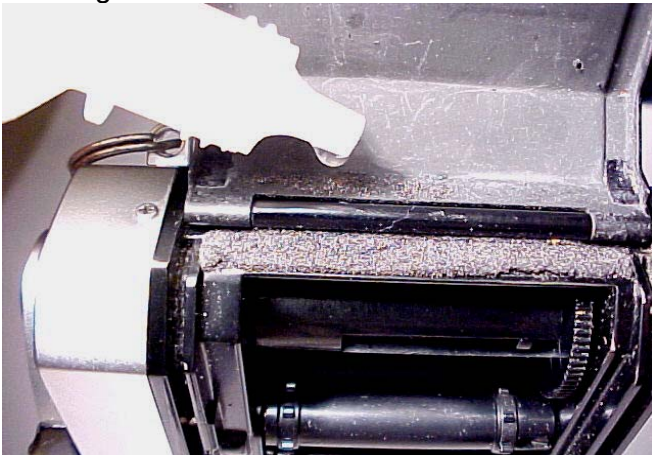
ProSeal Instructions for Nikon/Nikkormat FT3 Style SLR

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 an excellent and well-designed SLR, and the job you're doing now is very important in repairing one of its most common problems.

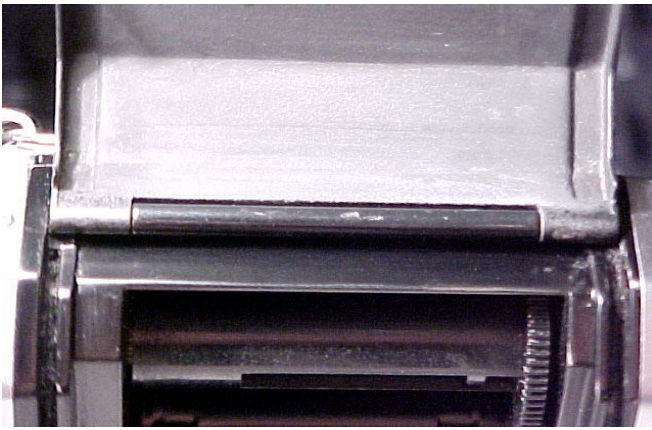
Here are some things you may need: (1) a safe surface to work on—I like to use a piece of cardboard about 1.5' by 1.5', but you can work on fiberboard, newspaper or anything else handy—the important thing is to protect the surface beneath you. (2) Naphtha (cigarette lighter fluid is the same thing) or 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. Now, let's take a look inside your camera:



You'll see two things in the frames above: First, there will be old gooey decomposed foam stuck to both the body and film door of your camera. Second, in the frame to the right, you will see this model used a slightly thicker seal than many Nikons...it will need a 1.5mm thick seal pad here. You will also notice two inner seal pads at the bends of the film door. Those are 1mm thick fabric seal. Let's start cleaning this area...



Above left, I'm dropping denatured alcohol from an old contact lens cleaner bottle onto the old seal foam. I want this wet, but not too wet. In the right frame, I'm using the large end of my bamboo tool to remove the old seal. I don't want to damage the painted surface.



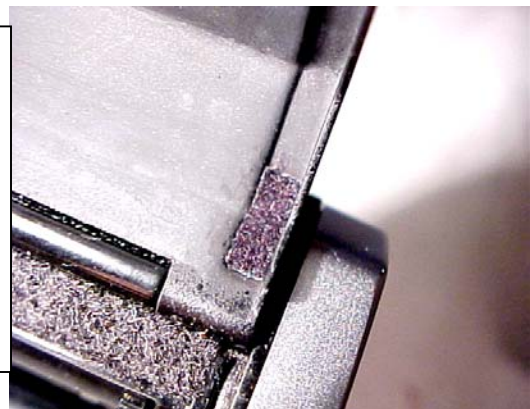
Using bits of paper towel wet with solvent, I will clean the hinge area until all traces of the old foam are removed. You can see I have also removed the seals at the inner corners of the film door. To the right, I am using a piece of paper towel and solvent to clean the film door edges. These will also be dirty, and I don't want them to foul my new seals.



To clean the film door slots on the body, place a bit of paper towel in the slot, moisten it with solvent and push it through the slot with the small end of your bamboo tool. You will find these slots very dirty, and you will need to repeat this several times in order to get them completely clean. Begin at the film frame reset lever (about 1.25 inches from the hinge in the top slot), and work toward the end. Be careful not to push anything into the frame counter reset lever. Repeat this for the bottom slot as well.

