



Monroe KA Teardown

Teardown a big old mechanical calculator like it's the world's most awesome 3D puzzle.

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INTRODUCTION

Ever been at a garage/boot/stoop/yard sale, flea market, or junk shop and seen a weird thing that looks like a cash register and a typewriter mated? These are electromechanical calculators which our dads and granddads used in the office because electronic calculators were far off in the future.

There are many of these now on eBay, but many of them are less than functional. The last time they were used was probably in the 1960s, and all the grease has probably congealed and picked up dust and twigs and things. Also, decades of being moved around and not being serviced means that parts go out of alignment or get broken by the well-meaning and the inquisitive.

Worse, the manuals and repair guides for these machines are either rare or nonexistent. My dad tells me that a man came round the office every month to maintain the calculators. It's likely that any repair information stayed inside the company.

And so, this disassembly guide will help you take this calculator to pieces so that the pieces can be cleaned, repaired, or replaced. And hopefully you'll learn a bit about the mechanisms that make these machines go.

The specific calculator we're going to be taking apart is the Monroe KA. The KA is of the K series of Monroe calculators produced from 1921 to 1928, with the A meaning Automatic, that is, with an electric motor attached. This model came with various sizes of accumulator and counter, and can multiply and divide (manually) by successive addition and subtraction.

 **TOOLS:**

- **Press-to-close Bag** (1)

(Many)

For keeping parts safe and separated.

- **6-in-1 Screwdriver** (1)

(Some), various sizes

You'll use sizes from 1/8" (3 mm) to 3/8" (10 mm).

- **Large Needle Nose Pliers** (1)

The smaller the better.

- **Probe and Pick Set** (1)

For poking and prying at those tricky little parts.

- **Penetrating Lubricant** (1)

Useful for separating rusted parts. Don't use WD-40, though, it doesn't work as well.

- **Tweezers** (1)

- **Cleaning rags** (1)

(A bunch)

- **Digital Caliper** (1)

For measuring screws.

- **Arbor press** (1)

To press out taper pins

- **Heat Gun** (1)

To heat up parts connected with taper pins

- **Pin Punch** (2)

1/16", flat

Used for tapping out taper pins. It's always best to have two, in case one bends.

- **Hammer** (1)

For hitting the pin punch

- **End mill** (1)

1/16"

For drilling out taper pins if you have to

- **64 Bit Driver Kit** (1)

Step 1 — Workspace



- Prepare your workspace. Cover it with clean white paper or a white mat board. Light the area more than you think you'll need, and preferably from multiple directions.
 - Ready a cardboard box and lots of press-to-close bags to store the parts you pull off. Keep associated parts in their own bag, label each bag, and don't skimp on the number of bags!
- ⚠** Remove cats, small children, and capybaras from workspace. They like small parts, and you will be generating a lot of them.

Step 2 — Remove the carriage



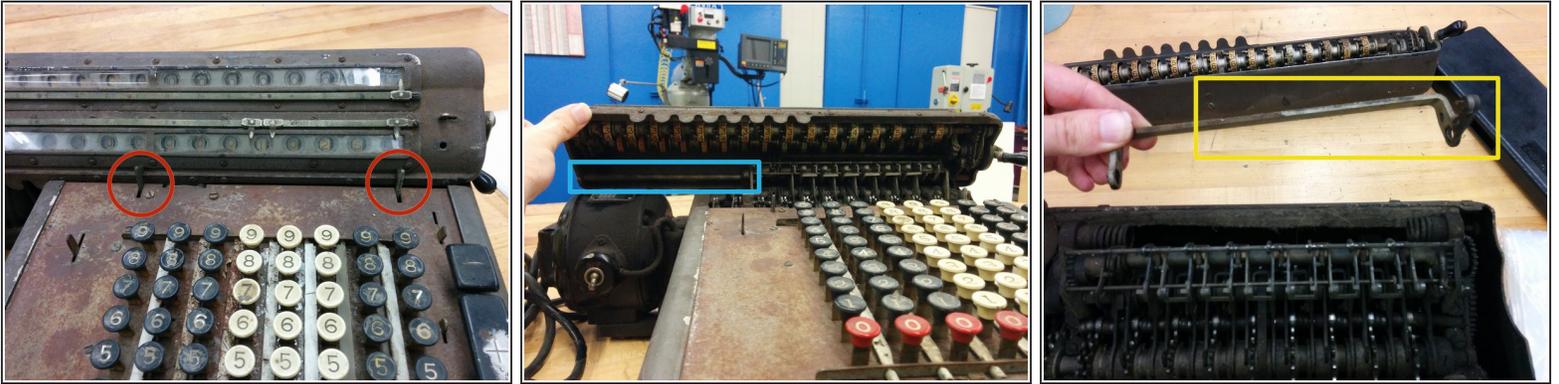
- Let's first remove the carriage, which is the top part with all the number wheels on them.
- Position the calculator so that its keyboard faces you. This orientation defines the left and right sides of the calculator.
- Unscrew the **lower left** screw on the **left side** of the carriage.
- If it just keeps turning, you may need to insert a screwdriver on the other end of the shaft that this screw is connected to, the one on the lower right of the right side of the carriage. Don't turn it! Just turn the **left side**.

Step 3



- Put that screw in a bag immediately!
- Label the bag as **bag number 1**. We'll find the serial number of the calculator shortly.
- Pat yourself on the back. You are now officially organized.
- ⓘ In the 1920's, screw threads were standardized just as they are today. The one you just unscrewed is a **#8-36**.
- ⓘ All the screws are machine screws, using fine threads, and are slotted. Phillips head screws had not yet been invented!
- ⓘ The heads of the 1920's screws are basically cylinders. Today, the equivalent would be called a pan-head screw.
- ⓘ I'm not sure the lengths were standardized. If they were, I'm not too impressed with their accuracy. This one is **0.298** inches long (the threaded length), which is 19/64 inches. Yeah, they don't make screws in those sizes. If you want a replacement, go with the closest length.

Step 4



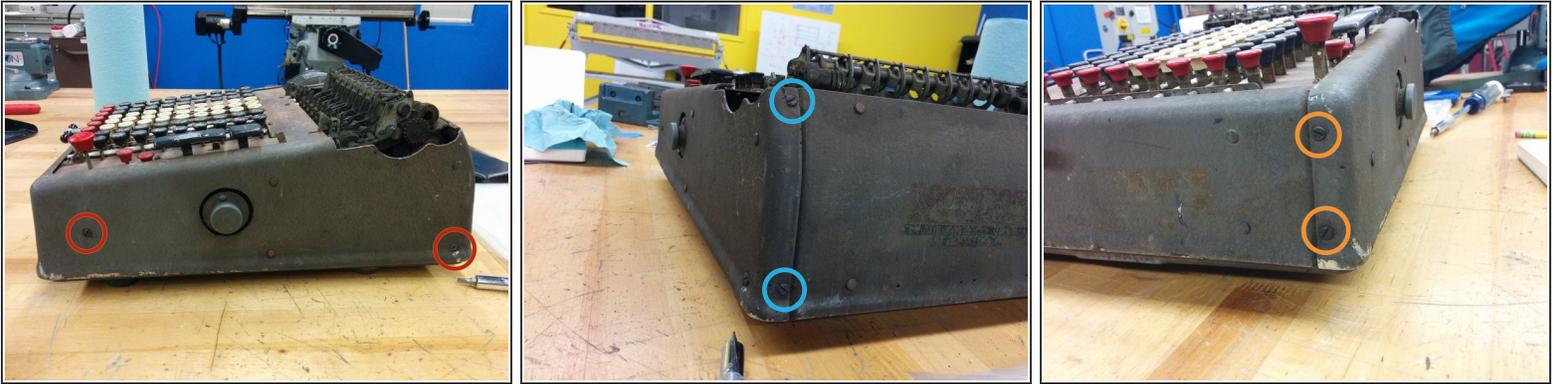
- Pull back on these carriage latches and pivot the carriage up.
- This shaft runs the length of the carriage. Push it out to the right. You'll probably have to pivot the carriage up and down to help it come out. Ninety years of exposure to air can't have been good for it.
- Now lift the carriage completely off.
- This other part comes off with it.

Step 5



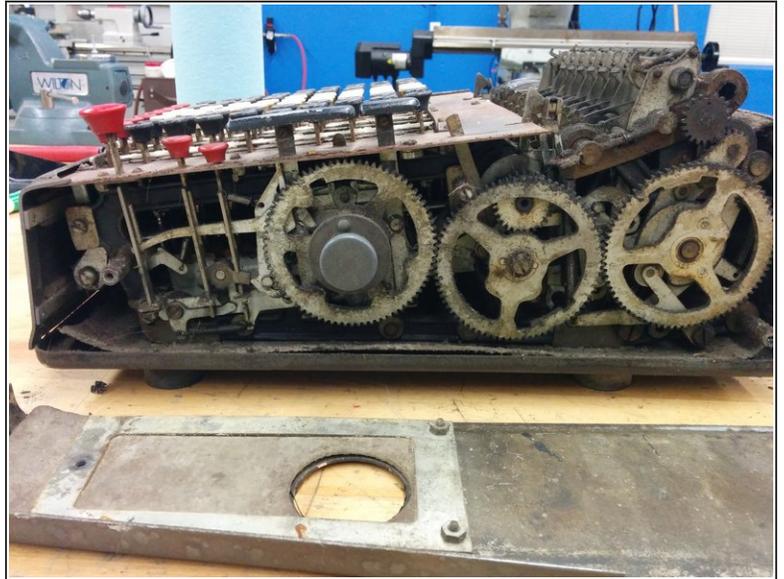
- The underside of the carriage, and the other part. The shaft is not shown. Put all of these into a box so they don't disappear.

Step 6 — Remove the right side panel



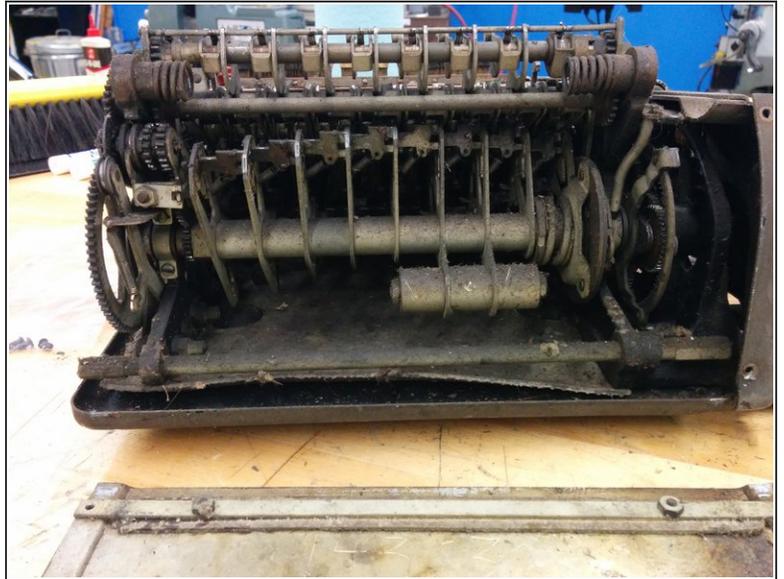
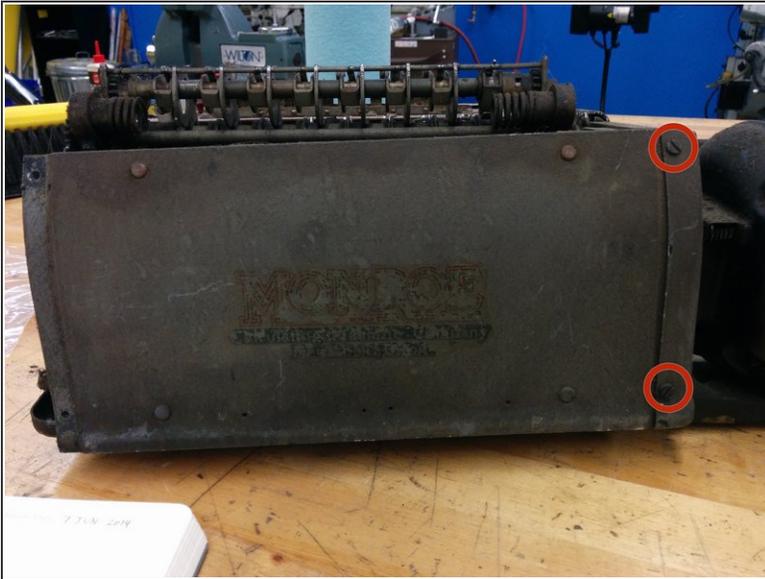
- Remove these two screws. They are **#6-40**, about **3/8"**.
- On the back, remove these two screws. They are also **#6-40**, but about **1/4"**.
- On the front, remove these two screws. They are also **#6-40**, **1/4"**.
- Bag all these screws in bag #1.

Step 7



- Now just pull the right side panel off.
- Look at those insides!
- OMG it's dirty and dusty in there. Wow, yuck.

Step 8 — Remove the back panel



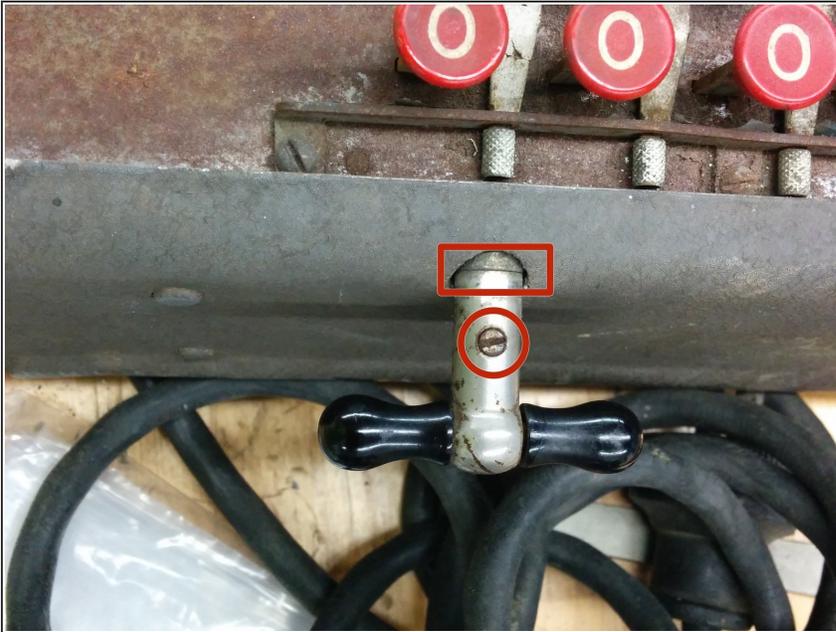
- Remove these two screws. They are **#6-40, 1/4"**.
- They go into bag #1.

Step 9 — Record the serial number



- Scratched into the back panel you'll find the serial number. Mine is **143032**. Write yours on every parts bag and on the box you're using to store the bigger parts.

Step 10 — De-rustify the carriage shift handle



- In order to remove the front panel, you'll need to remove the carriage shift handle. However, this will likely have rusted in place.
- Liberally apply lubricating penetrant to the screw, the hole on the opposite side, and the joining line.
- ⚠ Don't attempt to remove the handle! We'll remove it much later on, and it can stay on while we work on the rest of the machine.

Step 11 — Remove the left side panel



- Remove this one **#6-40 3/8" screw**. Put it in bag #1.
- Lift upwards and off.

Step 12



- True story. When I was around eight years old, my dad brought home a surplus calculator like this one. I opened up this side first, and was confronted with this view of apparently infinite complexity.
 - I jiggled the controls a bit, tried to figure it out for about an hour, and when I couldn't make heads or tails of it, I took a hammer to the thing.
- ⚠ Don't do that.
- In part, this teardown is an apology for that moment of violence. It was the 70s. I'm sure disco must be partially to blame.

Step 13 — Remove the motor



- Tilt the calculator onto its right side so that the motor sticks straight up.
- Remove these two bolts, placing them in bag 1.
- Tilt the calculator back down.
- Pull off the motor, and unplug the wire connecting it to the calculator.
- Set it aside.

Step 14 — What's in bag 1?



