

Stu's

Instructions for
Maintaining your Penn
525 Mag

1. Things You Need: Things you will need to strip and maintain your Penn 525 Mag and your Penn 535 reels. First use the proper size flat bladed screwdriver; make sure the blade on the screwdriver properly fits the head of the screws on the side plates. If the blade is too small it will mar the screw heads. Jewelry pliers that have the rounded ends; these can be purchased at Wal-Mart in the craft section for about \$3.50. Lighter fluid and a prescription bottle to clean your bearings.



2. Step One: Remove the three screws from the left side plate as shown in the picture. Next remove the round retaining ring. Note the two longer screws are the two side screws and the short screw is located at the bottom of the reel. For newbies put the long screws next to the holes on the round retainer, one long screw in the 9 o'clock position and the other long screw in the 3 o'clock position. The short screw is placed at the bottom in the 6 o'clock position.



3. Step Two: Next, remove the side plate and put it aside. Next, slid the spool out the side of the reel. The spool bearings are located in the recessed area on either end of the spool. Remove the spool shaft and remember which end goes into the handle side of the reel. The spool shaft has a shoulder that is closer to one end of the shaft than the other. The shoulder end of the shaft is the end that goes into the crank handle side of the reel. To get to the bearings that are located in the recessed ends of the spool, first remove the white plastic cap on the spool end with the blade of the screwdriver. You may have to work your way around under the lip of the white cap. After you remove the white cap take a closer look under the white cap and you will notice small ridges in the plastic. Now look at the spool and you will notice grooves in the end of the spool. When you put the reel back together make sure the ridges and grooves match up so the plastic cap will seat itself properly. It will snap in place and be level with the spool. To remove the bearing under the plastic cap use your jewelry pliers and insert the round nose ends into the center of the bearing and spread the handle on the pliers and pull the bearing out. It may take a couple of tries to get the bearing out of the recesses area of the spool. Now, flip the spool over and with the jewelry pliers remove the light wire retainer. Take care not to bend the light wire retainer out of shape. Now remove the flat metal washer retainer, which fits over the bearing and fits into the notches on the spool. Now use the spool shaft and insert the big shoulder side through the opposite end of the spool and use the shoulder on the shaft to push the spool bearing out. Put both spool bearings into the prescription bottle with the lighter fluid and let sit for a few minutes to remove the old oil and grease.







4. Step Three: Now pick up the left side plate and you will notice a brass bushing in the center of the side plate. The brass bushing looks like a brass torch handle. As shown in the picture, use your round nose pliers to remove the bushing. Take care not to mar the brass bushing; the spool shaft rotates inside this bushing. After you remove the bushing you will find another bearing located in the cup of the bushing. Again use the round end of the pliers and insert them in close position into the hole in the center of the bearing and spread the pliers handles to remove the bearing from the bushing. Now soak the bearing in the lighter fluid, but do not confuse the bearing with the two spool bearings that you have already removed.





5. Step Four: The last bearing you will find under the dome shaped knob on the crank handle side of the reel. Remove the knob and again use the round nose pliers to remove the bearing from the side plate. Soak the bearing in the lighter fluid.



6. Step Five: Lubing the bearings. Lay your four bearings on a paper towel and use Red Rocket Fuel and put a drop or two on the shields of each bearing and let sit. After a few minutes you will notice that the oil has gone through the bearing and can be seen on the paper towel under the bearing.



7. Step Six: Lets put the spool bearing back in place. First put the two spool bearings back into both ends of the spool. Use the spool shaft to properly seat the bearings into the recessed area on either end of the spool. Do not use the ends of the pliers or screwdriver to seat the bearings. If you do you can damage the bearing shields and will have to replace the bearings. Also, if the bearings are not seated properly the side plates will not seat properly when putting the reel back together.

8. Step Seven: Next seat the bearing in the brass bushing as discussed in Step Three above. That bearing should snap into place and be flush with the bushing. Next snap the brass bushing back into the side plate. Use the plastic handle of the screwdriver as shown in the picture to seat the brass bushing into the center of the side plate. Now move over to the crank handle side of the reel and snap in the bearing that goes under the chrome dome knob. But do not at this point put the dome knob back on.



9. Step Eight: Next take your spool shaft and insert the big shoulder end of the shaft into the crank handle side plate. The end of the spool shaft should be flush with the bearing that is located under the dome knob on the crank handle side plate. Next slid the spool on to the spool shaft. The white plastic cap should be facing away from the crank handle side plate. Now take your side plate that has the clicker button and the brass bushing fits inside the white plastic cap. The side plate should fit flush if your bearings are seated properly. Replace the round side plate retainer ring. Now you should be back in business to make those 150-200 yard casts.