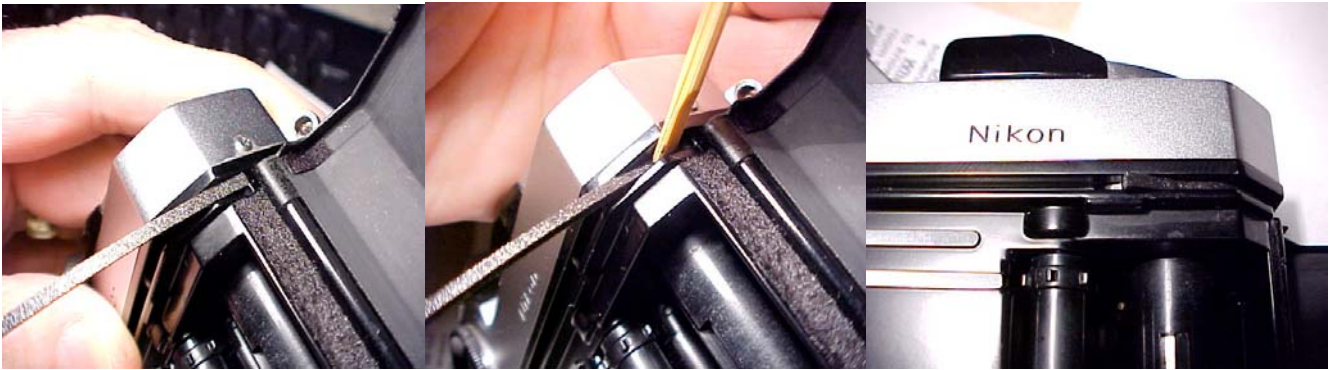


Left: 1.6mm thick fabric seal set in place...remember to **lick** adhesive side first (to allow you to adjust it).
Right: 1mm fabric in place for inner corner seal pieces.



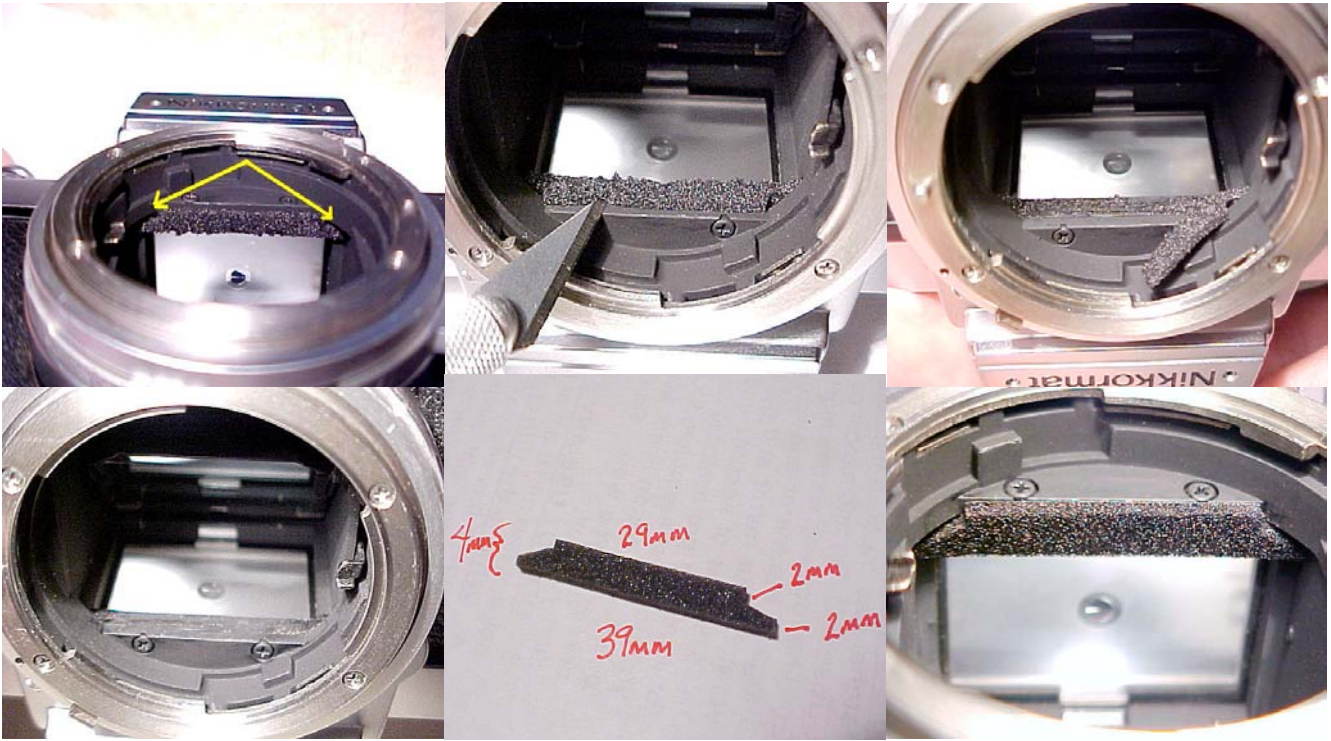
Above, I have set the hinge seal in place, and I will adjust to get it straight. You may use either 1.5mm self-adhesive open-celled foam or 1.6mm self-adhesive fabric seal. I've chosen the fabric seal in this case. The measurements of this piece are 5mm x 46mm. I have also set the inner corner seals in place. These are 1mm thick fabric seal, and their measurements are 3mm x 8mm.