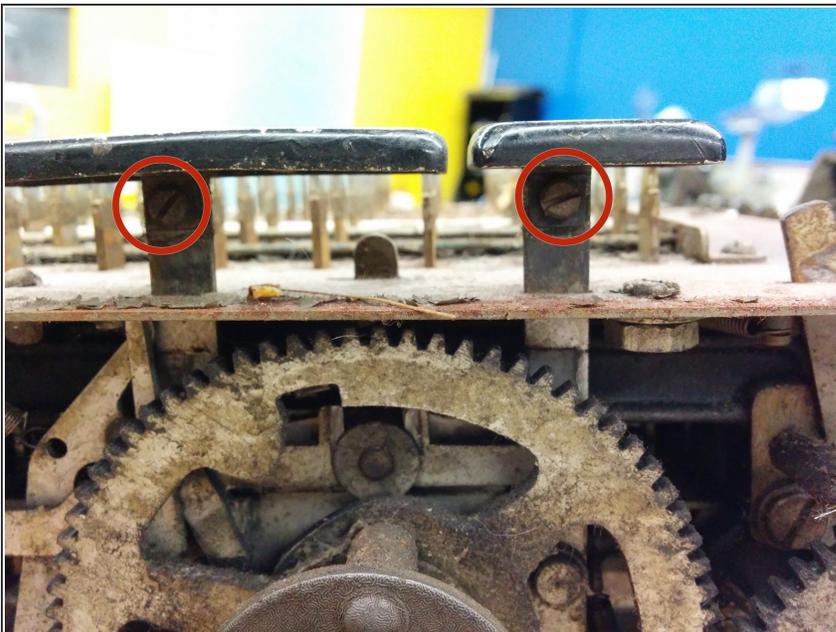
- 1x machine screw, #4-48, 1/4", miniature head (1/8" dia)
- 8x machine screw, #6-40, 1/4"
- 3x machine screw, #6-40, 3/8"
- 1x machine screw, #8-36, 5/16"
- 2x hex head bolt, 5/16-18, 7/8"
- 2x split lock washer, 5/16"

Step 15 — Remove the numeric key caps



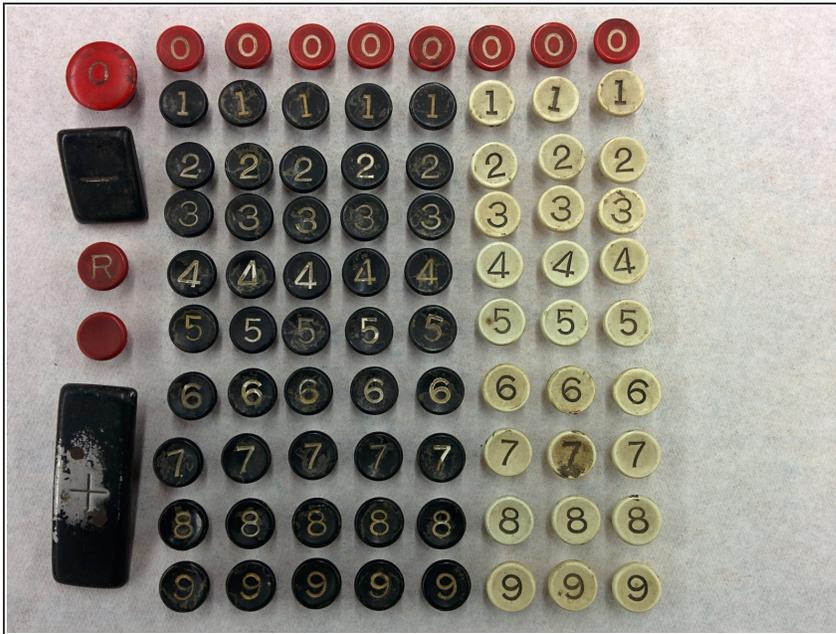
- Start a new bag 2.
- Pull **straight up** the 80 numeric keys, the zero key, the repeat and the nonrepeat keys. Most should come off by hand, but you will have to use pliers to pull up the stubborn ones. Put the jaws under the keys and lever them up. Use a rag to protect the calculator from the jaws.
- Put all the keys in bag #2.

Step 16 — Remove the add and subtract keys



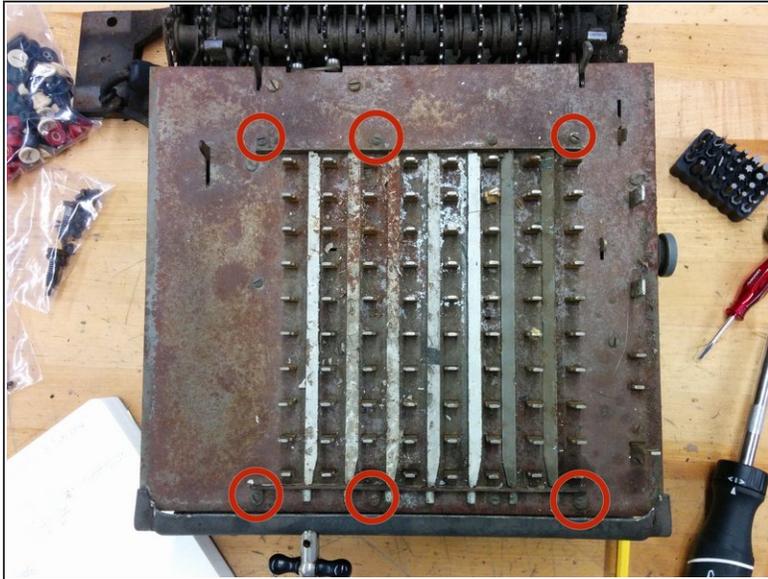
- Remove the screws holding the add and subtract keys. They are **#4-48, 3/16"**.
- Pull the add and subtract keys off.
- Place the add and subtract keys into bag 2.
- Start a new bag 3 and put the screws in it.

Step 17 — What's in bag 2?



- 80x numeric keys
- 1x zeroing key
- 1x repeat (R) key
- 1x nonrepeat (blank) key
- 1x add key
- 1x subtract key

Step 18 — Remove the decimal indicators



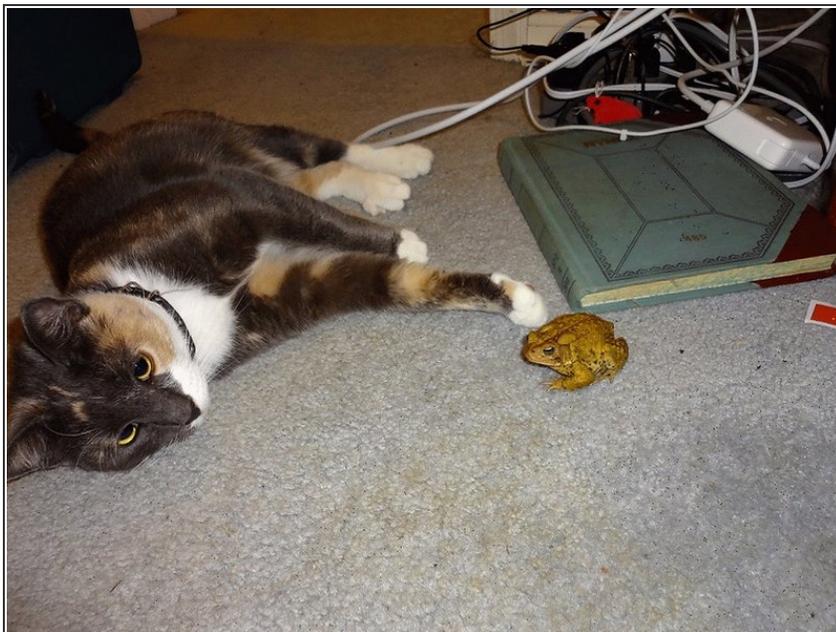
- Remove the indicated six screws. They are **#5-44, 1/4"**.
- Place the screws in bag 3.
- Lift off the whole assembly of decimal indicators and set them aside.
- They appear to have been painted white on one side and green on the other. But who can tell under all that dirt.

Step 19



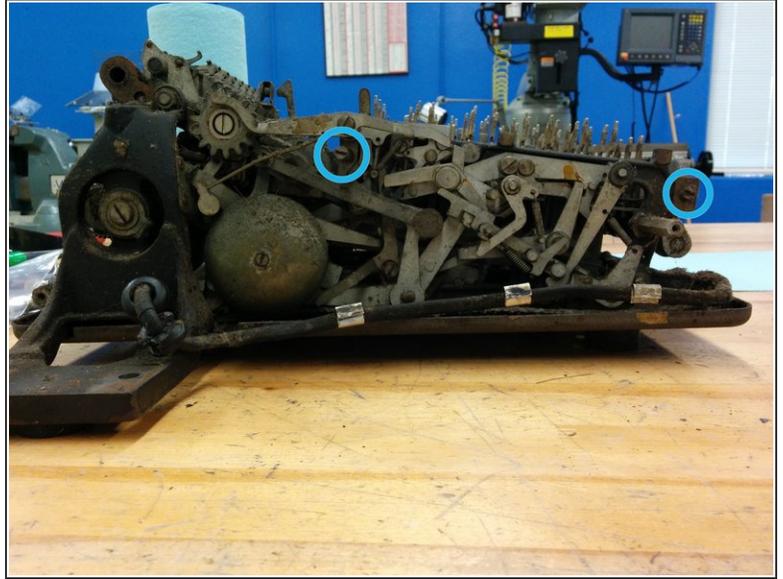
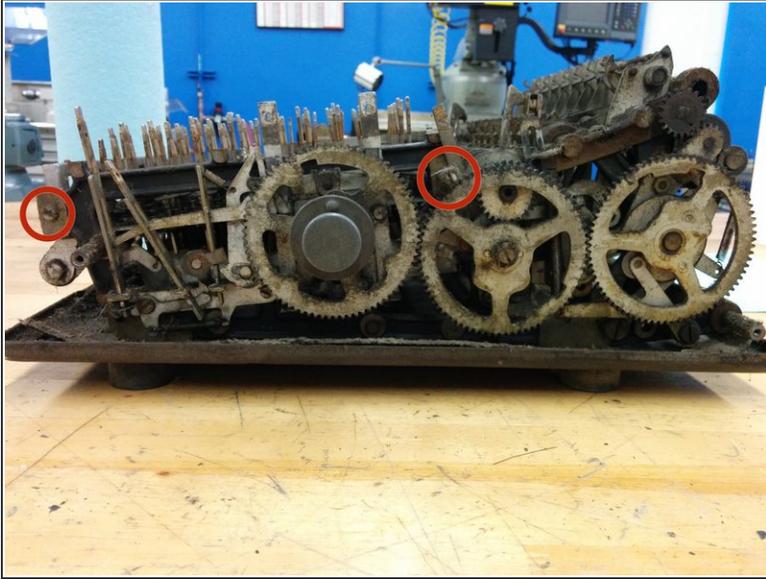
- Remove these other six screws. They are also **#5-44, 1/4"**. Place the screws in bag 3.
- Lever up the top panel, pulling on one side, then the other, until the whole thing comes off. It will come off with the front panel.
- Set the top/front panels aside.
- It's impossible to tell from the rusty top, but the top was originally painted a dark green.

Step 20 — Break time!



- This would be a good time to go for a stretch.
- Maybe make friends with a toad.

Step 21 — Remove the keyboard



- On the right side, remove this screw in the front (**#8-36, 5/8"**), and the screw that looks like a shaft in the middle.

⚠ These screws may have split washers on them. I suspect they were all supposed to have one, but only half of the screws in this step had them.

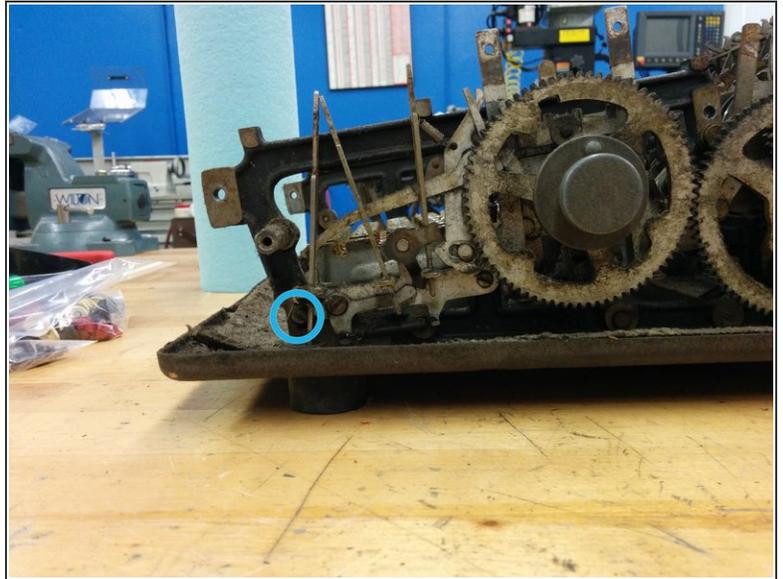
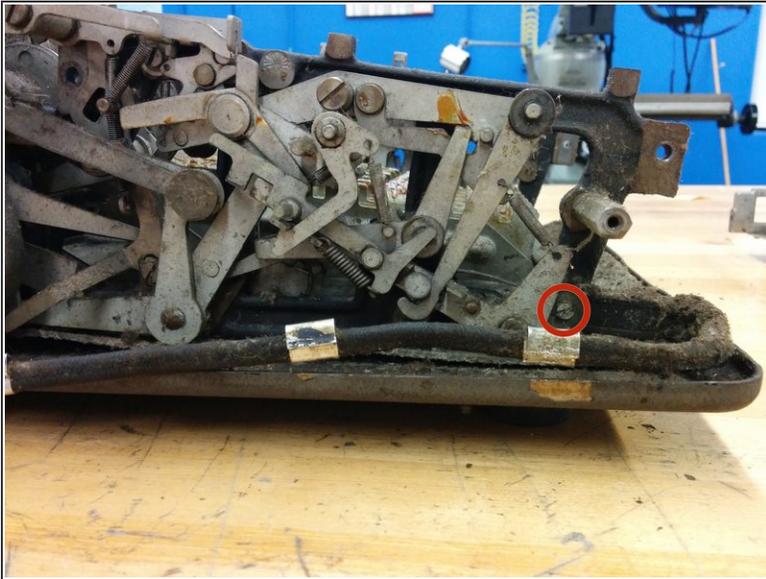
- That shaft-like screw is essentially a **#8-36, 5/8"** screw attached to a **1"** head, **7/32"** in diameter.
- On the left side, remove this screw in the front (**#8-36, 5/8"**) and the screw that looks like a shaft in the middle. This one is also **#8-36, 5/8"** but with a **1-1/2" x 7/32"** head.
- All these go into bag 3.

Step 22



- Pull straight up using the front and rear bars, and with a little persuasion the entire keyboard module should come out.
- Set this entire assembly aside.

Step 23 — Remove the motor switch and wire



- On the right side front, unscrew this **#8-36, 1"** screw and remove the washer.
- Place them in bag 3.
- Remove the switch and wire and set it aside.
- On the left side front, remove the corresponding screw, **#8-36, 5/8"**.
- Put it in bag 3.

Step 24 — What's in bag 3?



