Installing a Springer Precision Basepad

Safety First!

Although these parts can be changed by almost any gun owner, we strongly recommend that you use a qualified gunsmith/armorer if any part of this instruction seems beyond your capabilities. Thoroughly test the magazine in a safe environment ***before*** you use it for personal defense.

Always thoroughly check your pistol to make sure it is **not loaded** before working on it. We recommend that you remove any live ammo from your work area. NEVER, EVER, test any gun with live ammo if you are not in a place and circumstance where you can safely fire a weapon.

Magazine parts are under spring tension. Wear safety glasses. You can put your eye out with that thing!

Overview:

In this tutorial, we'll be changing a SIG P320 base pad for a Springer Precision 140MM base pad. The technique for changing base pads is pretty much the same for all modern high capacity magazines. We chose the SIG because there are a couple of specific features that we wanted SIG magazine owners to be aware of. Let's begin.

What you'll need:

You will need the "stock" magazine, the new base pad with the hex key provided (.050"), an extra power magazine spring or magazine spring kit and a punch or similar object (to depress the magazine retaining plate).

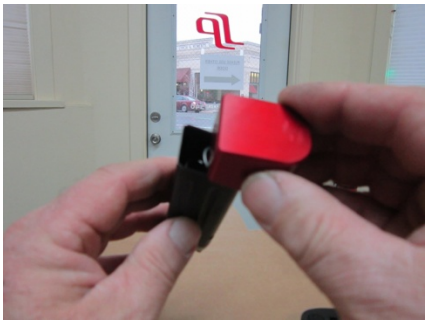
Step One: Remove the old Magazine Base pad, spring and follower by pushing the retaining plate protrusion inward and sliding the base plate towards the front of the magazine. Be careful, these things are under spring tension and will launch like a rocket across the room (or into your eye!).

There will be a basepad retaining plate between the spring and the basepad in your factory magazine (for most model mags). You won't need this retaining plate with our 140 MM (and 170 MM) basepads. Set this piece aside and save it. You will need it if you decide to restore your magazines to factory original condition.

Step Two: Remove your follower from the factory magazine spring. Most just come off with a mild tug and some may require a twisting motion.

Step Three: Place your follower on the new magazine spring top coil (it's smaller and narrower than the other end) and reinsert the spring/follower into your magazine body. Make sure the front of the follower is angled upward. If you are using a replacement kit, like the *Grams Kit,* simply set your old spring and follower aside and insert the Grams kit.

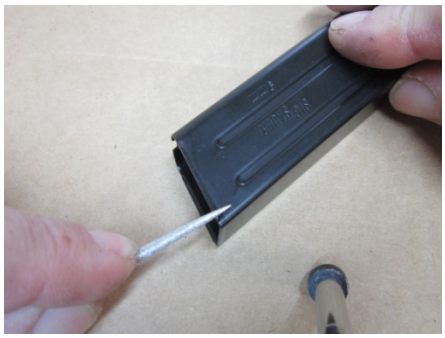
Step Four: Holding the magazine with the top down, place the new basepad over the spring. Make sure the set screw located at the back of the base pad is screwed ***in*** so that it won't block the horizontal grooves on the new base pad.

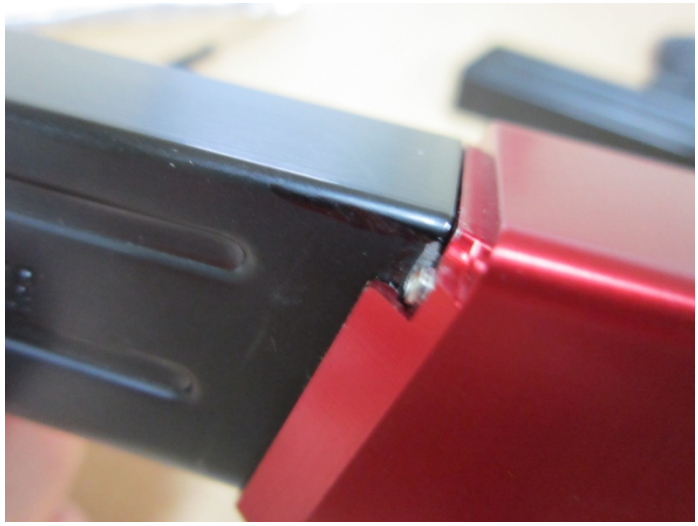


Please note that when you get the basepad close to the magazine body, you will need to move the basepad towards the front of the magazine body in order to align the basepad horizontal grooves with the corresponding basepad "lips" on the bottom of the magazine. It might feel like you are binding the magazine spring, but don't worry, you aren't. Move the basepad forward just enough so that the grooves start onto the magazine body lips and slide the basepad back into place. On rare occasions, the magazine body lips may not fit into the basepad grooves. If this happens, first make sure that the small retaining screw is screwed in far enough so that it is not the problem. Next, you may need to carefully sand the magazine body lips with emery cloth or use a small file. Only take a little off at a time! Check for fit without the spring in place. Once the basepad slides into place, you are done. Assemble the magazine with the spring/follower; back out the set screw on the basepad about 2-4 turns (until it blocks the basepad from sliding forward) and you should be done. Except…you may need to do one more little thing….

Step Five: Tuning the magazine body for the set screw.

On some magazines, you'll need to remove a ***small*** amount of material from the left rear corner of the magazine base lips so that the **set screw** can be backed out far enough to secure the basepad. How to check for and tune for this: If, with the basepad installed and all the way on the magazine body, the set screw is hitting the left rear corner of the magazine body base lips, remove the magazine base pad, spring and follower. Using a small file or similar tool (be careful about using power tools like Dremel tools as they can remove a lot of material very fast), remove a bit of the back left corner of the magazine body lips (usually no more than the thickness of a nickel or so). Slide the basepad back into position and check to see if you can back the set screw out a couple of turns so that it locks the basepad onto the magazine body. See pictures below:





Installing Springer Precision .25 and .375 Basepads (extended length models, not extra capacity):

Our Springer Precision **extended** basepads do not give you extra capacity, but do make the magazine a little longer, which aids in reloads, especially with magazine wells installed. These basepads are designed to work with your factory magazine basepad retaining plate (or the actual magazine spring with some models, like the Springfield XD/XDM pistols). To install these basepads, simply remove the factory basepad as described in Step One above and replace it with the Spring Precision Product. With some models (like the Smith and Wesson M&P), we will supply a new retaining plate that works better with our products.

SIG Square and Round Hole Retaining Plates: A while ago, SIG updated their magazine basepads to use a retaining plate with a rectangular ("square") shape instead of the original round style. Be sure to look at your SIG mags carefully before ordering as we make SIG basepads for both configurations. Square are on the left and round are on the right (below).

Factory Square (L) and Round (R) Basepads/Retaining Plates

Springer Precision Extended Replacement Basepads

(Note: The "square" retaining plate feature is on the inside (Left, below). From the bottom, they look like the "round" retaining plate basepad)