ProSeal Instructions for Yashica TL-Super 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 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. Now, let's take a look inside your camera:

As you look at the film door, you'll see areas we'll need to repair. The hinge end seal, the small foam seals on the inner top edges and the latch end seal. Using solvent, remove and clean these areas well. You will also need your bamboo tool and some paper napkin or paper towels.

Use your small screwdriver as a dropper (or an old dropper bottle) to carefully drop naphtha (lighter fluid) or denatured alcohol on the hinge end seal. I normally use enough to saturate it, but not to the point of dripping. Let it sit a minute or so and then you can remove it. 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. Denatured alcohol is also fine. You will see black seal residue on the film door edges—you may wipe that off at any time with solvent on a bit of paper towel.

To the left you see how I will clean the long thin body slots. First I will put a piece of paper towel or napkin in the slot, then I will make it wet with solvent, and then I will use the thin end of the bamboo tool to push it through the slot until it is completely clean. You will need several pieces of paper towel to clean each slot. Be careful not to push any solvent or old foam into the film frame counter reset tab. You will see that tab about an inch from the hinge in the top slot. When the top slot is completely clean, then do the same for the bottom slot. Next, we will re-seal these slots…



Three pictures tell the story: You can see I have installed the hinge end seal on the film door between the upper and lower inside seal pieces. For the slot…Begin at the very end. 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 (visible in the center 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. You do not need any adhesive for these strips. I've designed them so that sidewall pressure will hold them in place indefinitely.

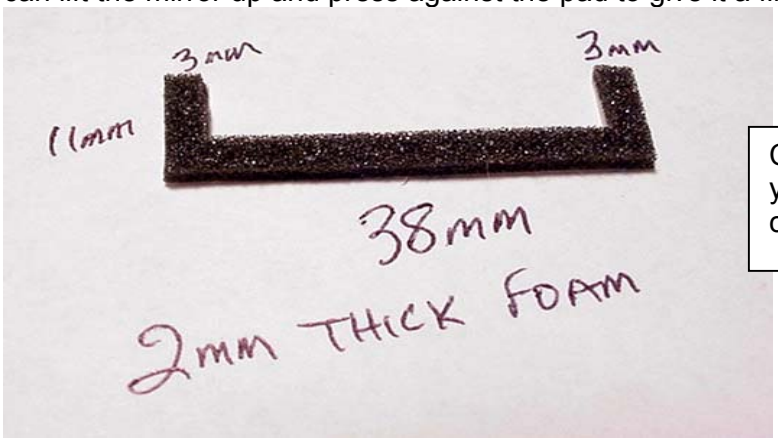
Now cut a new hinge end seal piece. It is 49mm long and 6mm wide, and it should be cut from 1.6mm thick self-adhesive felt seal. **Lick** the adhesive side after you remove the backing paper. This will delay the adhesive and give you time to position the piece perfectly. Then install it. It should look like the image to your left. Let your saliva dry for 20 or 30 minutes, and then you can press the piece down for the final installation.

Now cut the pieces for the corners. These are cut from 1.5mm thick self-adhesive foam, and they are 2mm wide x 43mm long. You will need to cut 2 of them (top and bottom). Lick the adhesive side (after you remove the backing paper) and install them as shown to the left. Let them dry and press down.

Now cut the latch end piece. This is cut from 1.5mm thick self-adhesive foam and is 3mm wide x 49mm long. Once again, lick the adhesive side after removing the backing paper and install carefully. When dry, you may press down for the final installation.

Once you've finished this, the film door is complete. Now to the mirror damper……

There are three pictures above. The first one shows the old damper pad. You can see this is a little tricky, because the original pad was "U" shaped. Pick the old pad off a bit at a time using tweezers and a small screwdriver. Be very careful not to let any of the old pad fall on the focus screen, and do not use any solvent to clean this area. You can make a real mess of your focus screen with solvent. You will not be able to clean the old area perfectly, so please do not worry too much about this. Just take your time and do the best you can. The middle picture shows how I have done this. When you have cleaned the area, cut your new damper pad. You can see an image of this below. The damper pad is cut from 2mm thick self-adhesive foam and the dimensions are 38mm long and 11mm wide with a cutout in the center. (see below) As you see in the final frame, I've set it into position—this is actually easy. Please remember you should **lick** the adhesive side to delay the adhesive and allow a bit more positioning time. When you have the damper pad where you want it, let it dry and later you can lift the mirror up and press against the pad to give it a final seal.



Congratulations! 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—there is no substitute for quality, and using the best costs no more.

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.

Finally, enjoy your work. Make yourself a glass of tea, tune your radio to a classical music station and take your time.

Jon Goodman --- 2008