

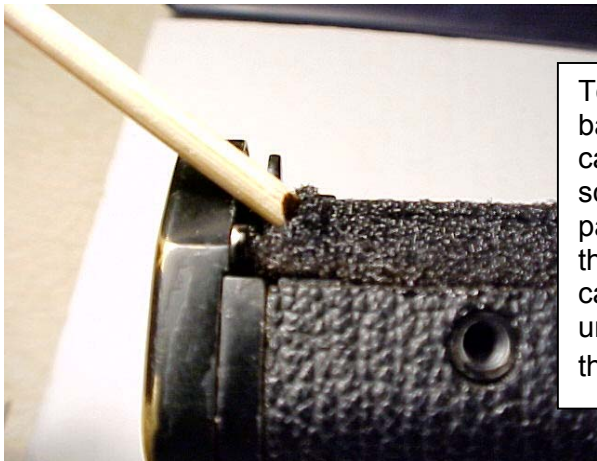
ProSeal Instructions for Olympus OM-2s (and similar) style SLR

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 excellent 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 begin working on your camera:



As you look at the hinge end, you'll see a small sliding pin. Slide it down with your fingernail, angle the door a bit and remove it. Clean the edges of the film door (as per the image on the right) with a piece of paper towel wet with solvent and set it aside. No sealing material is used on the film door.



To the left, you can see I'm using the large end of my bamboo tool to remove the old hinge seal material. You can drop solvent on this seal, let it sit a few minutes and scrape it off. Once you have removed it, use a piece of paper towel soaked in solvent to finish cleaning off all the old residue. Work carefully and slowly, being careful not to scratch the paint or get solvent underneath the body leatherette, which is right next to the foam.

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. I prefer Naphtha and Denatured Alcohol to other solvents, because it is safe on plastics, most paints and it evaporates slowly. If you use much of it, or if you want to keep it handy, you can store it safely in an old contact lens cleaner bottle. This will provide a handy dropper also.

Once the hinge seal area is completely clean, let us move to cleaning out the film door slots. Please see the images which follow:

Now we're going to clean out the rail slots on the camera body and replace those seals. Here's how:



First, run a toothpick with the end broken off or the narrow end of your bamboo tool through the slot to remove the gunk. Repeat if needed, working away from the frame counter reset lever, and don't push old seal material into the frame counter reset area. Then run a small piece of paper towel with a little solvent on it through the slot to finish cleaning it. You'll probably need to repeat this a few times, until the slots are really clean.

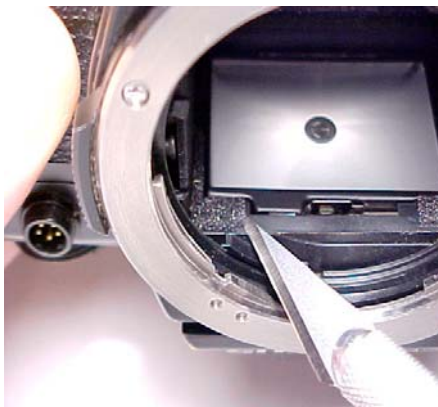
Next, take a long 2mm piece of seal material from your kit and press it into the slot using your fingertip. Start at the hinge end and work toward the film frame counter. Gently press the seal into the slot with the thin end of your bamboo tool, and don't let the seal material turn or twist. Don't worry that there is no adhesive. With this seal you don't need it. I designed it so the pressure of the seal material against the channel walls will keep it in place perfectly and provide a full-channel and completely effective light baffle. When you reach the film frame reset lever, trim to fit. Repeat for the remainder of this slot and the bottom slot, also.



You will want to be sure to install so the glossy side of the strip (there are two glossy sides) faces upward in the slot. Next, clean the edges of the film door with a little naphtha on a piece of paper towel. They'll usually have sticky residue on them, and you don't want this to ruin your new seal.

When you reach the end, use a razor blade, small knife or tiny scissors to trim the excess so the strip will finish at end of the rail slot. Now, with a blunted toothpick or your bamboo tool, trace the seal's length, pressing it gently down into its slot to seat it. Don't poke into it or damage it. You will see your slots make two bends. Simply follow through these with the Seal Strip.

