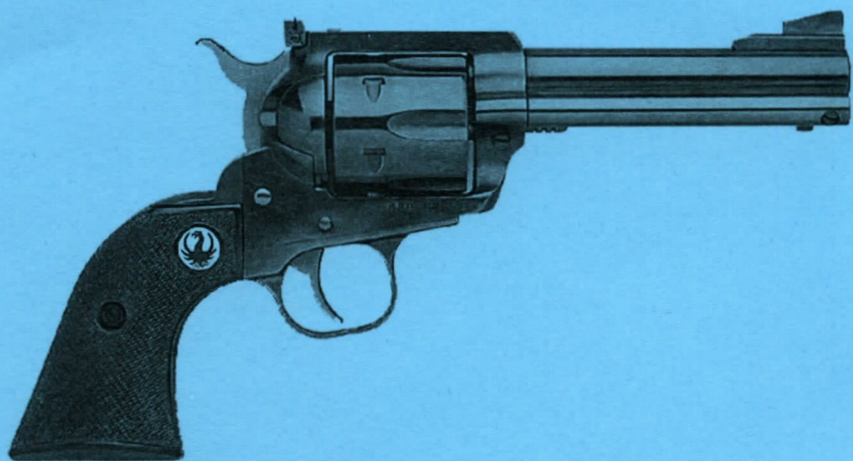


Ruger[®]

Single Action Revolvers
Blackhawk, Super Blackhawk,
Vaquero and Bisley Models



Gun-Guides[®]

Disassembly and
reassembly for all models

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Production History of the Ruger Single Action Revolvers

- 1955 Blackhawk .357 Magnum
- 1956 Blackhawk .44 Magnum
- 1959 Super Blackhawk .44 Magnum
- 1962 End production of the Blackhawk .44 Magnum
- 1965 Blackhawk .41 Magnum
- 1968 Blackhawk .30 Caliber
- 1971 Blackhawk .45 Caliber
- 1973 New Model Blackhawks (Transfer Bar)
- 1976 200th Year Markings
- 1982 Blackhawk .357 Maximum Caliber
- 1982 Blackhawk Conversion Kit Notice
- 1984 End production of the Blackhawk .357 Maximum Caliber
- 1985 New Model Bisley
- 1990 Blackhawk Special Model S3840
- 1992 Super Blackhawk Hunter .44 Magnum
- 1993 Vaquero .44-40, .45 LC, .44 Magnum
- 1998 Bisley-Vaquero Models
- 1993~2005 Vaquero Revolver (Includes Bisley-Vaquero Models)
- 2005 New Vaquero
- 2006 50th Anniversary Blackhawk .357 Magnum

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

Most components parts are identified using ALL CAPITAL LETTERS. Prior to disassembly, we recommend a thorough examination of the current position and relationship of each part and assembly.

Always wear safety glasses when working on firearms!

Springs may unexpectedly be released and cause severe eye damage. Also many cleaning and lubricating solvents are known to be harmful if they come in contact with your eyes.

