



Stop CDs Scraping/Rubbing

Stop CDs scraping/grinding/rubbing when they are played in a personal CD player.

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INTRODUCTION

When you use your personal CD player, do some/all of your CDs:

1. Make a scraping, grinding or rubbing sound, when you try to play them, and fail to play?
2. As above, but they will play, continuing to scrape as they are played?

Some of my CDs played normally, whilst others did one of the two cases above. By sanding down the higher parts of the mechanism casing, I was able to eliminate the problem.

IMPORTANT NOTE: you undertake this at your own risk. Your situation may be different to mine; I am only explaining what my problem was and what I did to solve it.

TOOLS:

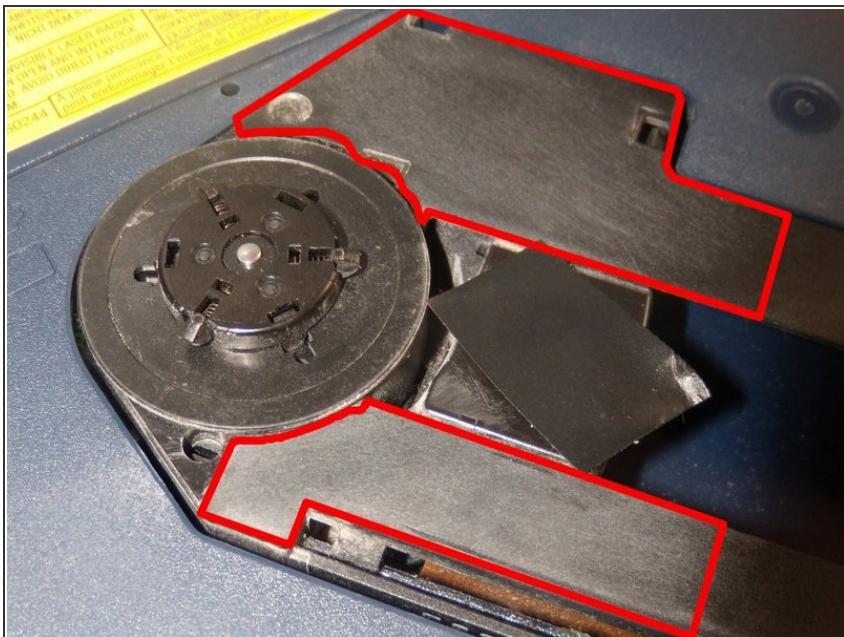
- Sheet of fine wet-and-dry sandpaper (1)
- Small piece of tape (e.g. electrical, masking)
(1)

Step 1 — Stick Tape Over the Lens



- Place a small piece of tape over the lens. You need to use something with minimal stickiness. I used electrical tape. This is to protect the lens when you do the sanding.

Step 2 — Sanding



- Get some fine wet-and-dry sandpaper. I used P400 grade.
- Sand the area highlighted in the photo. Be extra-thorough on the bits close to the spindle.
- Try to avoid sanding the spindle.
- Don't try to stop the spindle rotating - if you do accidentally go over it with the sandpaper a bit, you want it to move with the sandpaper, not offer resistance to it.

Step 3 — Testing



- Blow the plastic dust away.
- Wipe the area you have sanded with a cloth that is slightly damp.
- Insert a CD that was previously rubbing, ideally the one that rubbed the most. Don't close the lid. Spin the CD manually using your fingers.
- If the CD is now spinning freely, remove it from the player. Gently vacuum the player, taking care not to touch the lens transport. Remove the tape from the lens. Now play your CDs!
- If the CD is not spinning freely but there has been an improvement, sand some more until there is no longer any scraping and then follow the bullet point above.
- If you notice no improvement at all, it may be that the problem does not lie with the CD rubbing on this part of the player.