- 12x machine screw, #5-44, 1/4"
- 2x machine screw, #4-48, 3/16"
- 3x machine screw, #8-36, 5/8"
- 1x machine screw, #8-36, 1"
- 3x split lock washer, #8
- 1x flat washer, #8
- (continued)

Step 25 — What's in bag 3, continued



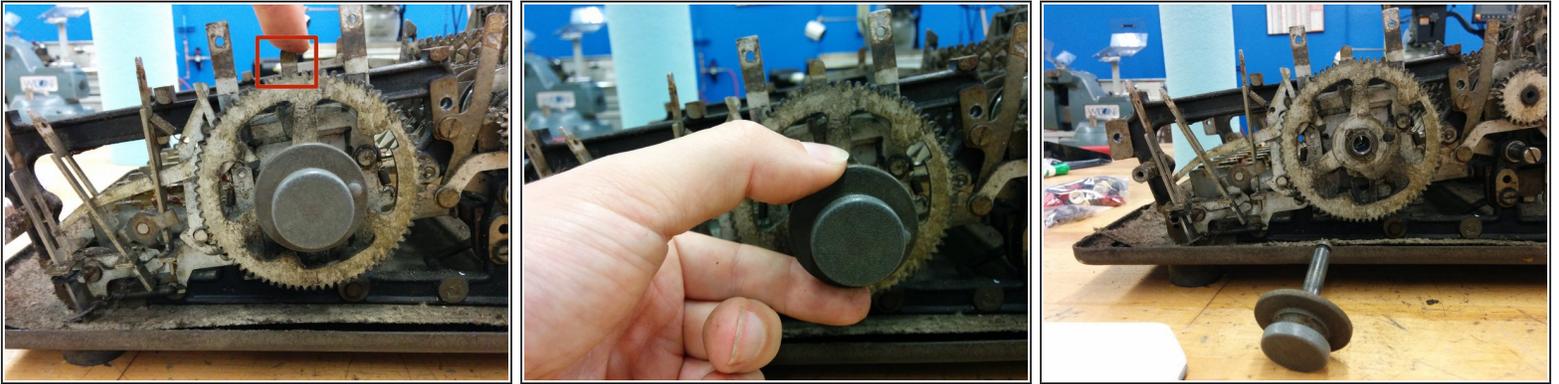
- 1x shaft with threaded end, 7/32" dia, 1 5/8" overall length, 1" travel length, #8-36
- 1x shaft with threaded end, 7/32" dia, 2 1/8" overall length, 1 17/32" travel length, #8-36

Step 26 — Remove the middle large gear



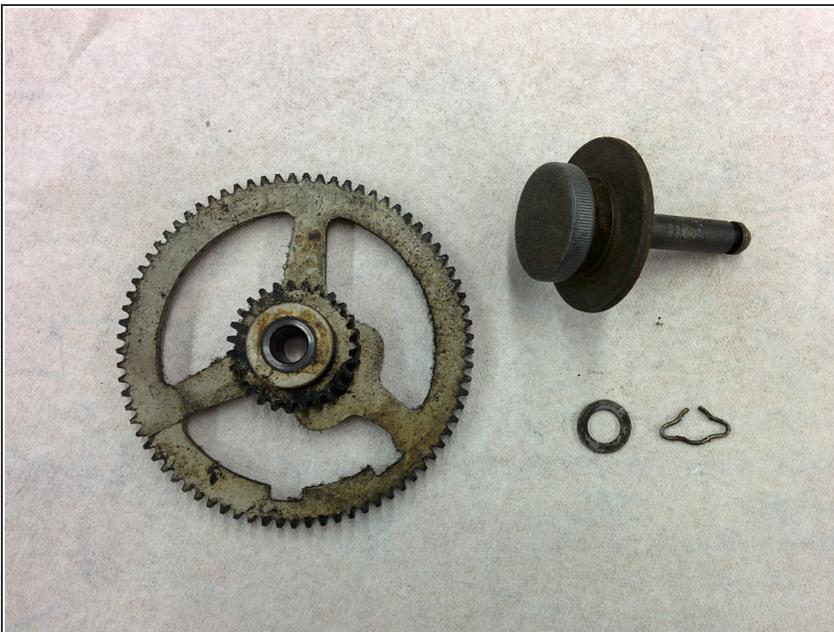
- **Start a new bag 4.**
- Remove the retaining clip. Rotate the clip so that the gap is facing up. Now hook your needlenose pliers into the ears and pull down slowly but firmly. Hopefully the clip will remain on the jaws of the pliers, but it may decide to escape. In that case, go find it.
- Remove the washer.
- Remove the middle gear.
- Place all these into bag 4.

Step 27 — Remove the cover plug



- With your finger, pull the cover plug release lever towards the front of the calculator.
 - Still holding the lever, pull the cover plug off its shaft.
 - Place the cover plug in bag 4.
- i** In case of no electricity, the cover plug would be removed and a crank would be inserted. I have never found any of these machines still having the crank.

Step 28 — What's in bag 4?



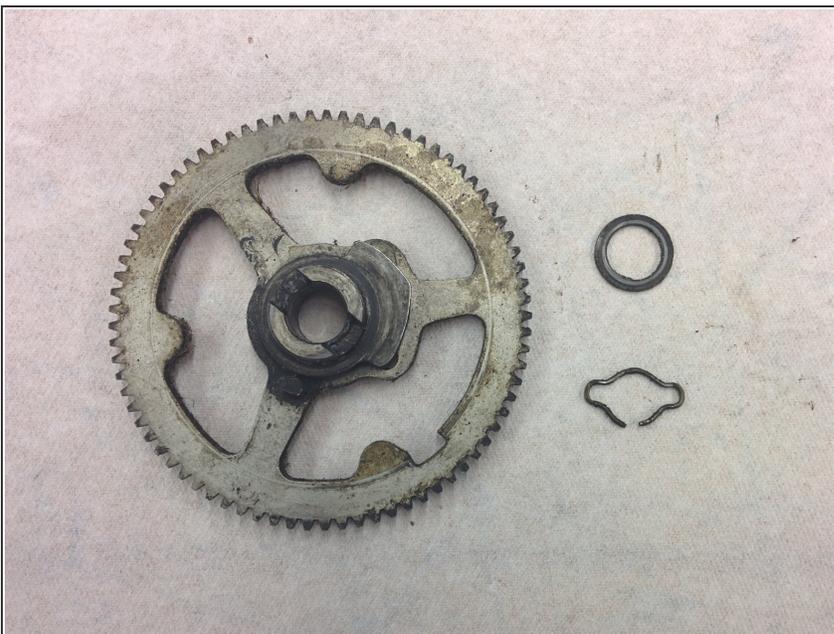
- Gear, 77t, with two timing markers
- Flat washer, 1/2" od, 5/16" id
- Retaining clip, 0.040" wire
- Cover plug

Step 29 — Remove the large crank gear



- **Start a new bag 5.**
- In the same way you removed the middle gear, remove the retaining clip and washer from the crank gear.
- Place clip, washer, and gear in bag 5.

Step 30 — What's in bag 5?



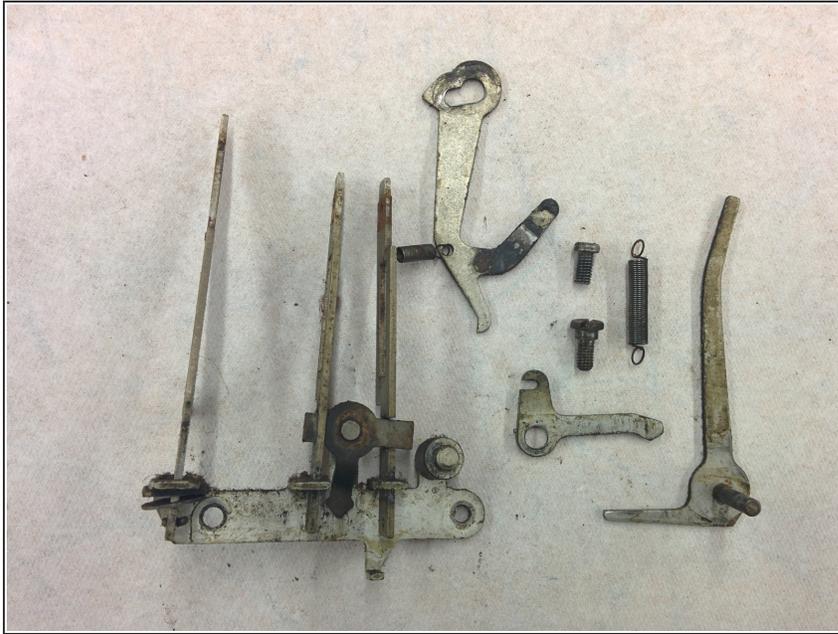
- Gear, 77t, with one timing marker
- Washer, 5/8" od, 7/16" id
- Retaining clip, 0.040" wire

Step 31 — Remove the zero/repeat/nonrepeat key assembly



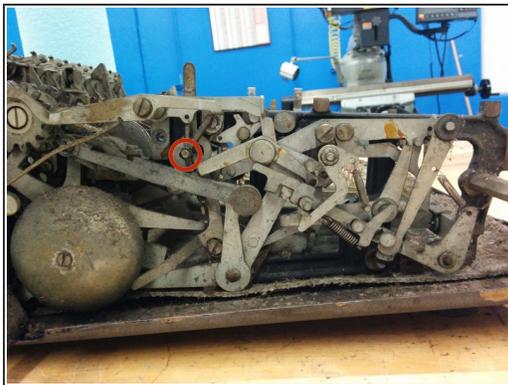
- **Start a new bag 6.**
- On the right side front of the machine, unhook the repeat/nonrepeat detent spring on both sides.
- Unscrew this screw, **#8-36, 5/16"** with a 0.1" long, 7/32" diameter shoulder.
- Remove the latch lever, and put it with spring and screw in bag 6.
- Unscrew this screw, **#8-36, 5/16"** and put it in bag 6.
- Pull off the zero/repeat/nonrepeat key assembly. Put it in bag 6.
- ⓘ This assembly can be seen in the 1920 patent [US1432616](https://patents.google.com/patent/US1432616).

Step 32 — What's in bag 6?



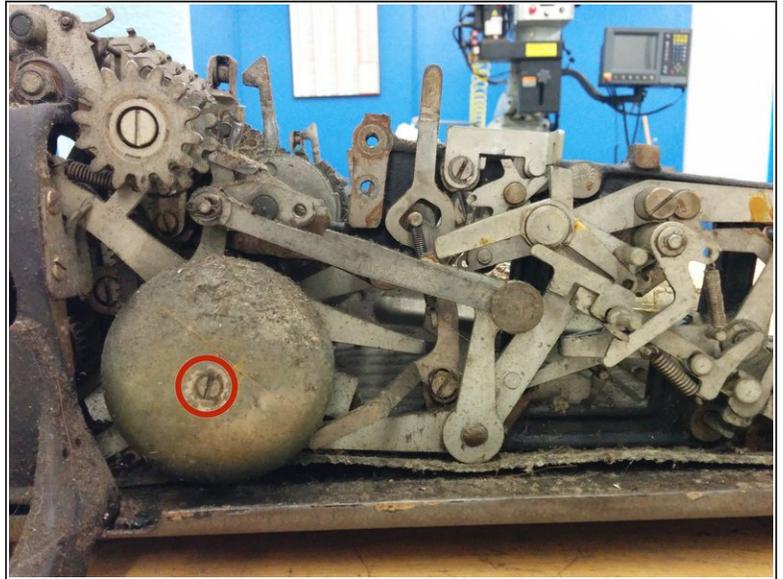
- 1x machine screw, #8-36, 5/16"
- 1x machine screw, #8-36, 5/16" with 0.1", 7/32" diameter shoulder
- 1x expansion spring, 0.020" wire, 3/16" od, 13/16" length
- Repeat/nonrepeat/zero assembly (2 parts)
- Latch lever

Step 33 — Remove the bell mechanism



- **Start a new bag 7.**
- On the left side rear of the machine, unhook the top two springs from the indicated post.
- Unscrew this screw. There is a nut on the other side of the frame, so be sure to catch it.
- Remove the bell mechanism. Place all parts in bag 7.

Step 34



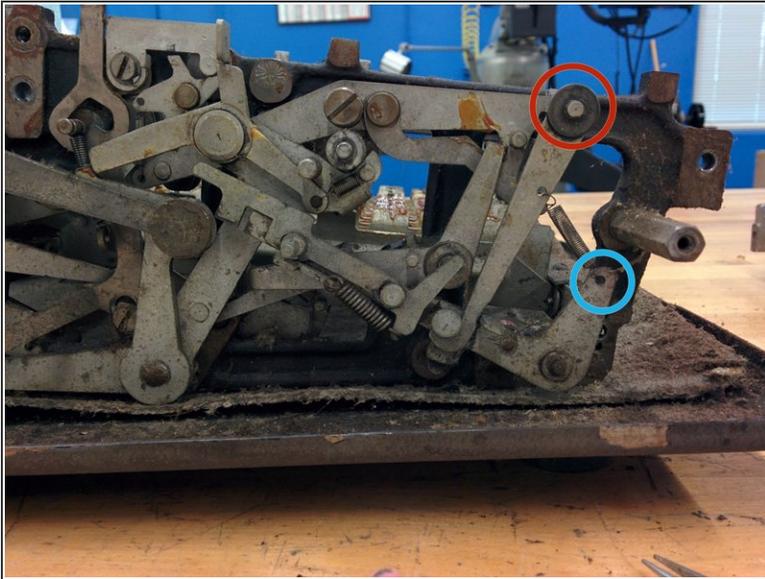
- Remove this part as well, and put it in bag 7.
- Unscrew the bell. It is a **#6-40, 1/4"** screw.
- Place bell and screw in bag 7.

Step 35 — Remove a lever



- On the left side, we will be removing this lever.
 - It is held on its shaft with a retaining clip and a washer. The clip is actually just what appears to be one loop of a thick spring. Find the gap in the wire, then use the dental pick and a very small screwdriver to pry apart the gap enough so that you can remove it with the needlenose pliers.
- ⚠ Don't worry about bending or breaking this thing. I think in the rebuild we'll replace these with retaining rings.
- ⓘ Retaining rings hadn't been invented by the time these calculators were built. The Seeger retaining ring was invented in Germany around 1927 by Hugo Heiermann.
- Remove the washer (**5/16"** outer diameter).
 - Also unhook the end of the spring from its post.
 - Place retaining clip, washer, and lever into bag 7.

Step 36 — Remove another lever from the left side



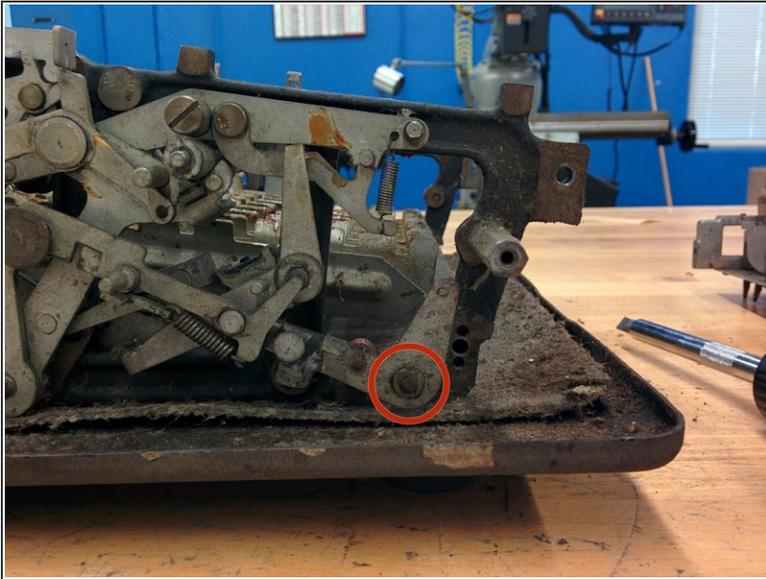
- Unhook this spring at the indicated point.
- As with the previous lever, remove the retaining wire and washer ($1/2$ " outer diameter) along with the lever.
- Put everything in bag 7.

Step 37



No instructions yet.

Step 38 — Remove a two-part lever from the left side



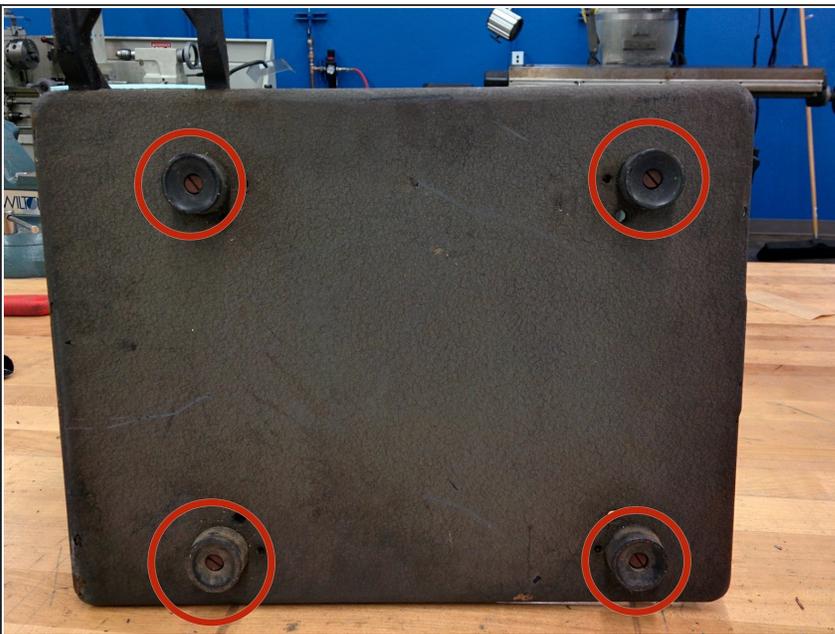
- **Start a new bag 8.**
- As before, remove retaining wire, washer, and lever. The washer is **5/16" o.d.**
- Put these parts in bag 8.