Ruger Single Action Revolvers

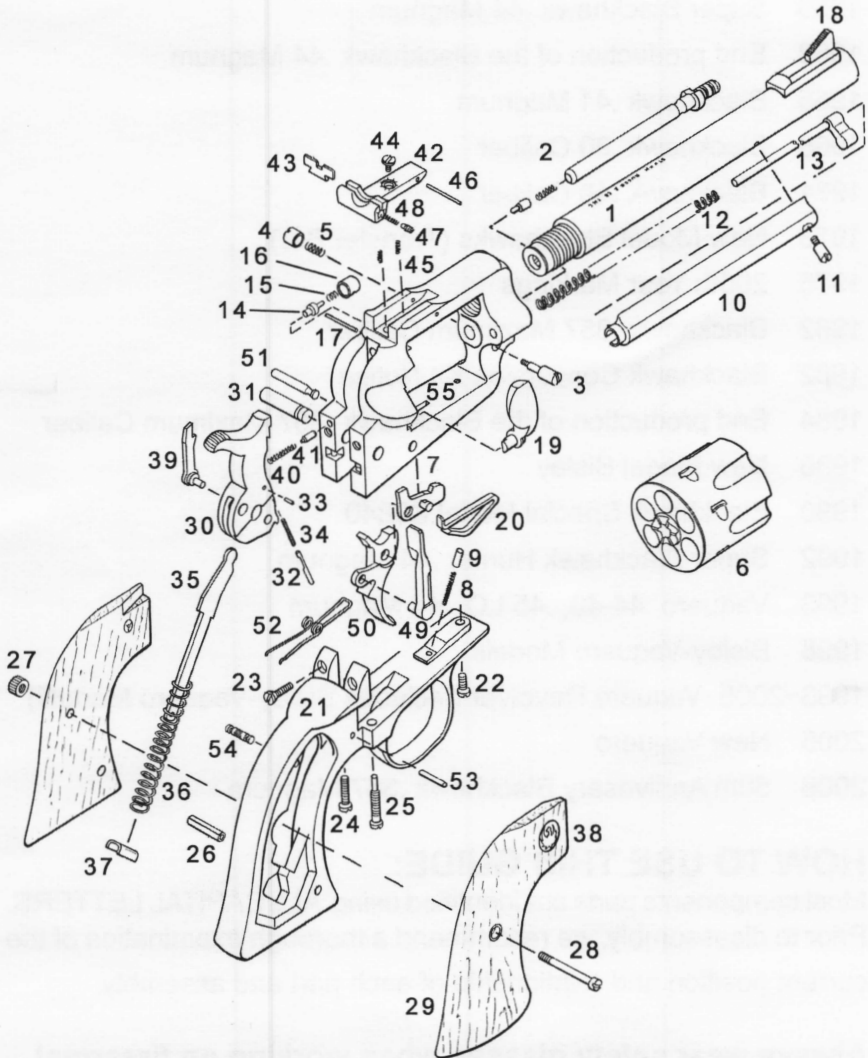


Photo courtesy Sturm, Ruger & Co.

Ruger Blackhawk

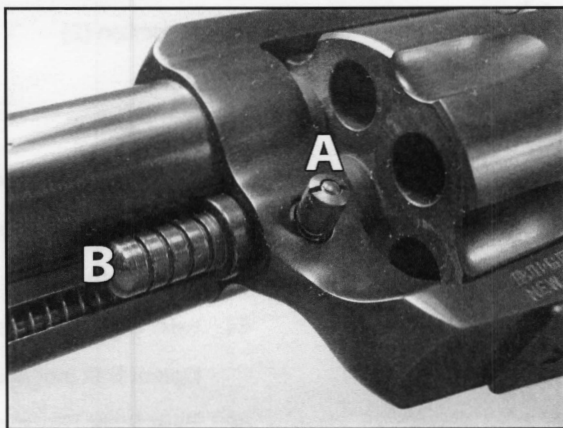
1. Barrel
2. Base Pin Assembly
3. Base Pin Latch Body
4. Base Pin Latch Nut
5. Base Pin Latch Spring
6. Cylinder
7. Cylinder Latch Assembly
8. Cylinder Latch Spring
9. Cylinder Latch Spring Plunger
10. Ejector Housing
11. Ejector Housing Screw
12. Ejector Housing Spring
13. Ejector Rod Assembly
14. Firing Pin
15. Firing Pin Rebound Spring
16. Recoil Plate
17. Recoil Plate Cross Pin
18. Front Sight
19. Gate
20. Gate Detent Spring
21. Grip Frame
22. Grip Frame Screw A (Front)
23. Grip Frame Screw B (Back x 2)
24. Grip Frame Screw C (Bottom)
25. Grip Frame Screw & Pivot Lock
26. Grip Panel Dowel
27. Grip Panel Ferrule - Left
28. Grip Panel Screw
29. Grip Panels (Pair)
30. Hammer Assembly
31. Hammer Pivot Pin
32. Hammer Plunger
33. Hammer Cross Pin
34. Hammer Plunger Spring
35. Hammer Strut
36. Mainspring
37. Mainspring Seat
38. Medallion (2)
39. Pawl
40. Pawl Spring
41. Pawl Spring Plunger
42. Rear Sight Base Assembly
43. Rear Sight Blade
44. Rear Sight Elevation Screw
Detent Ball (not shown)
45. Rear Sight Elevation Spring (2)
46. Rear Sight Pivot Pin
47. Windage Adjustment Screw
48. Rear Sight Windage Spring
49. Transfer Bar
50. Trigger
51. Trigger Pivot Pin
52. Trigger Spring
53. Trigger Spring Pivot Pin
54. Trigger Spring Retaining Pin
55. Frame

Disassembly

Our disassembly will be performed on a new Model Ruger Blackhawk .357 Magnum. Your model may differ slightly, but all models have the same basic component parts.

