



How To Repair A Sticking Mountain Bike Brake Line

This guide will walk you through how to repair your mountain bike's brakes when they stick closed or open.

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INTRODUCTION

A mountain bike's brakes are extremely crucial to any trail rider. Brakes can stick due to debris in the sleeved brake line and in the lever. This repair requires little knowledge about bikes and can be done by anyone.

TOOLS:

- [Rags](#) (1)
- [Allen Wrench](#) (1)
- [Soapy Water](#) (1)
- [Park Tool CL-1 Synthetic Blend Chain Lube with PTFE](#) (1)
- [Phillips #1 Screwdriver](#) (1)

Step 1 — How To Repair A Sticking Mountain Bike Brake Line



- Remove the grip from the bike's handle bar.
- Use short twisting motions. If the grip is really stuck onto the bar, some soapy water can help it come off easier.

Step 2



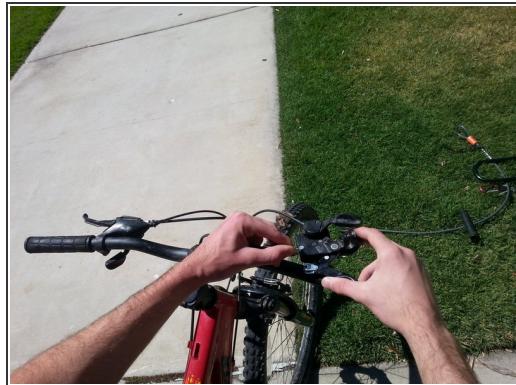
- Unscrew the hex screw on the brake fixture on the handle bars with the allen wrench.
- Once the brake fixture is loose, pull off the fixture from the handle and set aside.

Step 3



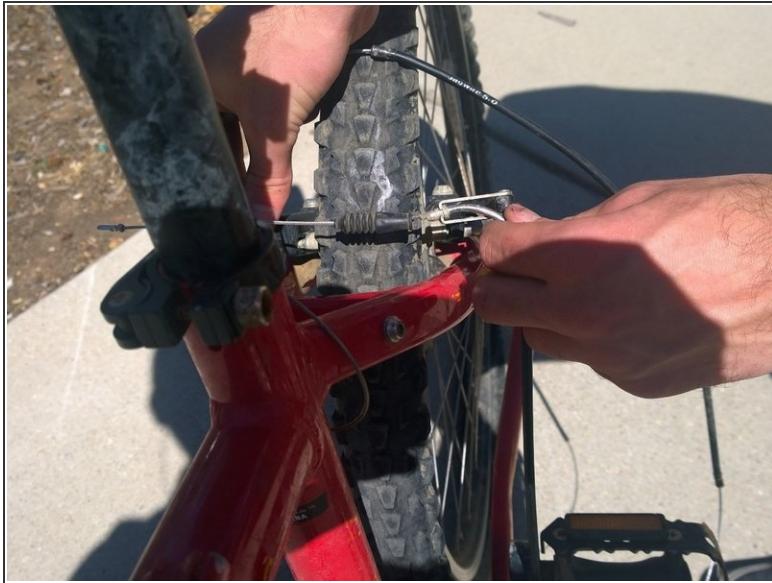
- Unhook the brake line from the bike's body by sliding the line backwards and pulling up in one motion.
- *i* If the brake line is too tight to pull back, you may have to remove the rear tire to let the brake pads move farther.

Step 4



- Remove the brake line from the brake assembly you removed in step one.
- Unscrew the adjustment screw all the way out of the assembly.
- Push brake line forward and slide the line out of the slot in the brake handle.
- *i* Check the spring of the brake lever without the line connected. If it does not retract well, you can clean it with soapy water.

Step 5



- To remove the brake line from the rear brake pads. Unhook the line from the metal insert.
- Unscrew the hex bolt with an allen wrench.

Step 6



- After you have removed the bike's brake line, take the whole assembly wipe with a soapy water solution to remove rust, dirt, grease and anything else stopping the line from traveling freely.
- After removing all of the debris, apply chain oil to another rag and wipe oil evenly onto the line.

⚠ Careful the line itself could be frayed anywhere due to age and be sharp.

Once finished, put back together the brake assembly. Then test the mobility of the brakes before riding.
Happy Riding!