Step 39 — Remove yet another lever from the left



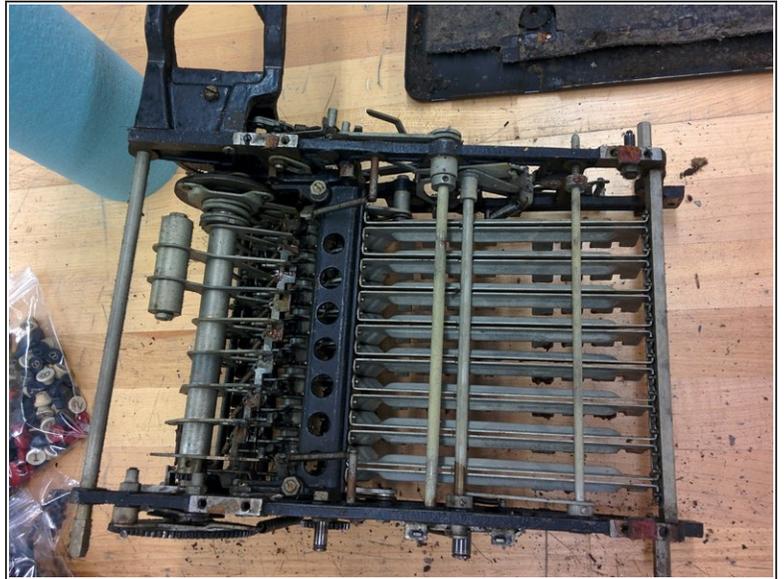
- Again, remove retaining wire, washer (1/2" o.d.) and lever.
- Place in bag 8.

Step 40 — Remove the feet



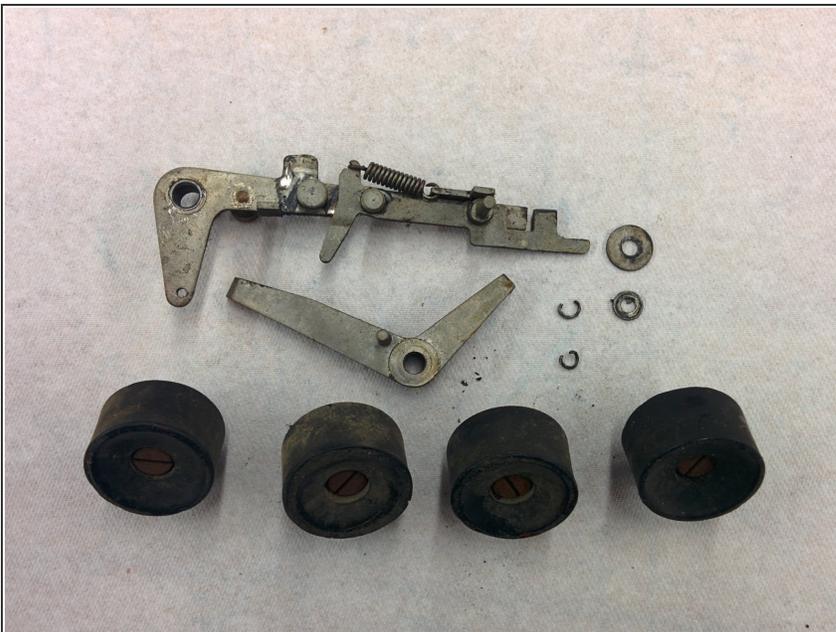
- Tip the calculator onto its right side and unscrew four of the five feet from the bottom.
- You may not have to use a screwdriver. I could just turn the feet and they unscrewed.
- Place the feet in bag 8.

Step 41 — Remove the bottom panel



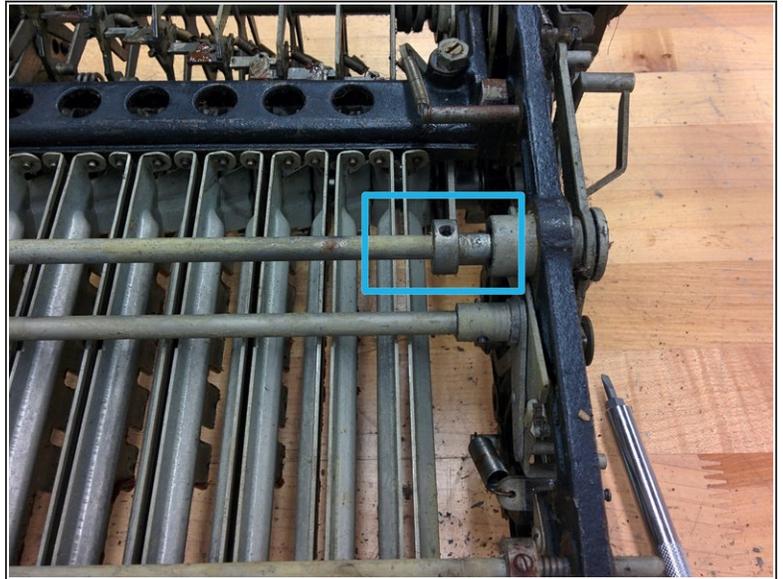
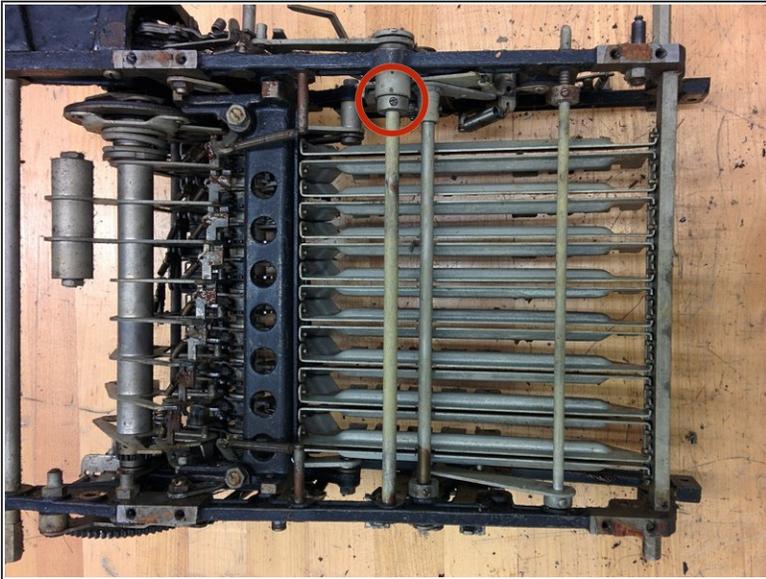
- Just pull it right off and set it aside. The bottom mat may stick to the frame. Just pull on it until it comes off.
- Flip the calculator so it is upside down.

Step 42



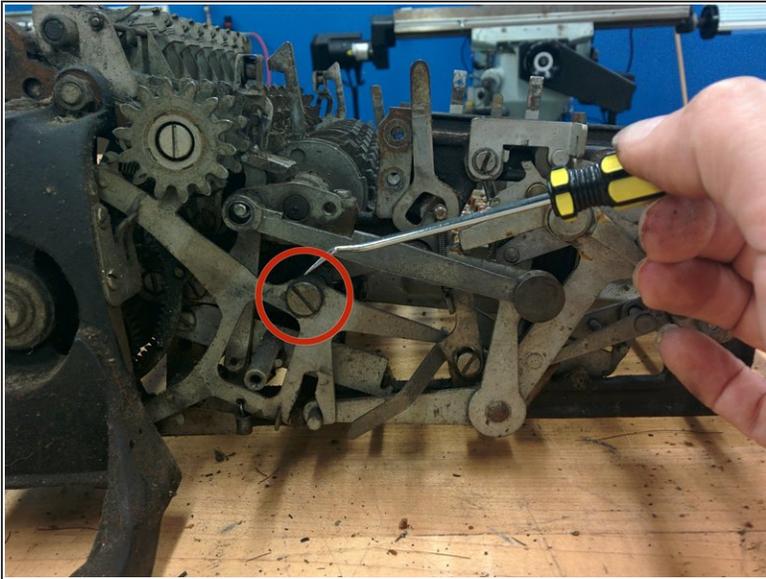
No instructions yet.

Step 43 — Loosen a shaft collar



- **Start a new bag 9.**
- On the left side (which is now on the right, since you've flipped the thing over, but we'll still call it the left side) unscrew the set screw, **#6-40, 3/16"**, from the collar.
- I would unscrew it completely. Put it in bag 9.
- Rotate the collar and move it down the shaft a bit. This is to loosen it. You probably won't have to use penetrating lubricant or lubricating penetrant.

Step 44 — Remove another lever



- Flip the calculator back right side up.
- On the left side, remove this screw. It is **3/16-32, 1", 1/4"** diameter shoulder. Put it in bag 9.
- ⓘ On mine, the spring is broken. Not sure where it was supposed to attach.
- Remove the lever. You may have to maneuver it a bit to get it free. Put it in bag 9.

Step 45 — Remove lever/shaft assembly



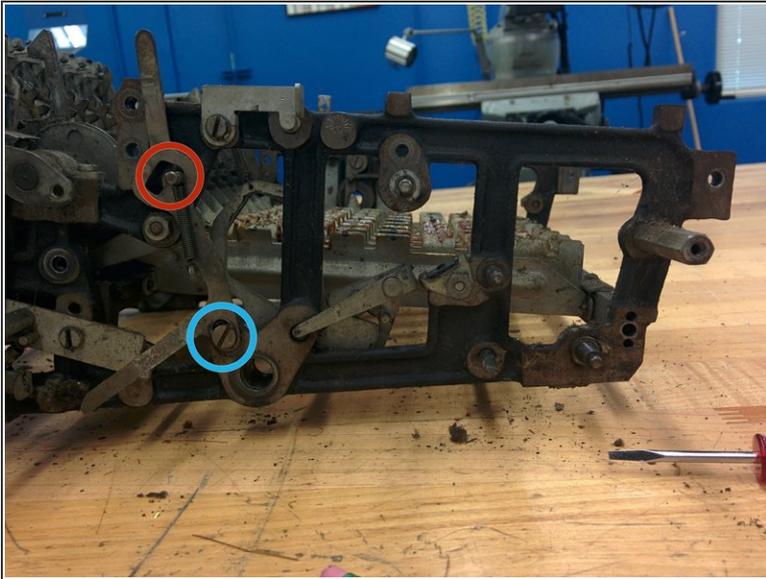
- On the inside part of the left frame, unhook this end of the large spring.
- Back on the outer side of the left frame, bend this cotter pin and pull it out of its hole. Put it in bag 9. Don't worry if it breaks, because it is easily replaced.
- Pull the entire lever assembly with shaft straight out. Pull it smoothly along the direction of the shaft, possibly using another hand to push the shaft collar off the other end.
- Put the collar in bag 9, and set the lever/shaft assembly aside.

Step 46 — Remove a lever assembly



- On the left side, remove this screw, **#8-36, 3/4", 7/32" shoulder**.
- ⚠ There is a washer, **7/16" o.d.**, between the lever and the frame. Make sure you catch it.
- Remove the lever. Put all parts in bag 9.

Step 47 — Remove the bell mute lever



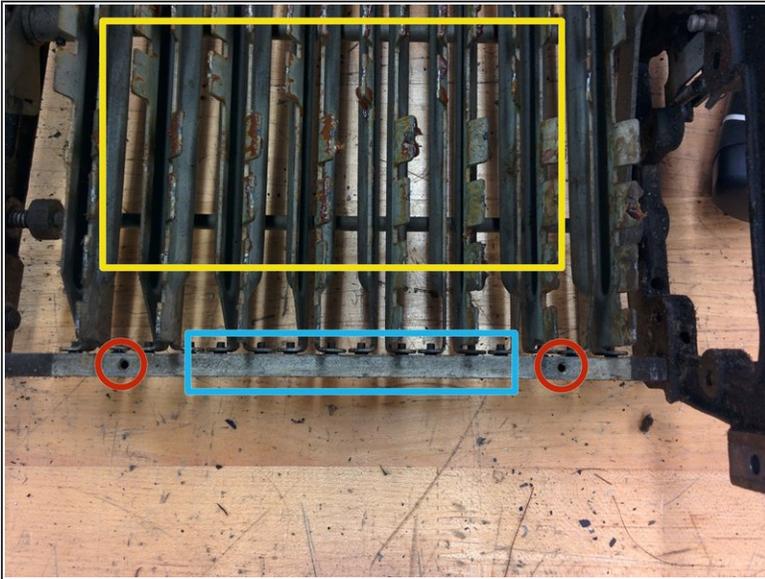
- Unhook the spring from its post.
- Remove the screw, **#8-36, 3/8", 7/32" shoulder**.
- Remove lever and place it with screw in bag 9.

Step 48 — Break time



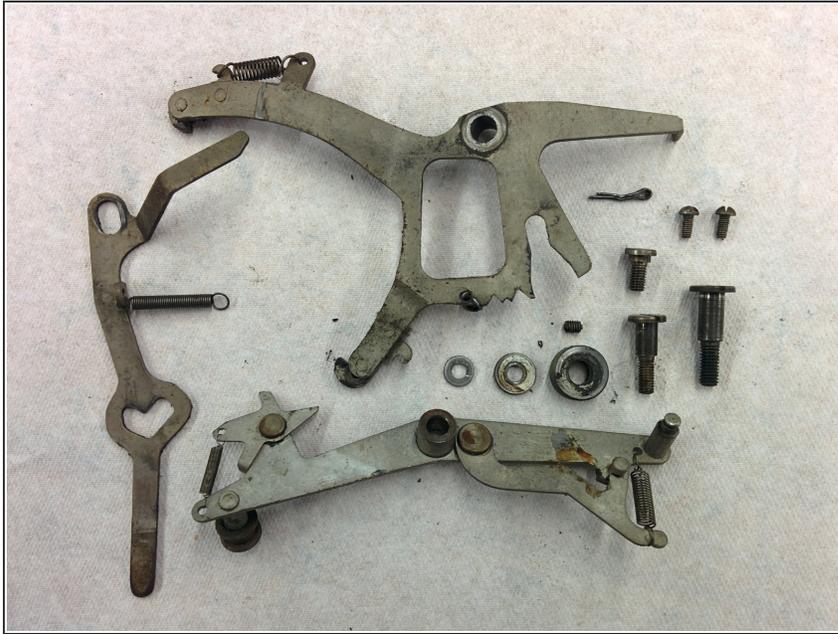
- You deserve it.

Step 49 — Remove the key rock bars



- Remove these two screws, **#4-48, 1/4"** and put them in bag 9.
- Remove the retaining bar.
- Get a few paper towels, because the rock bars will be very greasy.
- Remove the rock bars, wrapping them in the paper towels. We can clean them later.
- Also put the retaining bar in with them.

Step 50



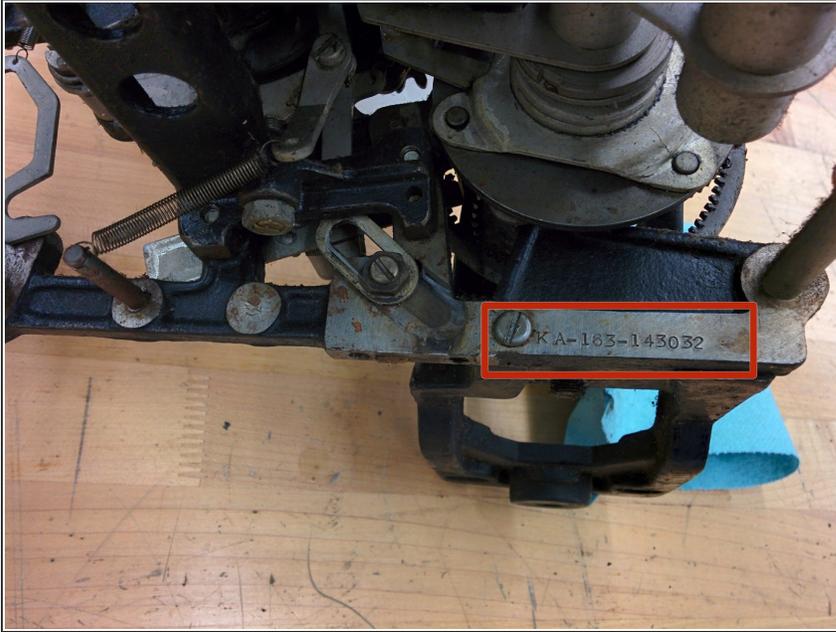
No instructions yet.