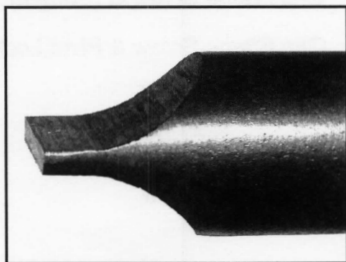
1. SAFETY FIRST - CLEAR THE WEAPON!

Open the LOADING GATE and rotate the cylinder several times to ensure that the revolver is UNLOADED! With the gate open, press in on the left side of the BASE PIN LATCH (A) and slide the BASE PIN (B) towards the muzzle until it reaches the EJECTOR HANDLE. Remove the CYLINDER towards the loading gate. Close the gate.



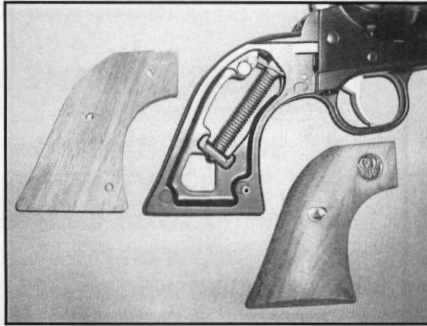
According to the Ruger Manual, this completes the necessary steps required for normal routine cleaning.

Here's some GREAT advice: **Do not use a .50 cent screwdriver on a \$500 gun!** Every gunsmith will tell you that a high quality screwdriver with the correct fit will save you time, effort, and damage to your firearm and accessories. Forster, Grace, and others make screwdrivers that are ground specifically for unique screws found on Rugers, Colts, etc...

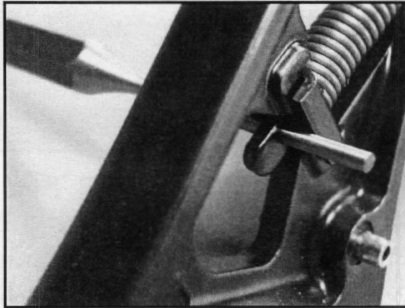


Disassembly

2. REMOVE GRIPS. Remove the GRIP PANEL SCREW and gently lift the GRIP PANELS from the GRIP FRAME.

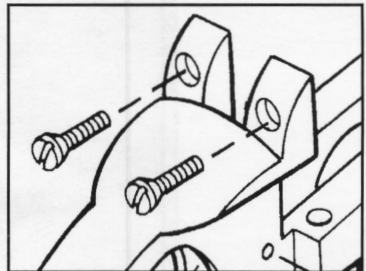


3. RETAIN MAINSPRING. Tilt the revolver with the muzzle up (this allows the transfer bar to release the hammer) and place the HAMMER in the cocked (rearward / fire) position and insert a small nail, pin, or a punch into the small hole in the HAMMER STRUT. This will retain the mainspring when we release the hammer. Using your thumb, slowly lower the HAMMER down all the way by squeezing the TRIGGER. Do not remove the mainspring at this time.



4. REMOVE (5) GRIP FRAME SCREWS.

Remove the top (2 - B) identical size screws found on the GRIP FRAME. (Back Strap)

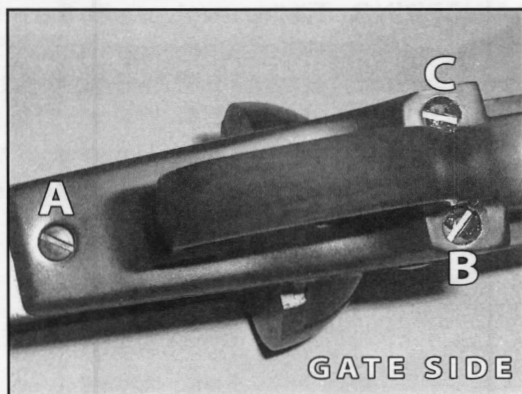


Disassembly

Place these screws on your work surface to match the position and holes found on frame. (This is handy for reassembly - also note the position of the muzzle and whether gate side is up or down)

Remove the short FRONT GRIP FRAME SCREW. (A)

Remove the GRIP FRAME SCREW (B) and the GRIP FRAME SCREW AND PIVOT LOCK (C - LONGER). Pay **VERY** close attention to which hole the longer screw came from. **NOT ALL RUGERS have the Pivot Lock Screw on the "Gate Side" of the frame as shown in this Guide or in the original RUGER manuals.** During reassembly, these screws must be inserted into their proper positions.