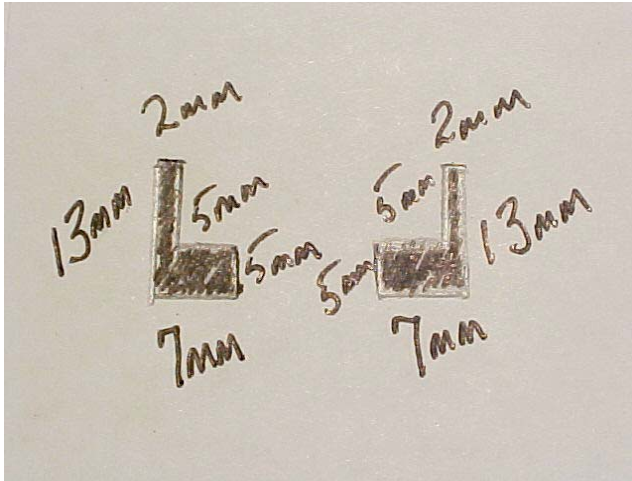
~~The Mirror Damper~~



Left: I use a sharp X-Acto knife to cut right under the old seal pad and lift it up. Do this carefully, and use tweezers if you need to remove bits. Right: I have cut my new pieces, licked the adhesive side and set them in place to dry. See below for explanation...

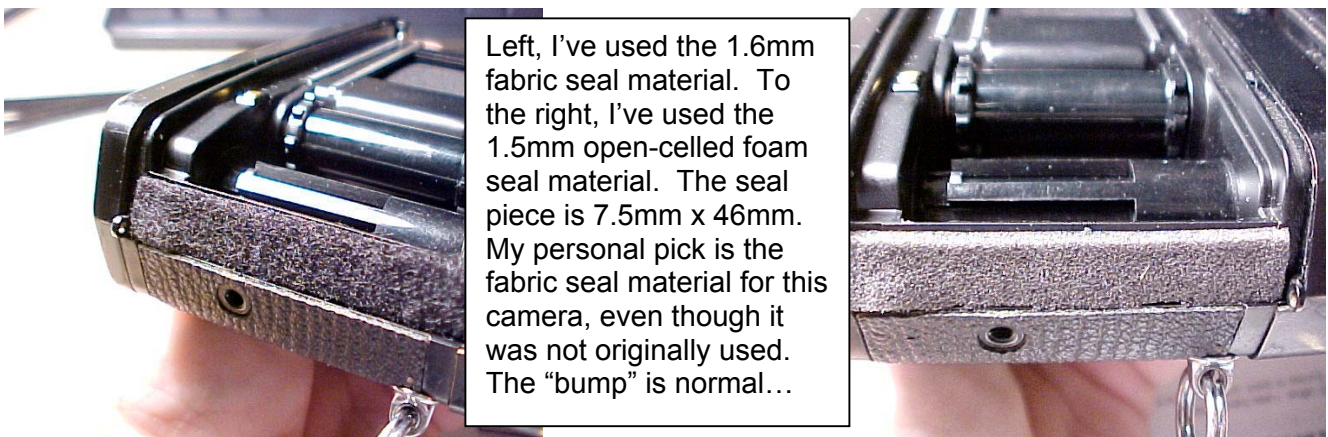


As I said, I use a sharp X-Acto knife to remove the old damper pads. I slice under them carefully, and I use tweezers to pick up little bits. Be careful not to get bits on the focus screen. Follow instructions in my general seal kits, also. When I've removed the old pads, I'll cut two new pads following these dimensions:



Cutting these pieces is not difficult. Use the 1.5mm open-celled foam, and you may use sharp scissors and/or a sharp razor type knife. If you want to make the pieces black, use a permanent marker...a black felt tipped pen. I left them charcoal so they would contrast more and show up better. After a few minutes (10-15), the seals will be dry and you can press them into place for a final fit. When all is done, I usually set the camera to "B" and operate the shutter to be sure the mirror and damper pads are working well together.

~~Replacing the Hinge End Seal~~



Left, I've used the 1.6mm fabric seal material. To the right, I've used the 1.5mm open-celled foam seal material. The seal piece is 7.5mm x 46mm. My personal pick is the fabric seal material for this camera, even though it was not originally used. The "bump" is normal...

Above, you see I have made a professional choice. The camera originally used a foam seal...1.5mm, and I show you that above, right. Since this is a black camera, I believe I would have colored the foam with a black felt tipped marker if I had chosen to use it, however I like to use the fabric seal material at the hinge seal whenever I can...it lasts virtually forever, and it makes an excellent seal. Remember to lick the adhesive side of the seal piece to delay the adhesive for a few minutes and allow you more assembly time. Press it down for a final fit after 10-15 minutes. The little bump is normal...as you saw when you were cleaning this area, that is a small screw head.

Now, we're finished and ready to enjoy this camera 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 cut your own seal pieces from my seal material, using the instructions in your seal kit. If you have any questions, please let me know at jgood21967@aol.com or Jon_Goodman@yahoo.com.