Now we're going to replace the seals in the long thin body slots. There are three pictures below which detail this procedure:



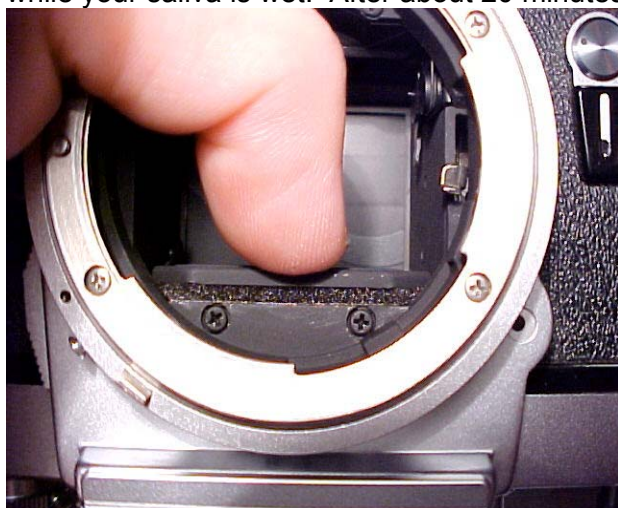
Above left, I set the Seal Strip in place at the end of the slot. The glossy side always installs facing the outside, and there are two glossy sides to the strip. Center, I use the thin end of my bamboo tool to press it gently into place. I will follow around the bend with the tool and trim the piece so it just stops at the film frame reset lever, as in the final image to the right. Then I tuck this piece into the slot and continue. Repeat this for the other side of this slot and the bottom slot as well. Please do not worry that no adhesive is used. I carefully designed these strips so that sidewall pressure will hold them in place indefinitely.

~~THE MIRROR DAMPER~~



Six images tell the story: Upper left-you can see this is not your typical mirror damper pad. It has intricate cuts that cause it to go around the inner shroud of the lens mount. Upper center-I begin removing the pad with an X-Acto style knife, working very carefully. One, I don't want to scratch this area. Two, I don't want the old pad to fall back toward the focus screen, so I tilt the camera toward me, assuring that anything I remove will fall to the front of the lens opening (as in the top right frame above). In the lower left frame above, you can see I have carefully cleaned the old seal and adhesive off. PLEASE USE NO SOLVENT IN THIS AREA. It is too easy to make a mistake. Also, do not place paper or tissues on the focus screen thinking this will protect it. It is too easy to catch a piece of the old foam underneath and smear it on the screen. Work like a pro, and please take your time.

This isn't a race, and patience will pay off for you. In the center, you can see the piece I've cut to replace the old damper pad, along with the dimensions. The easiest way to replicate this piece is to cut a piece of 2mm self-adhesive 4mm wide by about 3 inches long. Then using small scissors, mark and duplicate the cuts I've made with the measurements shown in the center image. If you want to be sure you're doing it right, practice with a piece of stiff paper (an old business card is fine). In the final image, you can see I have set the damper pad in place. Remember to lick the back side (the adhesive side) to make this piece easier to install. You can set it in place with tweezers and adjust while your saliva is wet. After about 20 minutes, you can press it down for a final fit. Here's how:



Simply lift up the mirror and press it against the newly installed damper pad to seat it in place after your saliva has dried. If you are working on a different style camera in which the mirror will not lift up freely, set the shutter speed to "B" and fire the shutter, holding the button down. This will cause the mirror to be lifted up to the damper pad and you can then reach around and press on it as I am doing in the frame to the left.

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. It costs no more to use the finest.

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 15 to 20 minutes or so, you can return and press it down again.