Step 51 — Remove oiling tube



- **Start a new bag 10.**
- The oiling tube leads down to a hole in a collar.
- On the left side rear, remove this screw and put it in bag 10.
- Put the oiling tube into bag 10.
- Remove this 3/8" nut and put it into bag 10.

Step 52 — Look at the model number stamped into the frame.



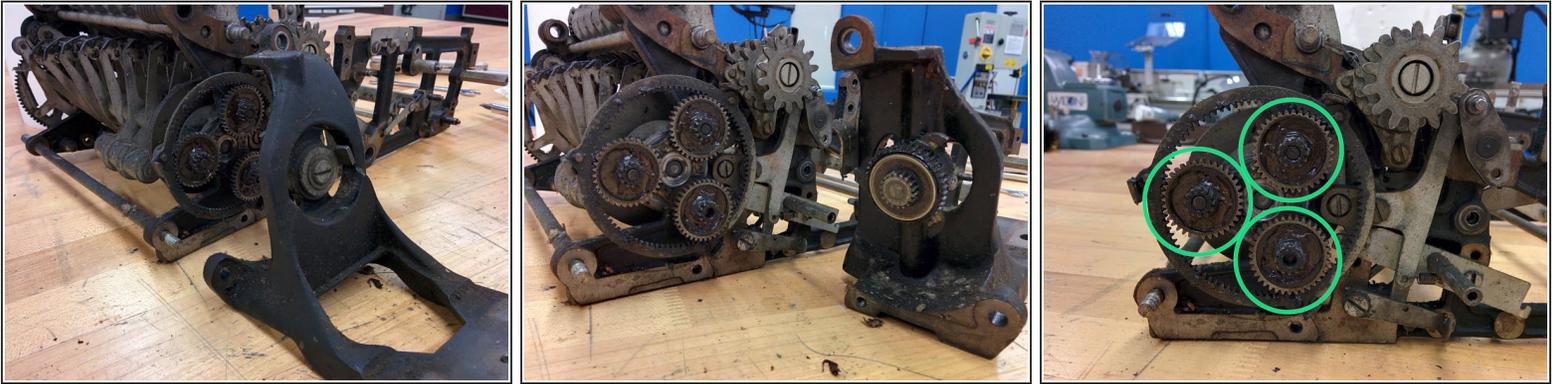
- This could probably have been seen from the bottom if we had taken it off first.
- The model number on this one is KA-163, which indicates a 16 digit accumulator and 3 registers (the accumulator plus two counters).
- The rest is the serial number.

Step 53 — Remove the standoff



- Unscrew the 3/8" hex standoff from the threaded shaft.
- You may need to use wrenches to prevent the shaft from rotating, but probably not.
- Place the standoff in bag 10.

Step 54 — Pull the motor mount off



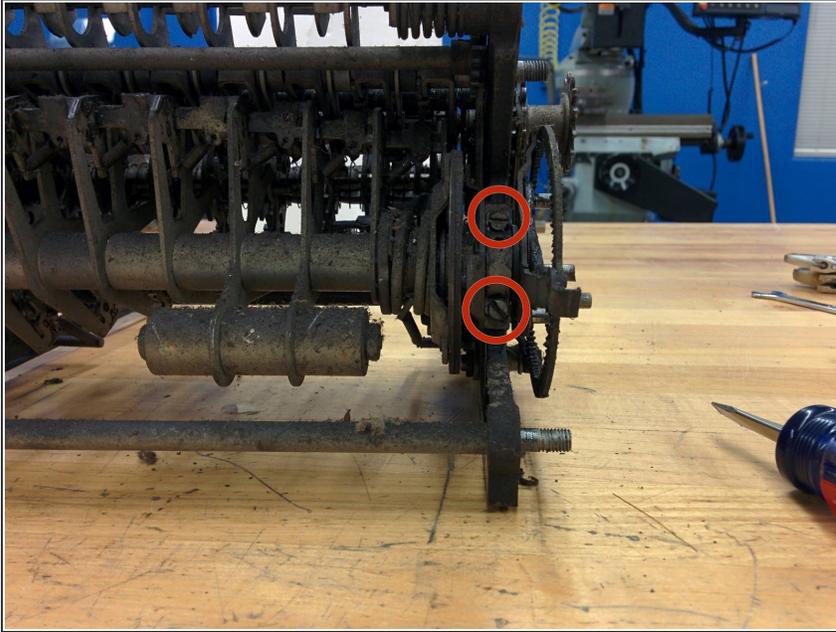
- Pull the motor mount away from the frame. You may have to wiggle it and gently pry it off.
- Set it aside.
- Remove the three 36t/12t gears by just sliding them out. Put them in bag 10.

Step 55



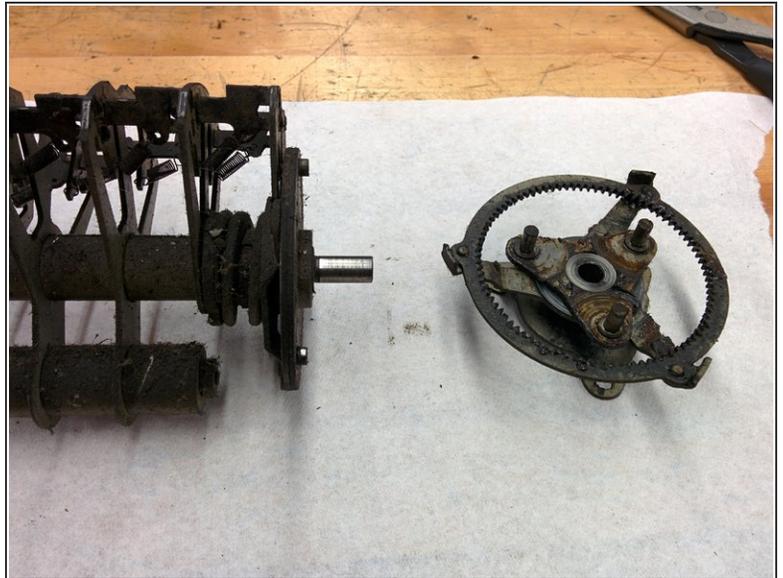
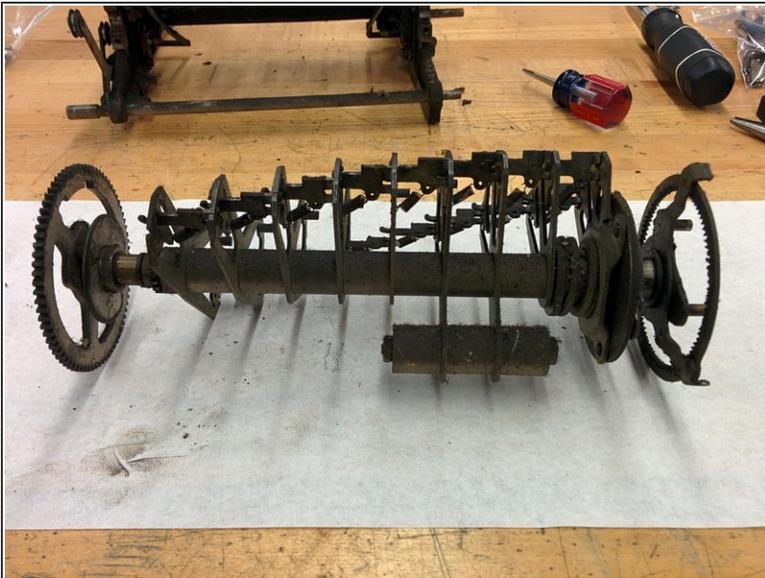
- On the right side rear, remove these two screws.
- Put the screws in bag 10.
- Unhook the spring from its lever and put the spring with part into bag 10.
- Remove the axle half-bushing and put it in bag 10.

Step 56



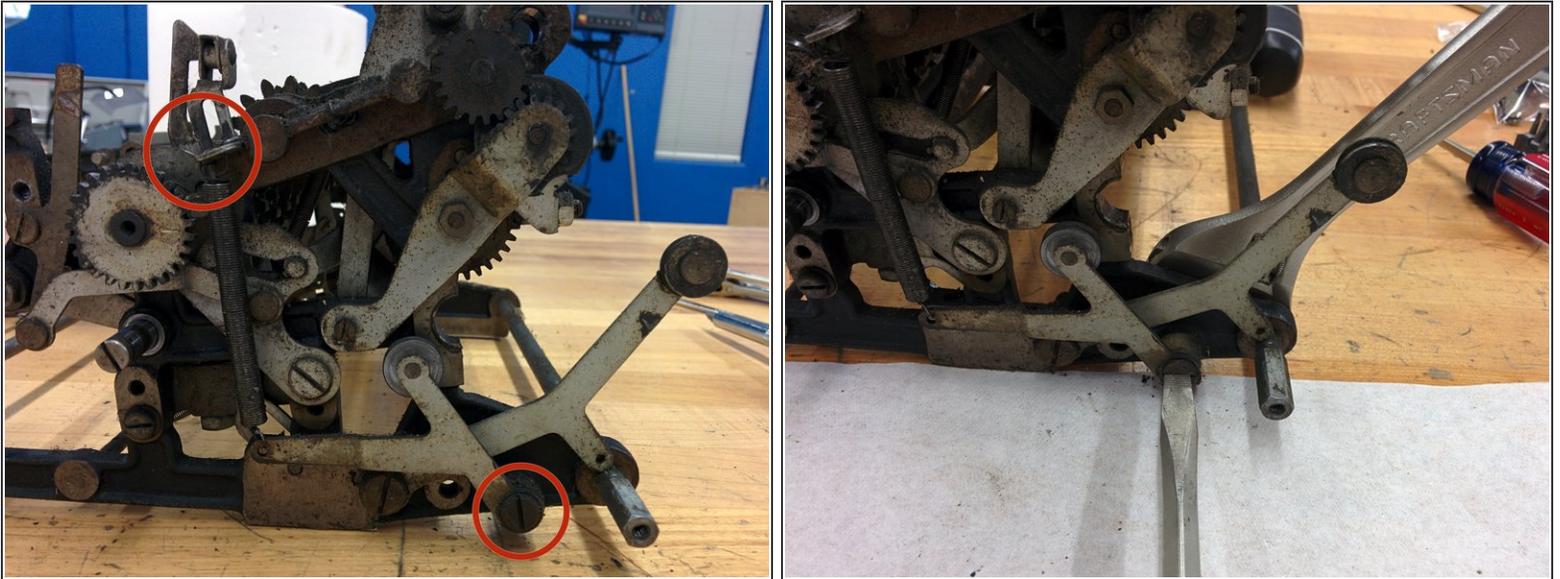
- On the left side rear, remove these two screws.
- Remove the half-bushing. Note that it has a larger arc and it has a hole in it where the oil from the oiling tube drips in.
- Place screws and half-bushing into bag 10.

Step 57 — Remove the carry/drive shaft



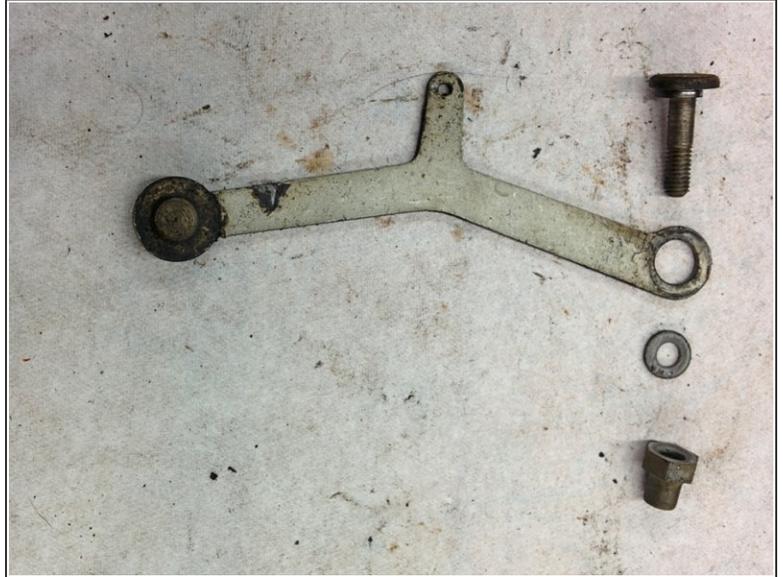
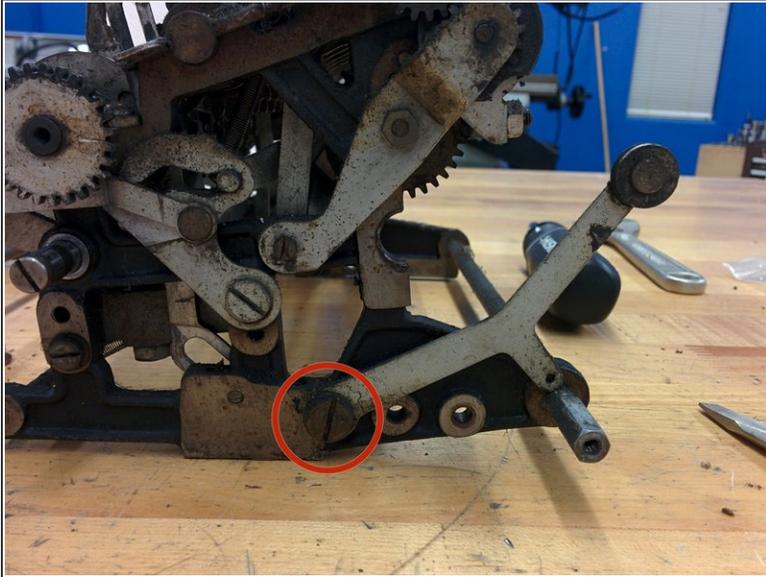
- With just a little persuasion, pull off the entire carry/drive shaft assembly.
- The motor drive gear should slide off.
- Set these assemblies aside.

Step 58 — Remove cam follower on small lever



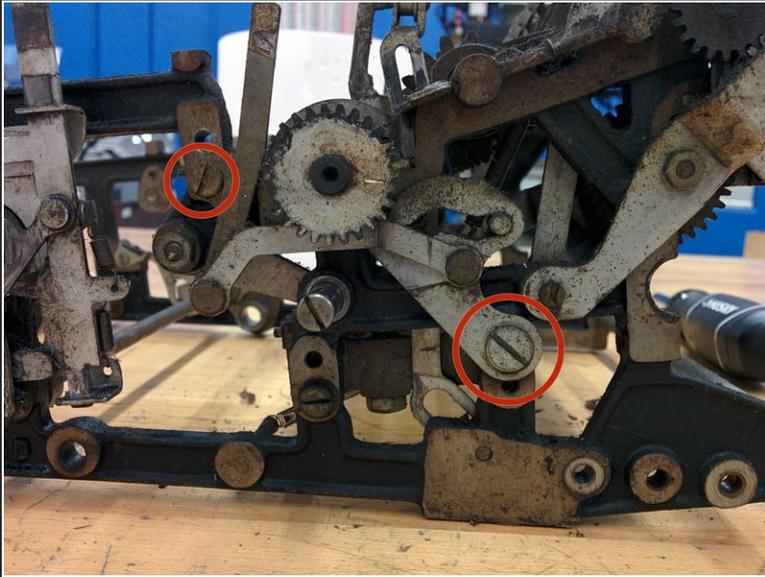
- On the right side rear, remove this screw, **3/16-32, threaded length 1/2"**, and the spring at the indicated point. There is nut on the other side, so it will be helpful to use a wrench to hold the nut.
- The screw on mine doesn't come off the lever. There is a large bushing between the lever and the frame which does not come off, either.
- Place in bag 10.

Step 59 — Remove cam follower with large lever



- Remove screw, **3/16-32, threaded length 13/32"**. As before, there is a nut on the other side.
- There is also a washer, **3/8" od, 0.047" thickness**, between the lever and the frame.
- The screw has an eccentric shoulder on it.
- Place all parts in bag 10.