5 SEPARATE GRIP AND CYLINDER FRAME. Slowly, pull the GRIP FRAME towards the rear and down to separate it from the CYLINDER FRAME. Cocking the hammer back about a 1/4 inch may help in separating the two frames.

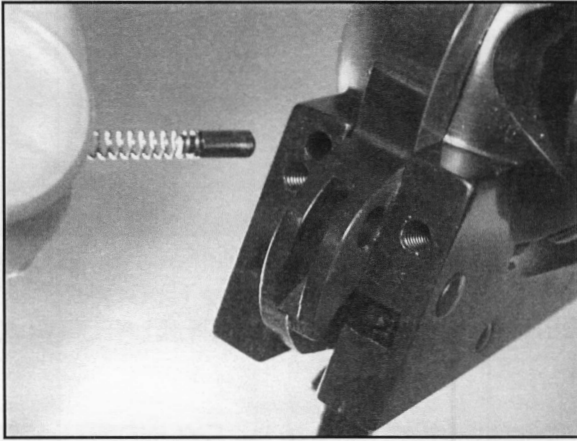


Disassembly

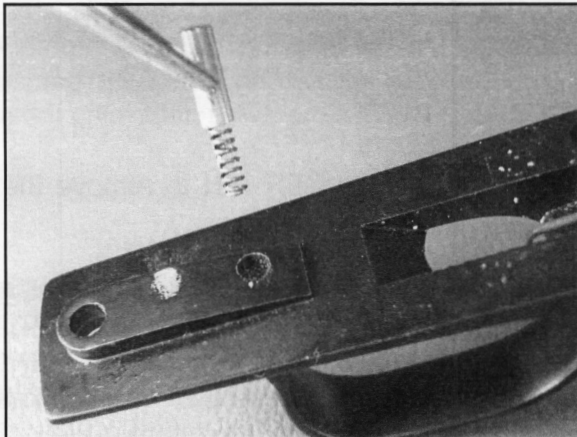
REMOVE MAINSPRING. Remove the mainspring (and your retaining pin, nail, or punch) as a complete assembly. **DISSASSEMBLY should only be performed if it is in need of repair or replacement.**

Remove and be careful not to lose the following:

A.) PAWL SPRING AND PLUNGER. (spring end faces outward)

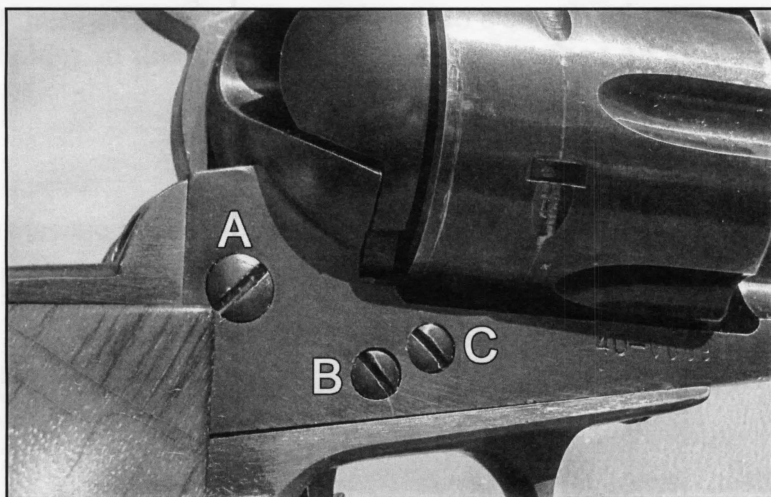


B.) CYLINDER LATCH SPRING AND PLUNGER. (plunger end faces outward)



Disassembly

INSTRUCTIONS FOR OLD "THREE SCREW" MODELS.



Using a **QUALITY SCREWDRIVER**, remove the **HAMMER PIVOT SCREW** and **HAMMER (A)**. Remove the **TRIGGER PIVOT SCREW AND TRIGGER (B)**. Remove the **CYLINDER LATCH PIVOT SCREW (C)**.

Using a small screwdriver, remove the **CYLINDER LATCH SPRING** from its hole on the left inside wall of the cylinder frame.

