

Shackle Bushing Replacement without removing the axle

by Ralph Williams

The bushings are usually what goes first and without proper lube the shackle will be worn and in need of replacing also.



Photo 1



Photo 2

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First you will need to remove the shackle to get to bushings. I just used a 3 ft piece of 2x4 to help get the shackle off.

<--- Use hammer to tap out while stepping on 2x4 to lift spring

Once the shackle is removed the bushing will need to be --> removed on spring and perch. A bushing removal tool makes this a pretty easy job.



Photo 3



Photo 4

Once the bushing has been removed on spring and perch use same tool to drive in new bushings. Make sure you line up holes for oilers.



Photo 5



Photo 6

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Now inserting the new shackle is a bit more challenging. I used the T jack a couple pieces scrap I had laying around and 2 rear crank shaft main bearing caps. Using the caps on either side of the axle allows the spring to be raised or lowered to get the shackle inserted.



Photo 7

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The new bushing when driven in sometimes will be tight and will need reaming a bit to get new shackle to be inserted. This needs to be a tight yet easily movable fit. To ream I used a 9/16 drill bit with 1/2 shank to run through it for proper fit.



Photo 8

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Some times bushing is so rusted it will have to cut out. You can get a hack saw to cut almost through and then use a small chisel to remove. Just be careful not to cut perch or spring just bushing.



Photo 9

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Install shackle put in new oil filler caps and proceed to the other side.

Note from the editor:
Special thanks to
Ralph Williams
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