



How to Replace a Bicycle Guide Pulley

Successfully replace a shifted, broken, or completely fallen out guide pulley in the rear derailleur of a bicycle.

Written By: Kayla Bru



INTRODUCTION

Has the guide pulley in your bike's derailleur been dislodged, broken, or lost? Here's a guide on how to replace it.



TOOLS:

- [Allen Wrench](#) (1)

Allen wrench size may vary depending on bicycle model

- [Isopropyl Alcohol](#) (1)

- [Degreaser](#) (1)

May be used instead of Isopropyl Alcohol

- [Grease](#) (1)

Used to apply new grease to the pulley

- [Small Towel](#) (1)

Use to clean the pulley if checking for damages

Step 1 — Bicycle Guide Pulley



- Set your bike upside down by letting it stand on its handlebars and seat.

Step 2



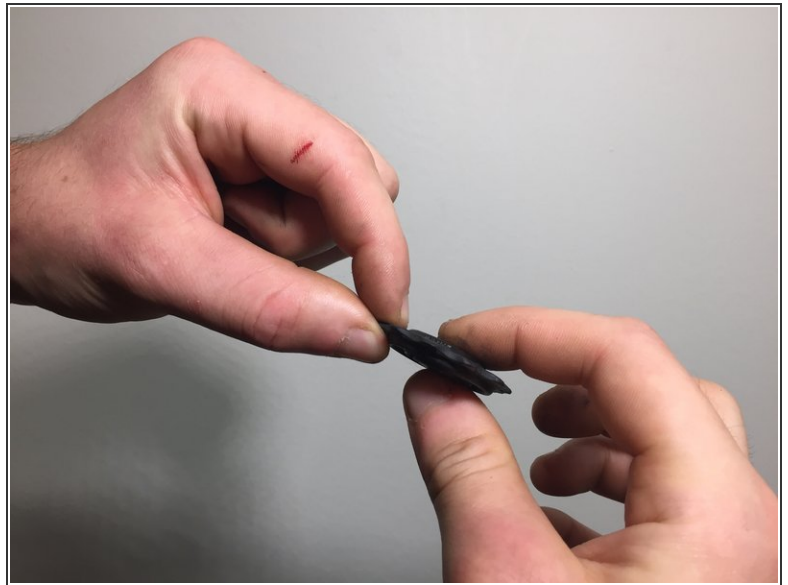
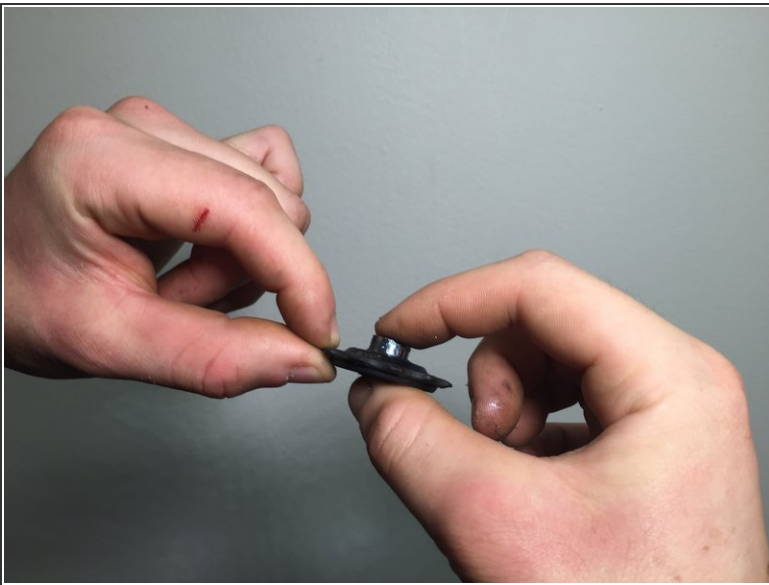
- If the pulley is still in place, unscrew it from the arm with the allen wrench.
 - Using the towel with the alcohol or degreaser, clean the pulley and check for cracks or broken teeth.
 - If any extensive damage is present, discard the pulley.
- i** Be sure to clean and check the pulley's condition if it has fallen out of the arm.

Step 3



- The replacement pulley should come with a bearing. Remove the bearing.
- Grease the pulley and bearing thoroughly.

Step 4



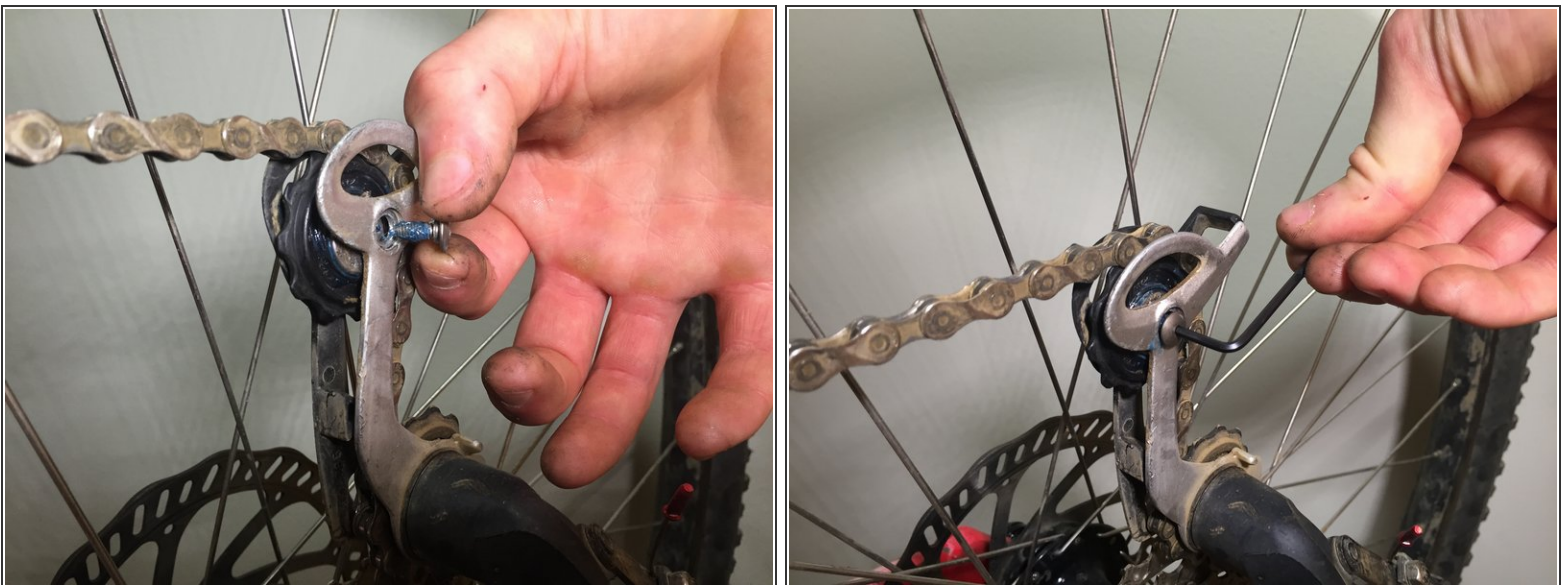
- Push the bearing back into the pulley.

Step 5



- Place the teeth of the pulley against the chain, then push it with the chain into the derailleur arm.

Step 6



- Grease the screw that holds the pulley in place.
- Screw the pulley back into the derailleur with the allen wrench.

Step 7



- While temporarily lifting the chain off the pulley, check to see if the pulley rotates freely.

Step 8



- Push on the pedals to see if the derailleur is back in working order.

To remove your pulley, see Step 2.