



Home made Washing Machine door seal retainer Spring Expander

Make a Spring Expander Tool for a few dollars. Used when fitting the spring retainer to the washing machine door seal.

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Step 1 — Home made Washing Machine door seal retainer Spring Expander



- While I was fitting a new rubber door seal to our LG Front Loader I needed a spring expander tool to install the new spring retainer. Not wanting to spend any money I cast about and made one from some bits.

Step 2



- Grab some threaded rod. I had a 5" piece of M8 gal laying around. It's about \$5 or so for a 4' length at the big green \$2 shop.
- Grab a couple of steel screw in hooks or eyelets. If you have hooks like I did then you have to bend the open end near closed so the threaded rod will go through it. Mine has a 1.1/4" shank but I cut most of it off anyway in the next step.
- Put each hook or eyelet in a bench vice, hacksaw off the shank so approx 3/8" remains. Take a triangular cutting file and carefully file out a small groove across the remaining shank, filing a hard edge towards the end of the shank (see close up). This groove will grip the spring so make it deep and sharp enough. Repeat for the other eyelet.

Step 3



- Grab 4 nuts to suit the threaded rod (M8 in my case), and fit 2 at one end of the rod with your eyelet sandwiched in the middle, and the other 2 with the second eyelet on the other end.
- Leave one pair near the end of the rod and tighten the nuts up against the eyelet. On the other end, screw the nuts in far enough so that both eyelet shanks will enter the loops of the spring on your washing machine retainer.

Step 4



- To use the tool, simply move one of the eyelets in far enough on the rod so that both shanks will enter into the spring loops on the retainer.
- Take a spanner and begin adjusting one pair of nuts towards the other end of the rod, turning each nut in turn to keep the shank close to straight. The spring will expand as you go and eventually will be wide enough to fit over your washing machine door seal.
- With the retainer in place and the door seal fitted properly all around, loosen the same pair of bolts off until the tool is freed from the spring.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.