Step 60 — Remove 3-part lever



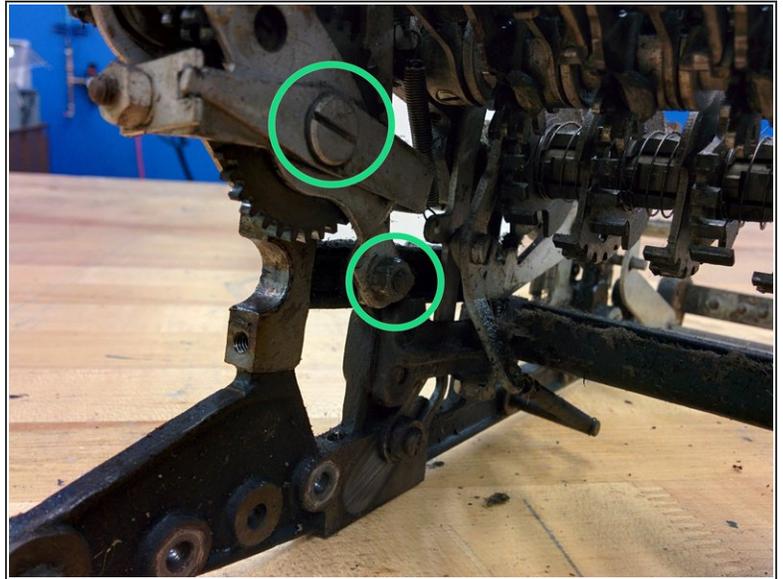
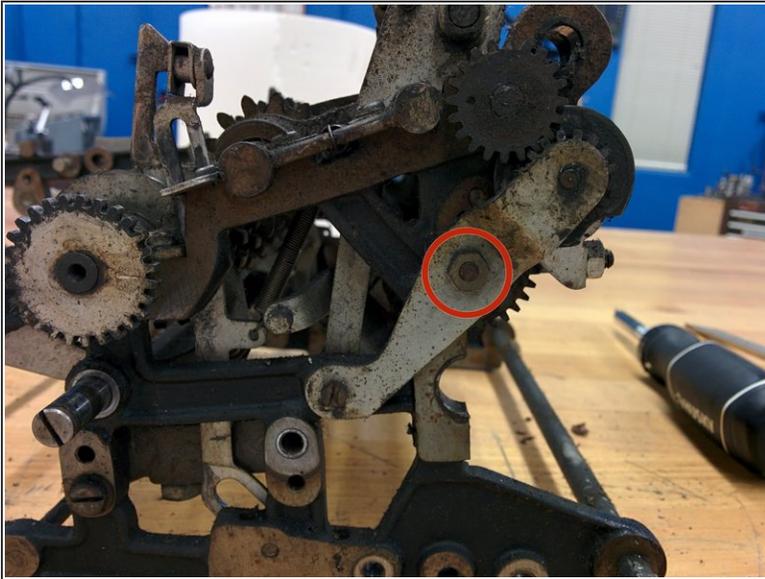
- Remove two screws, **#8-36, 10/32"** and **3/16-32, threaded length 7/16"**.
- Remove lever assembly.
- Place all parts in bag 10.

Step 61



- What's in bag 10?

Step 62 — Remove a clutch assembly

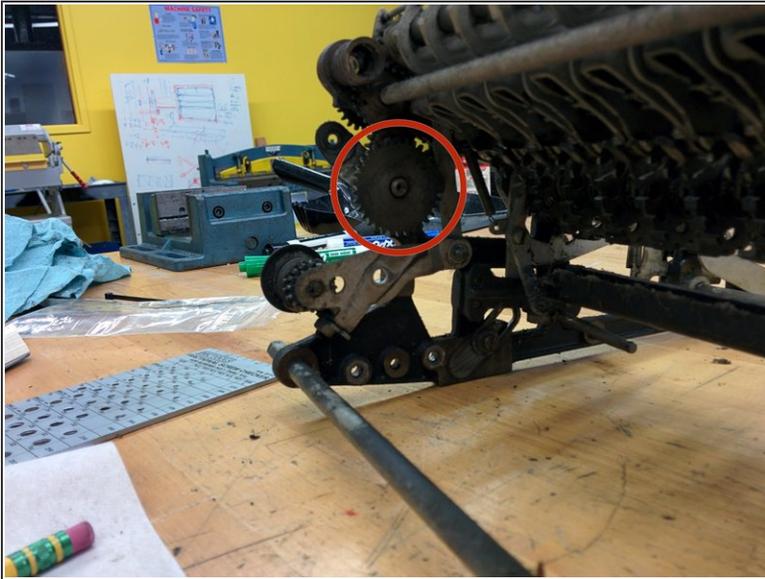


- Start a new bag 11.

i From now on, we'll assume that all parts you pull off, as long as they are small enough, go into the current bag.

- From right side rear, remove **5/16" hex nut, #6-40, 0.095" thick**.
- On the inside of the right side rear, remove **5/16" hex nut, 0.156 thick**, and screw, **#6-40, 1/4"**.
- Remove the lever that the screw was holding in.

Step 63



- Pull the clutch assembly away from the frame, then rotate down, and pull off.
- Remove this gear. It will just slide off.

Step 64



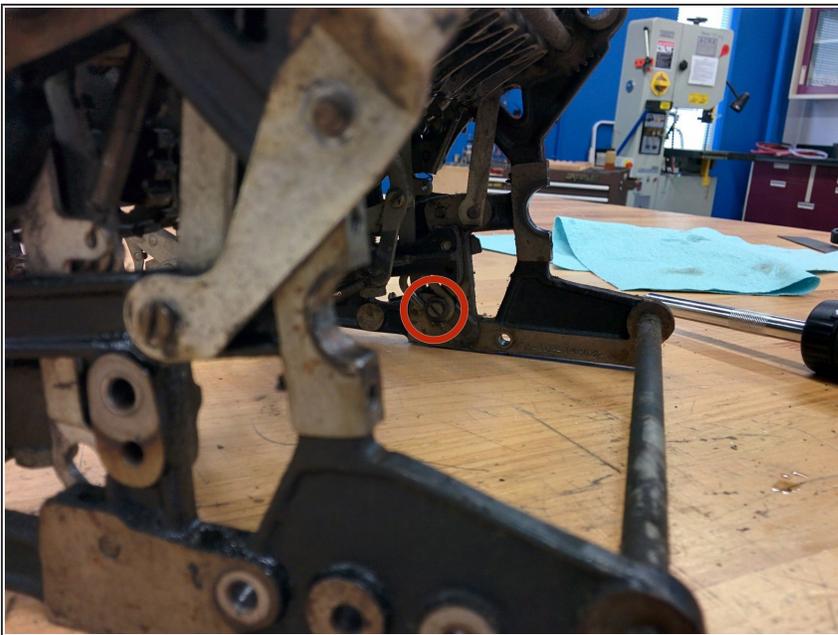
- All these pieces slide off.
- ⚠ Watch out for this tiny little key! It keeps the clutch parts aligned as they slide back and forth.

Step 65



- What's in bag 11?

Step 66



- Start a new bag 12.
- On the inside right rear, remove this screw, **#8-36, 1/2"**, and the eccentric nut.

Step 67



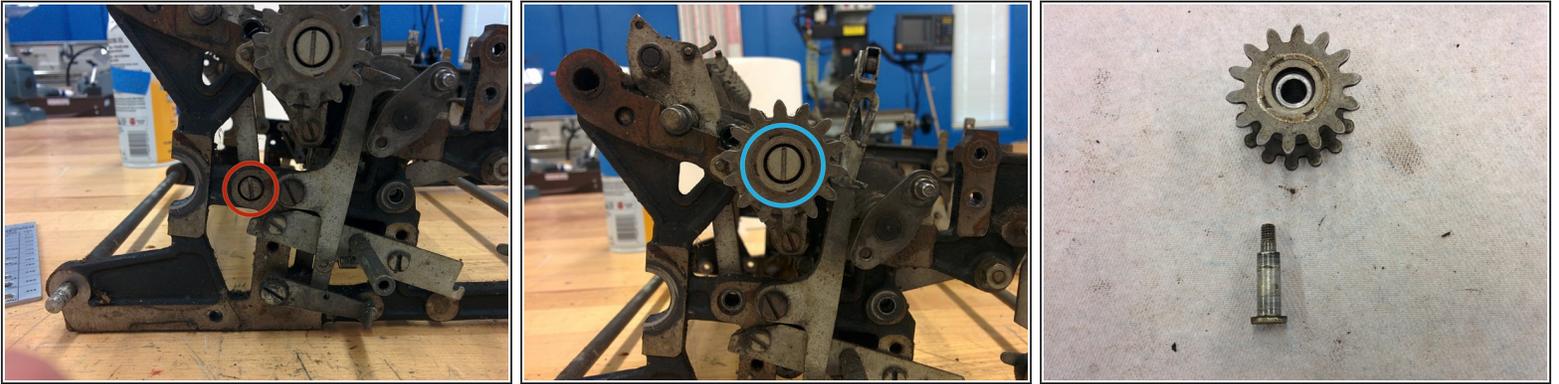
- On the right side rear, remove these three screws, #8-36, 5/16".
- The middle screw holds down a part which has a hook for a spring. Unhook the spring from the hook.
- Pull the lever back and manipulate the loose part that you just unscrewed from the third screw to remove it.

Step 68



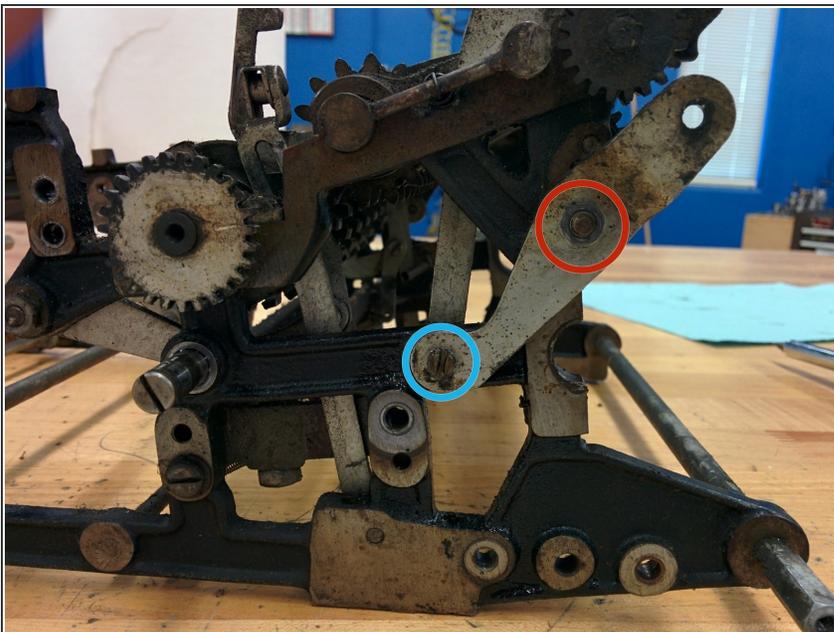
- On the left rear, remove these three screws, **#8-36, 5/16"**.
- The screw on the right is difficult to get to. Use a long thin screwdriver to loosen the screw a tiny bit, then a smaller screwdriver to remove the screw.
- The screw on the right holds down two parts.
- The screw on the left has a hook for a spring which runs along the length of the machine. You will likely be able to remove a short segment of the larger surrounding spring. Hook the end of the interior spring around the bushing after removing the short outer spring segment.

Step 69



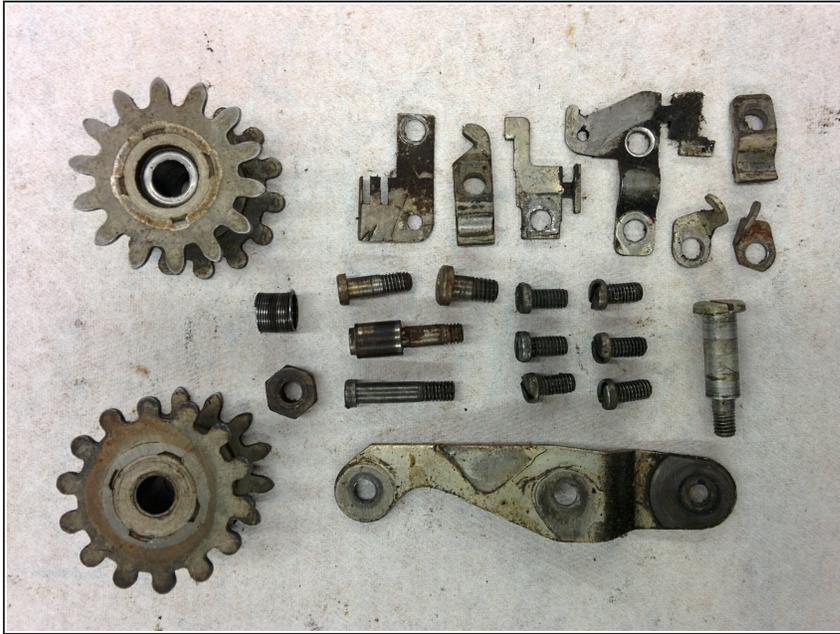
- On the left side rear, remove this screw, **#8-36**.
- Remove this screw, **#8-36 with 1/4" shaft**.
- Slide the gear off. Note that this gear has a recess for the screw.
- Slide another gear off the right side. This gear does not have a recess. Note: I might have gotten this gear from a few steps farther down, need to verify this.

Step 70



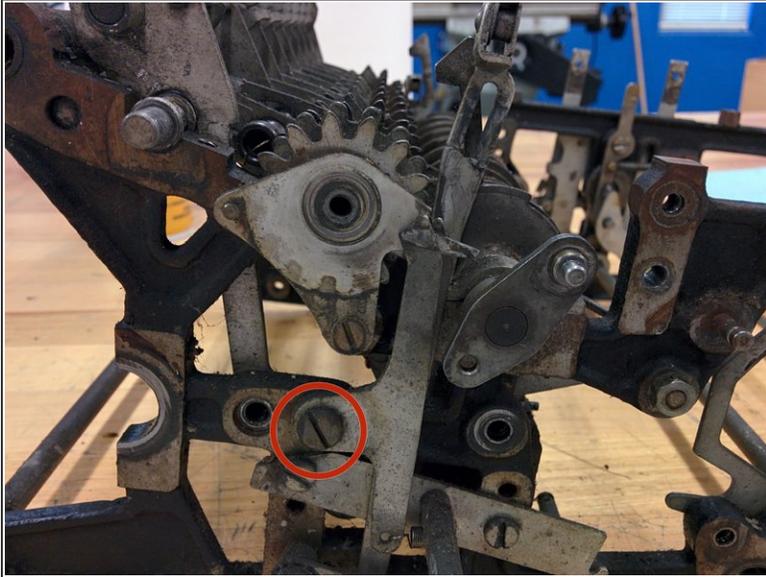
- On the right side rear, remove this hex nut, **5/16" x 0.095"**. Remove from the inside the corresponding screw with shaft.
- From the inside, knock out this screw, **3/16-32**.
- Now remove the clutch support that you just freed from the screws.

Step 71



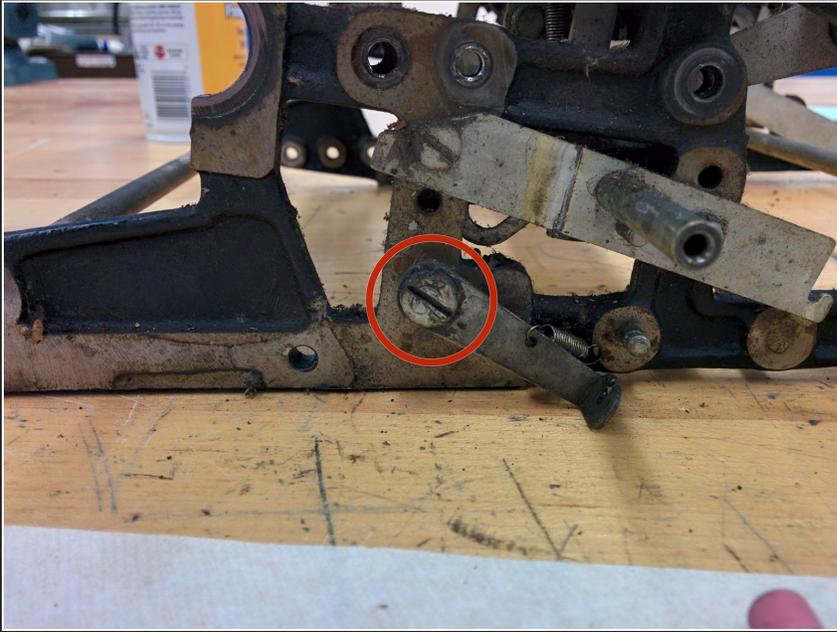
- What's in bag 12?