Remove **CYLINDER LATCH** and **SPRING**.

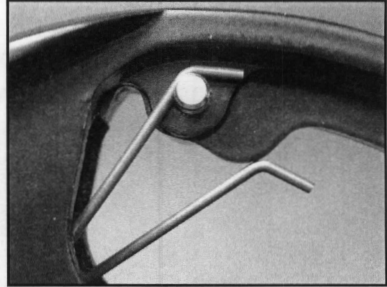
The intermost coil of the **TRIGGER SPRING** is slightly enlarged to prevent being lost during disassembly. Carefully remove the **TRIGGER PLUNGER AND SPRING** to avoid deforming the spring.

Drift out the **HAMMER PLUNGER PIN** to remove the **HAMMER PLUNGER**.

REMEMBER TO ALWAYS LOAD ONLY FIVE ROUNDS AND ALIGN THE EMPTY CHAMBER WITH THE FIRING PIN AND THE HAMMER EITHER IN THE SAFETY NOTCH OR RESTING ON THE FIRING PIN. A FREE FACTORY SAFETY CONVERSION KIT IS AVAILABLE FROM RUGER.

Disassembly

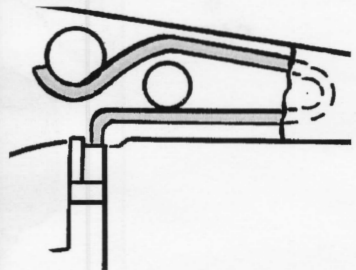
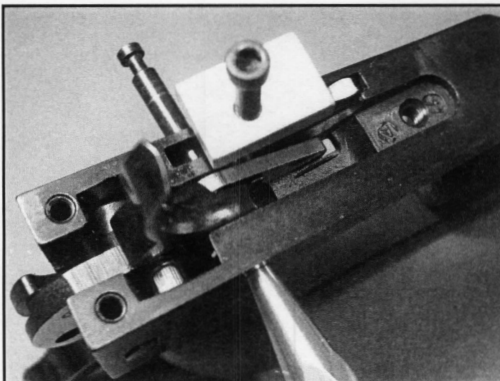
6. UNHOOK TRIGGER SPRING. Using a small set of pliers, unhook the angled ends of the TRIGGER SPRING from the small posts on the inside of the GRIP FRAME.



7. REMOVE TRIGGER PIVOT PIN - NEW MODELS.
Tip: Brownells manufactures a GATE DETENT SPRING CLAMP made specifically for Ruger Single Action Revolvers.

If you choose to use a screwdriver, Ruger suggests that you “use a helper” because the novice usually needs a “third hand”.

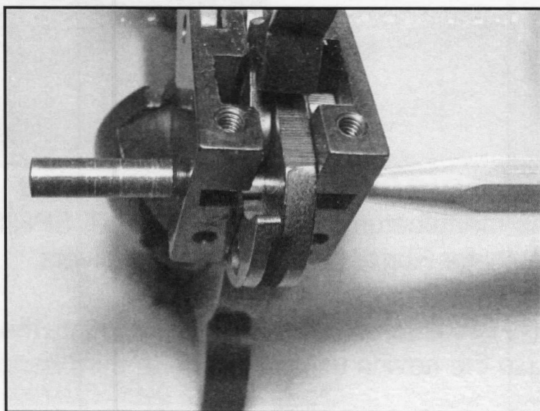
CAUTION SHOULD BE USED to make sure that the screwdriver does not slip off and cause injury or damage the revolver. Push down on the GATE (leaf) SPRING to relieve tension on the groove of the TRIGGER PIVOT PIN. At the same time, drift the trigger pivot pin towards the right and out of the frame. Using a brass punch is highly recommended to avoid damage to the surface of the pin. You will hear a “click” when the notch in the trigger has cleared the spring.



