

SADLAK INDUSTRIES

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GAS CYLINDER PISTON INSTALLATION

Installation of the piston is easy. It requires a 3/8 box wrench to remove the gas cylinder hex plug below the barrel near the flash suppressor. You should hold the gas cylinder in a well-padded vise or you could buy a special gas cylinder wrench that looks like a figure eight to hold it while torquing the hex nut.

Spring Guide Installation

The Spring Guide is easy and requires no special tools, however, it requires a few more steps. Remove the trigger group, then the stock, then flip the barrel/receiver upside down and you will see the long op. spring. Inside will be the standard flat (cheap) GI spring guide. It's only an 1/8 thick plate to guide the spring. A little pin holds the guide in a slot. Move the pin out and remove the guide. You'll have to compress the spring a little while removing the guide but doesn't take much effort.

The guide is one of the best low cost upgrade to increase the smoothness and consistency of the action. Accuracy is therefore increased when the action repeats consistently. Of course other variables cause inconsistency between rounds like the barrel wear, bullet weight and powder charge even trigger pull. When the military looked into accurizing the M14 one of the first things they did besides a new barrel and bedding the receiver was to replace the cheap flat guide with a NM round type.

A unitized gas system just attaches the sheet metal stamped front band to the gas cylinder either by two screws of tack welding from the inside. This is a required task for all top National Match shooters using the M14/M1A. The purpose again is to minimize any variable because often the front band can be loose due to the tolerances of the mating parts. By unitizing it removes all play thus adding to the consistency between shoots. Also, after unitizing the two parts, they grind the lip down on the front band to prevent the stock from contacting it, which then makes the stock free floating. Free floating means as you hold or pull down with the strap, on the forward stock it does not also pull down or "bend" the barrel. Nothing left to chance from keeping the barrel dead on target.