Step 72



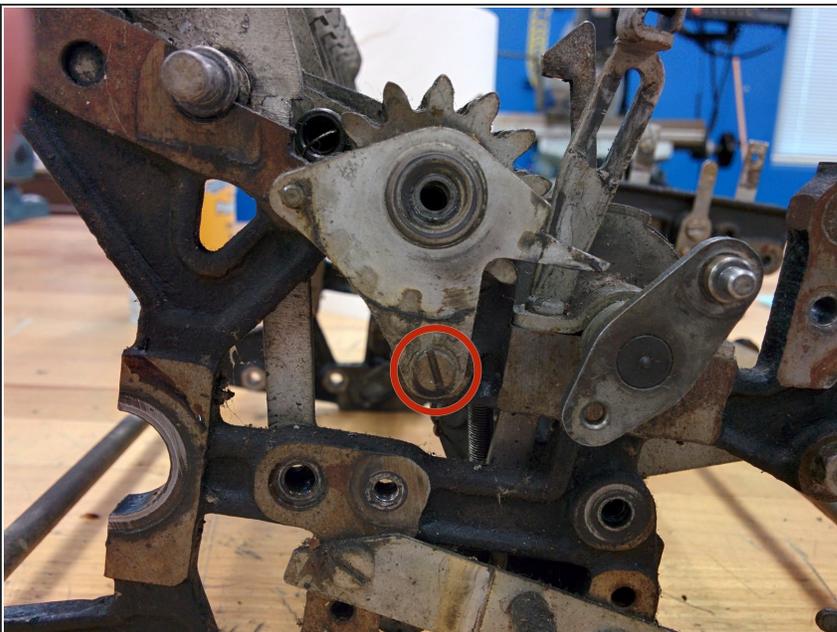
- **Start a new bag 13.**
- On the left rear side, remove this screw, **3/16-32, 7/16"**, holding two levers.
- Unhook the lever springs. Note that the lever with the shorter arm and shorter spring goes in front.
- There is also a washer between the screw head and the first lever, **9/32" od, 7/64" thick**.

Step 73



- Remove this screw, **3/16-32, 1/2"**.
- Remove the lever and the bushing between the lever and the frame.

Step 74



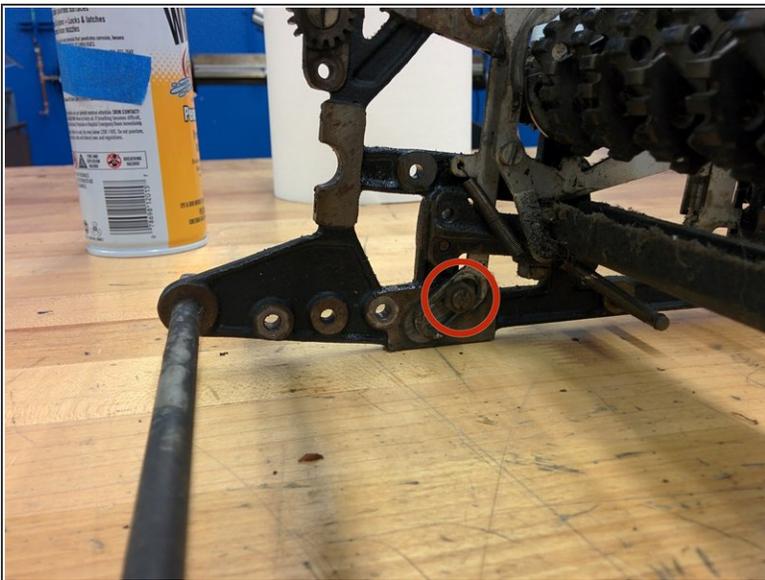
- Remove this screw, **#8-36, 1/2"**, along with its plate and the washer, **5/16" od, 1/8" thick**, that is between the plate and the frame.

Step 75



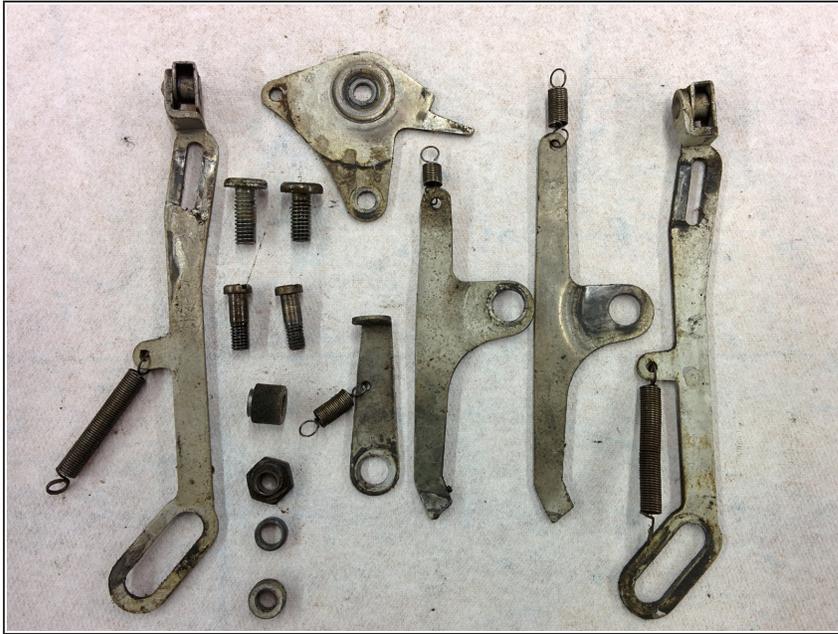
- Remove the driver wheel assembly. Pry up the two axles gently from their four semi-circular seats and set aside.

Step 76



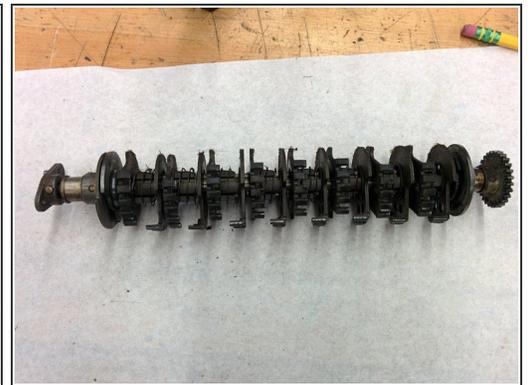
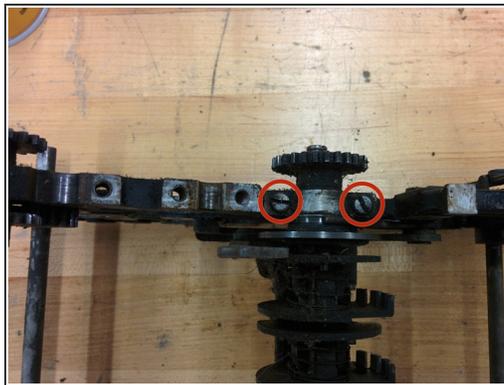
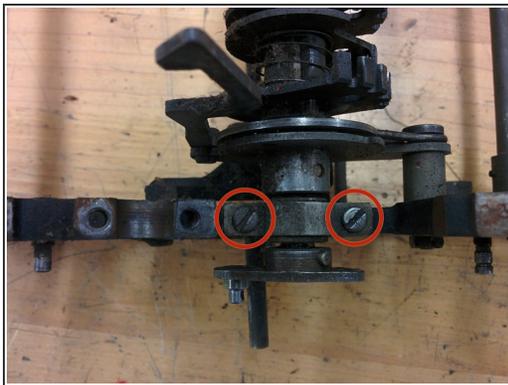
- Remove this screw, **#8-36, 1/2"**, with eccentric nut.
- Remove the levers on both right and left side. Note that the tabs on the tops of the levers both face to the left, and that the lever from the left side has its middle tab bent inwards.

Step 77



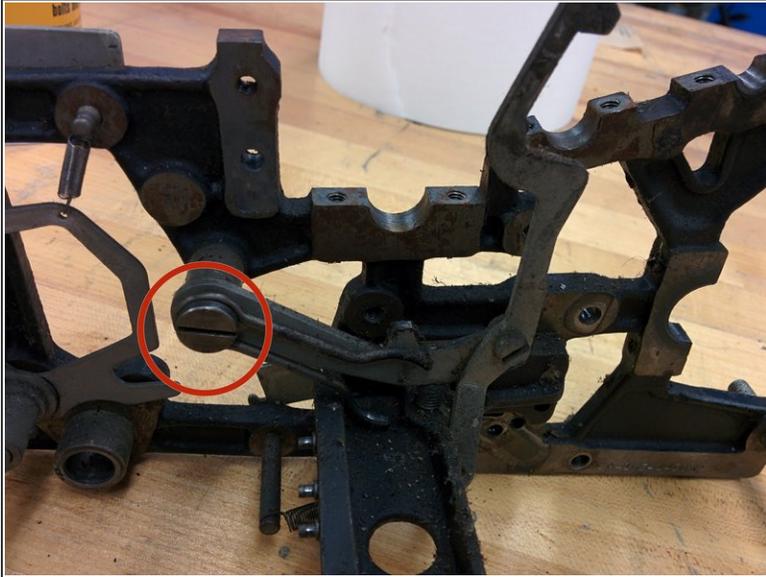
- What's in bag 13?

Step 78



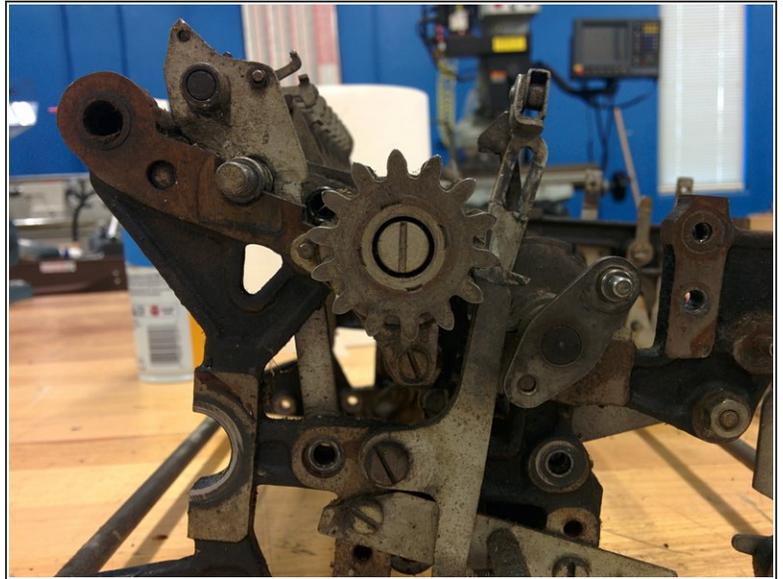
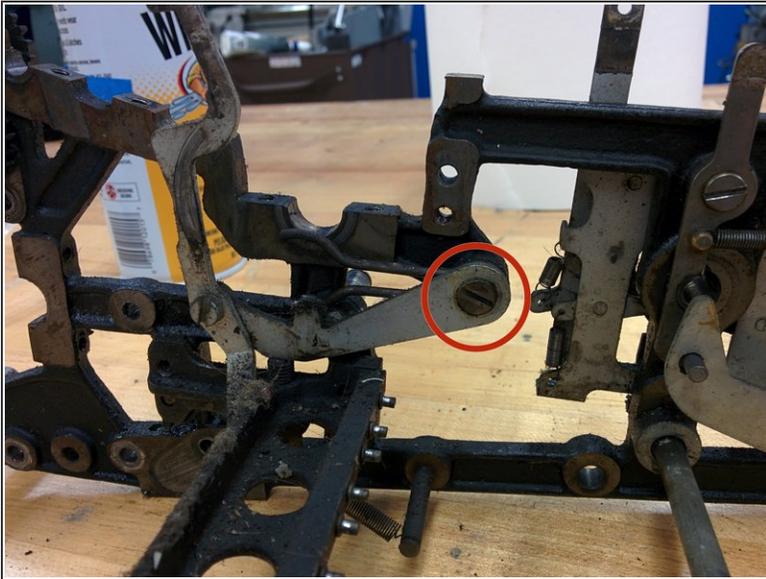
- **Start a new bag 14.**
- On right side and left side rear, remove four screws, **#8-36, 5/16"**.
- Remove the semicircular half-bushings.
- Pry up and out the selecting gear assembly. There are two clips holding the axle, just pull.
- Set the selecting gear assembly aside.

Step 79



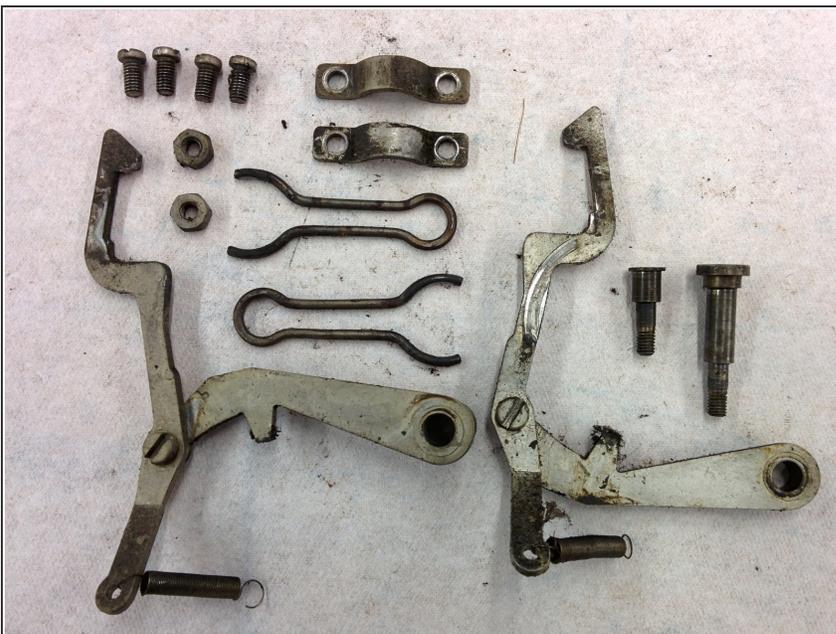
- On the inside left, remove the screw, **#8-36**. There is a hex nut, **5/16" x 5/32"**, on the other side of the frame.
- Remove clip and lever.
- ☑ Note the order: screw, clip, lever, frame, nut.

Step 80



- On the right inside, remove this screw, #8-36. There is a hex nut, 3/16" x 5/32", on the other side of the frame.
- Remove lever and clip.
- ☑ Note the order, which is different from the left side: screw, lever, clip, frame, nut.

Step 81



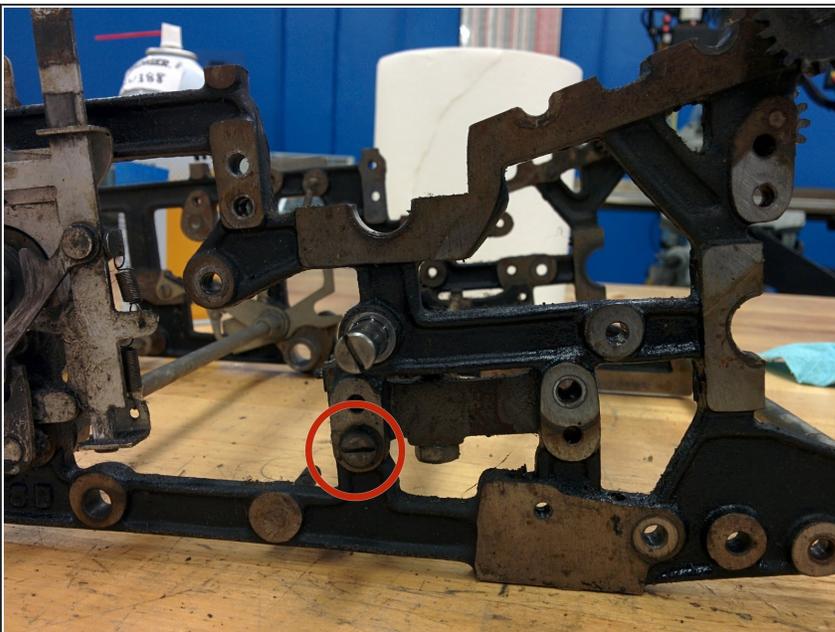
- What's in bag 14?