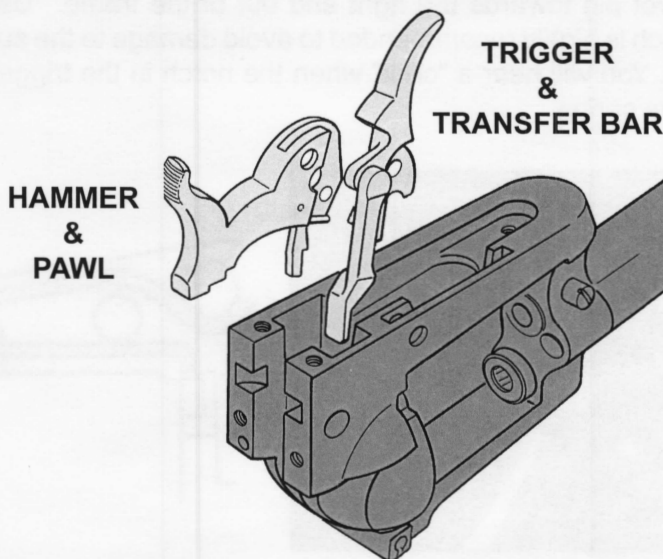
Disassembly

8. REMOVE HAMMER CROSS PIN

Drift out the HAMMER PIVOT PIN in either direction. This should slide out easily. It was held in place by Grip Frame Screw and Pivot Lock. Notice that the direction of the grooved end of the Hammer Pivot Pin. For reassembly, this will be the larger of the two pins.

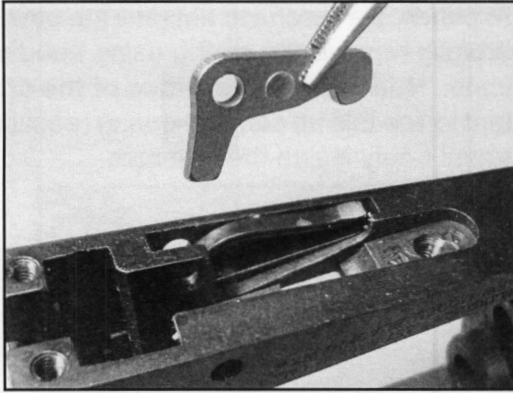


9. REMOVE HAMMER, PAWL, TRANSFER BAR, & TRIGGER ASSEMBLIES. Carefully remove the HAMMER / PAWL assembly and the TRANSFER BAR / TRIGGER ASSEMBLIES together. Notice the relationship and positions of these assemblies.

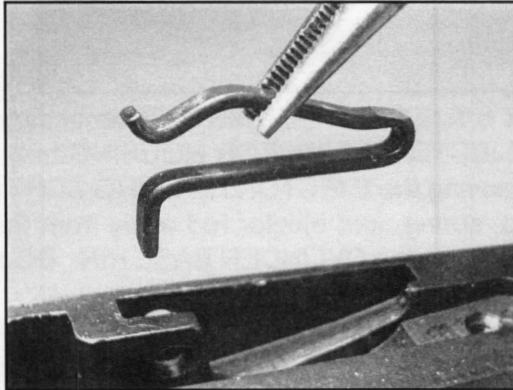


Disassembly

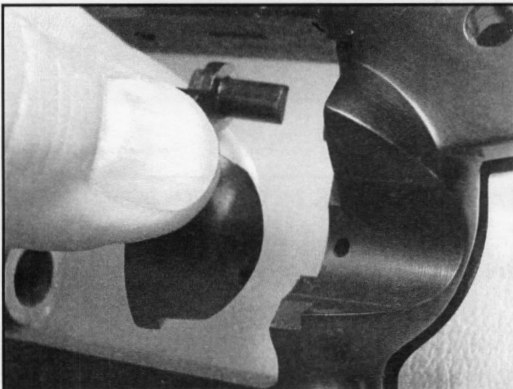
10. REMOVE CYLINDER STOP. Notice its position.



11. REMOVE GATE SPRING. Notice the angled-end is down.

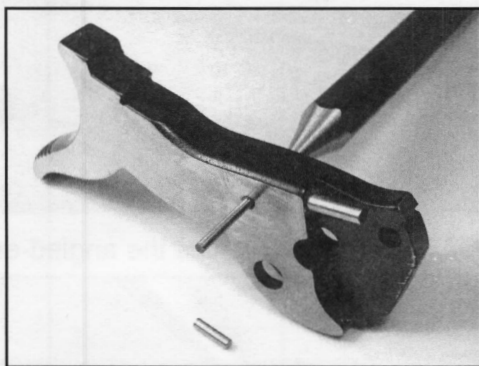


12. REMOVE LOADING GATE.

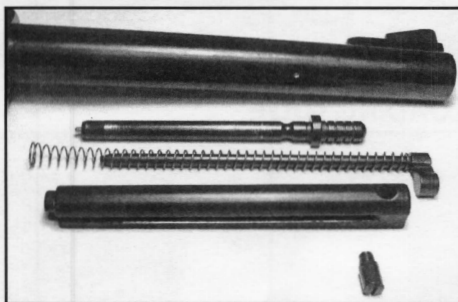


Disassembly

13. HAMMER PLUNGER & SPRING. Drift out the HAMMER CROSS PIN using a 1/16 punch. Be careful to not lose the small spring. You may need to carefully remove the spring using needle-nose pliers. Clean and lubricate. **Notice the flat surface of the cross pin.** This is VERY important to line this up correctly during reassembly to allow the plunger to travel freely inside the hammer.



14. EJECTOR & EJECTOR HOUSING. If necessary for cleaning or repair, the EJECTOR & EJECTOR HOUSING may be removed by carefully removing the EJECTOR HOUSING SCREW and lift the ejector housing, spring, and ejector rod away from the barrel. You may now also remove the CYLINDER BASE PIN. **DO NOT DISASSEMBLE THE BASE PIN ASSEMBLY.**



FURTHER DISASSEMBLY IS NOT RECOMMENDED!

The **FIRING PIN** should not be removed and requires a special tool.

The **BASE PIN LATCH** and **SPRING** can be removed, but requires a screwdriver and a special forked tool or jaw-protected pliers.



Reassembly

Reassembly is basically a reversal of the disassembly procedures. However, here are a few steps that will make the process go more smoothly.

It is recommended that you clean and lubricate all parts prior to reassembly.

Take a moment to review diagrams on pages 2 and 13.

1. Insert LOADING GATE
2. Insert GATE DETENT SPRING (angled leg down / inside)
3. Insert TRIGGER PIVOT PIN (From right to left) Use GATE SPRING tool or screwdriver. Slide in about 1/8th inch to leave room for the CYLINDER LATCH.
4. Insert cylinder latch. Slide the trigger pivot pin over to be flush with the inside edge. (Leaves room for following assemblies)
5. Insert Pawl, Trigger, and Hammer and Transfer Bar.
6. Slide in the HAMMER PIVOT PIN (from either side)
7. Align the trigger assembly and slide the trigger pivot pin over to be flush with the frame. You will hear a click to confirm that the spring has mated with the slot in the trigger pivot pin.
8. Gently push in on the gate latch to allow room for the cylinder.
9. Install the Cylinder Stop Plunger and Spring.
(long plunger- short spring) Plunger faces up towards the top of the cylinder.
10. Insert Pawl Spring & Plunger into the top left hole. (short plunger - long spring). Plunger in first.

Reassembly (cont.)

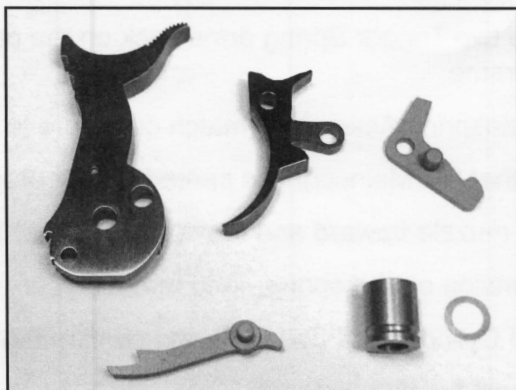
11. Reassemble the grip frame to the cylinder frame. It is much easier to fit the front of the trigger spring inside the notch in the trigger if the rear arms are not attached to the posts inside the grip frame. Make sure that the front of the trigger spring is on the "shelf" of the trigger.
12. Install the shortest screw grip frame screw (22) in the front of the trigger guard. Do not tighten fully.
13. Install the longest Hammer Pivot Screw (25). Do not tighten fully.
14. Latch the two Trigger Spring arms back on the posts inside the grip frame.
15. Insert Mainspring Assembly. (match curvature to frame)
16. Confirm that the Mainspring is seated into its proper position, point the muzzle upward and move the hammer back to relieve tension on the spring, and remove your punch.
17. Insert the Cylinder and Base Pin and confirm that all installed components function properly.
18. Screw in the two matching screws (23) on the backstrap.
19. Screw in the bottom Grip frame screw (24).

TIGHTEN - BUT DON'T OVER TIGHTEN SCREWS.

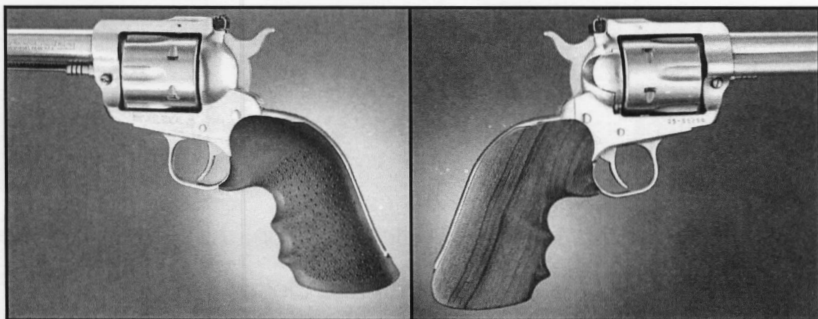
20. Install grips and be very careful not to overtighten the screw.
21. Cycle the revolver several times and confirm that the cylinder rotates and that the gate opens and closes correctly.

Accessories

One of the most popular upgrades for the Ruger Single Action Revolvers is the Power Custom Hammer & Trigger Kit. This kit offers a 2-1/2 to 3 lb trigger pull for all New Model Large Frame Single Action Blackhawks, Super Blackhawks and Vaqueros. When on halfcock and the loading gate is opened the chambers line up for no fumble reloading. Spin the cylinder and hear the pawl sing, and when you pull the hammer back you can hear and feel 3 positive clicks. A Wolff Spring Kit is included in the kit. Hammer, trigger, and springs are also sold separately. The Power Custom Free Spin Pawl allows the shooter to rotate the Ruger cylinder either direction when the loading gate is open. Makes for much faster reloading if the cylinder is over-indexed. Power Custom also manufactures Base Pin Bushing Kits and Oversize Cylinder Latches. Check out www.powercustom.com



Hogue, Inc. and others make countless varieties of revolver grips from rubber, wood, ivory, horns, etc. Shown here is the Hogue Monogrip with a soft rubber that absorbs recoil and a Hogue Pau Ferro grip (looks like dark walnut) with ergonomic finger grooves. Check out www.getgrip.com



Universal Gun Safety Rules

Learn the characteristics of your firearm

Treat every firearm as if it is loaded

Always point the muzzle in a safe direction

Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot

Never rely on a mechanical safety

Keep gun unloaded and action open until ready to shoot

Know your target and what's beyond it

Use only the correct ammunition for your firearm

Know what to do in the event of a misfire

Wear protective ear and eye equipment

Keep firearm free from obstructions and well maintained

Don't modify your firearm

Do not mix guns with alcohol, drugs, or fatigue

Safe Firearm Storage

Unloaded firearms should be stored in a locked cabinet, safe, gun vault, or storage case. The storage location should be inaccessible to children.

Gun locking devices render firearms inoperable and can be used in addition to locked storage. If firearms are disassembled, parts should be securely stored in separate locations.

Ammunition should be stored in a locked location separate from firearms.

Thoroughly double check firearms to confirm that they are unloaded when you remove them from storage. Accidents could occur if a family member borrows a gun and returns it to storage while still loaded.

For more information check out: www.projectchildsafes.org
A program of the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF).

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Disassembly and reassembly for all models

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Model 1903 Springfield Rifle

Model 1911 Pistols

Mosin-Nagant Rifle

Mossberg Pump Action Shotguns

Remington 700 Rifles

Remington 870 Shotguns

Remington 1100 & 11-187 Shotguns

Romanian M69 .22 Rifles

Ruger Mark III .22 Pistols

Ruger Mark IV .22 Pistols

Ruger Single Action Revolvers

Sig Sauer P365 Pistols

SKS Rifles

Smith & Wesson M&P 15-22 Rifles

Smith & Wesson M&P Pistols

Smith & Wesson SW-22 Victory Pistols

Springfield XD & XDM Pistols

Winchester 1300 Shotguns

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RELOADING Each Guide contains several calibers

Reloading Guide for Pistols: 9mm & 45 ACP (Includes +P)

Reloading Guide for Revolvers: .38 Spl, .357 Mag & 44 Spl, 44 Mag

Reloading Guide for Large Revolvers: .45 ~ .500 S&W Mag.

(5) Reloading Guide for Rifles: .223 & .22-250, .30-06 & .308, 7mm Series, 300 Mag Series, and .243, 25-06, .270 Series.

Reloading Data Log (reloading and range data)



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