Step 82



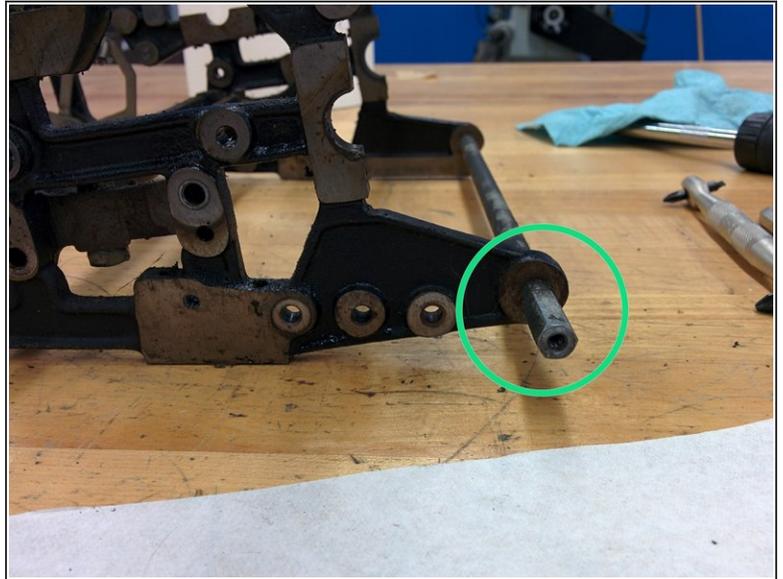
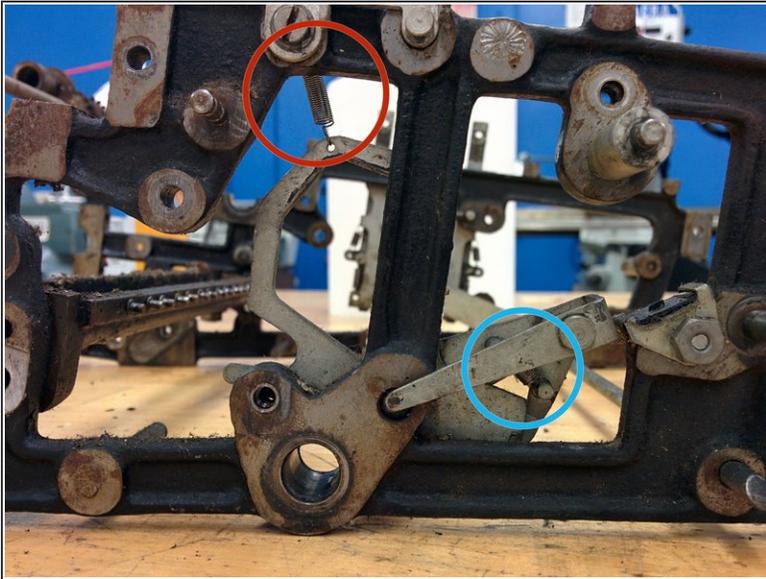
- **Start a new bag 15.**
- On the right side, remove this screw, **3/16-32 x 5/8"**.

Step 83



- On the left side, remove this screw, **3/16-32 x 5/8"** and split washer, **5/16" od x 0.085"**.

Step 84



- On the left side, unhook this spring from its post on the frame. Leave the other end on the part.
- This other spring is on two posts, remove it completely. It is 3/16" in diameter, with a wire size of 0.012".
- On the right side rear, unscrew this hex spacer. It has a #8-36 thread.

Step 85



- What's in bag 15?

Step 86



- The only thing now preventing the two frames from being separated is this gear.
- It is fixed to the shaft with a taper pin.
- A taper pin is a pin that tapers from a wide end to a narrow end used to affix parts onto a shaft. The machinist would put the gear on the shaft, drill a hole, then taper the hole by using a tapering reamer. Then the machinist would put the taper pin in, give it a few gentle whacks with a hammer, and grind off any end sticking out too much.
- ⓘ Taper pins were better than set screws because a taper pin leaves no possibility for the parts to rotate.
- ⓘ They're also a **pain** to remove after 90 years.

Step 87 — Break time



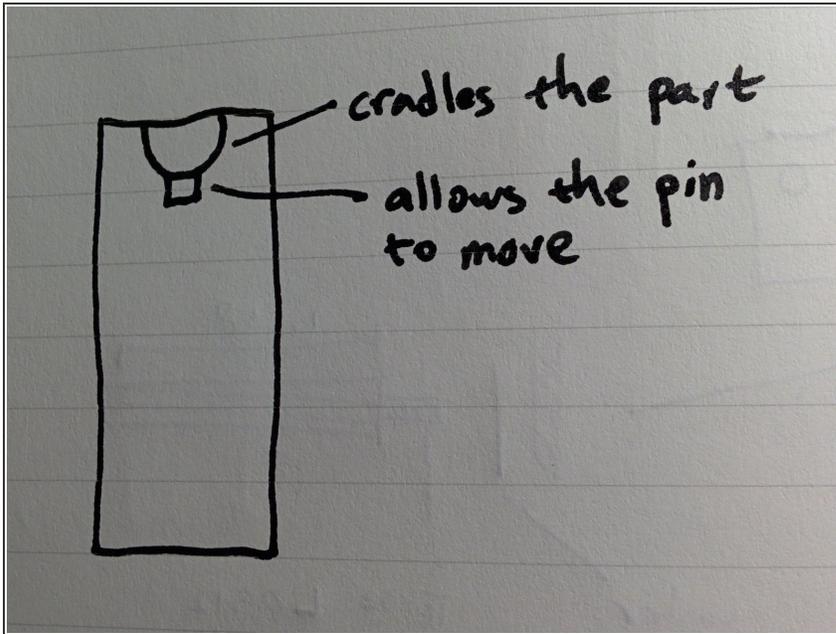
- Before you get started on removing the taper pins, you must go for a luxurious stretch.

Step 88 — How to remove 90 year old taper pins



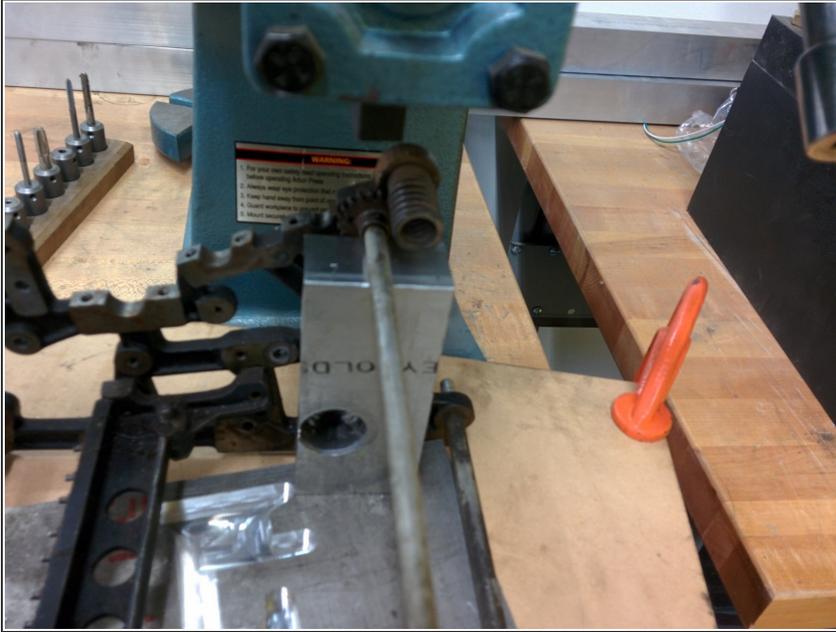
 Do this outside, or in a well-ventilated area.

- Take a heat gun and blow heat on the part for about two minutes to get it up to maximum temperature.
- Spray the part with penetrating lubricant. It will smoke slightly, and it won't ignite.
- If the lubricant evaporates, spray some more on, until the lubricant shows no sign of evaporating anymore, meaning that the temperature of the part has dropped significantly.
- Repeat the heat - lubricant cycle three more times.
- The idea is to break the bond between the taper pin and the part, and get some lubricant in the tiny microscopic gap in between.

Step 89

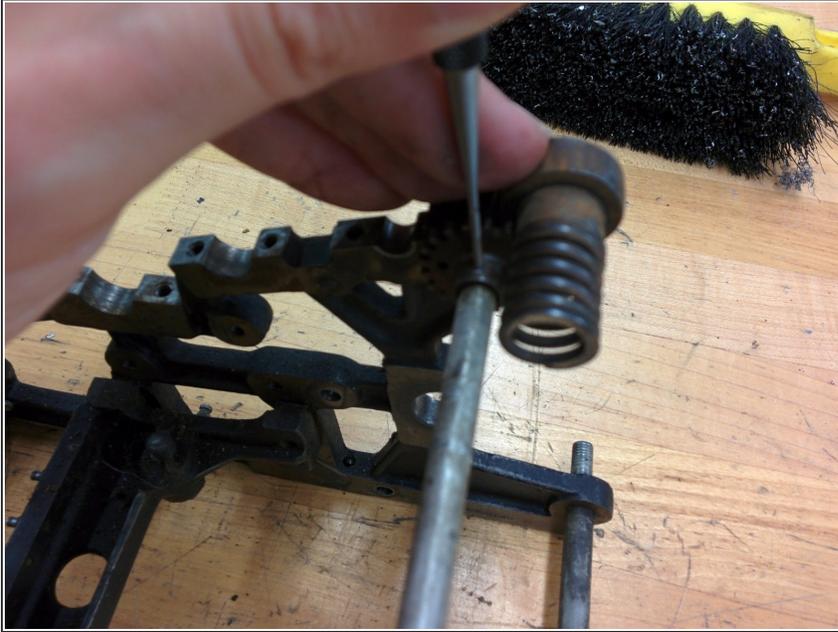
- Take the part over to the arbor press.
- You must support the part against something that will provide maximum surface area to the part, but also allow the taper pin to move at the bottom.
- A piece of aluminum with a semicircular depression is perfect. You can do this either with a drill, then sawing off halfway through the diameter of the hole, or with an endmill of the right diameter.
- Then cut a smaller notch the length of the depression to allow the pin to move. Again, this could be done with a drill and a saw, or an endmill.

Step 90



- With calipers, measure the width of each end of the pin. You want to find the smaller of the two ends. The smaller the pin, the more difficult this is.
- On my machine, the smaller pins had one end ground flush to the part, and the other sticking out. The end that stuck out was the smaller end.
- Many of the larger taper pins have a rounded end and a flat end. The rounded end is the larger end.
- Position the part in the arbor press so that the part is supported by the jig you made, and the **small end** of the pin is up.
- Press on the pin with the arbor press. If you are close to using all of your strength and the pin has still not moved, give it a few more heat - lubricant cycles.
- If the thing still doesn't move, you may be pressing on the wrong end. In which case, see the next step.

Step 91



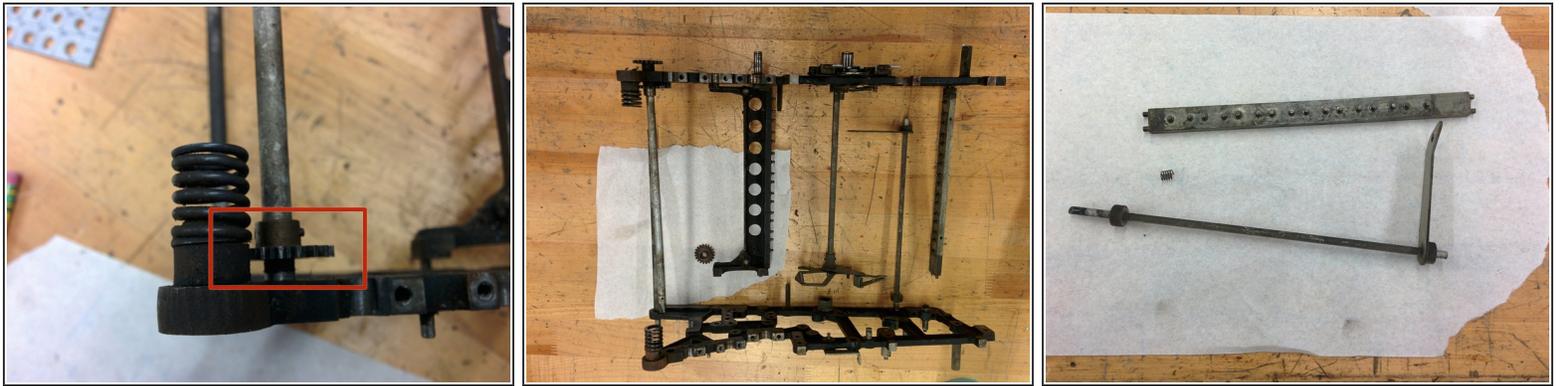
- If you tried to press the pin out, and it just won't come out, or maybe the pin is actually ground flush on both ends so there's nothing to press, then you will have to get a 1/16" end mill (**not** a drill) and drill out a bit of each end.
- Give it a few cycles of heat - lubricant.
- Then use a 1/16" flat pin punch and hammer at the pin. But don't use your full strength: that will just compress the pin and expand it, making it more stuck.
- If that still doesn't work, you'll have to drill out the entire pin, which is unfortunate because now you will have to replace the pin when you assemble the machine.

Step 92



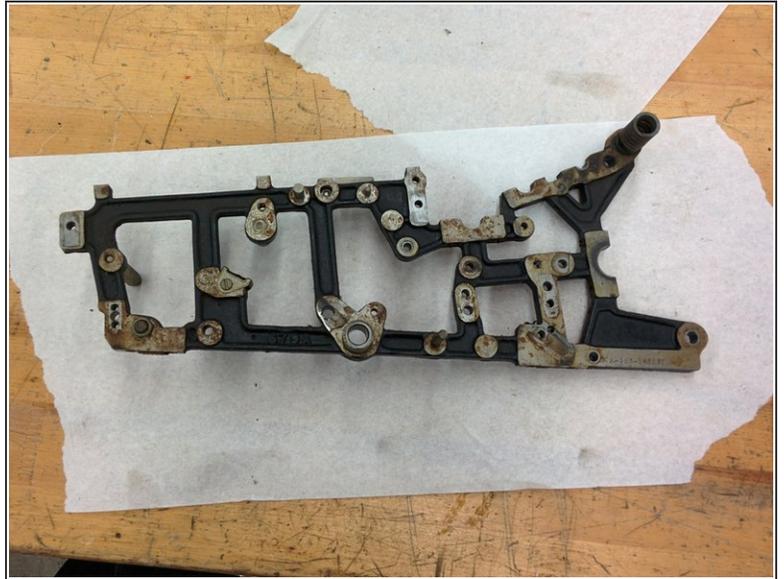
- Now, assuming that the arbor press did move the pin, you can gently knock the pin out with a 1/16" flat pin punch and a hammer.

Step 93 — Back to the disassembly



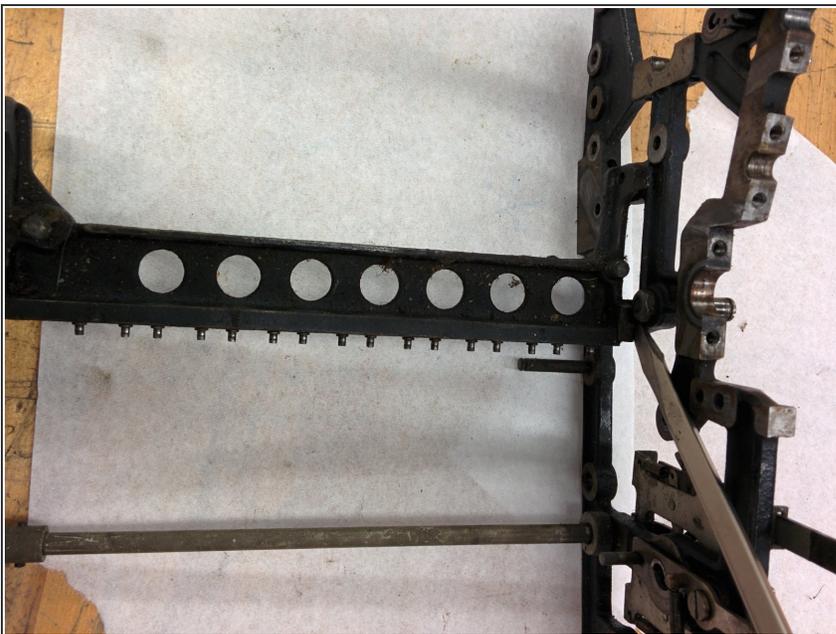
- **Start a new bag 16.** Remove the taper pin from the gear on the upper left side.
- Bag the taper pin. It should be about 0.086" on the wide end, 0.071" on the narrow end, and about 0.410" long. That is a taper of about 1/2" per 12", which is not a modern standard taper pin size -- 1/4" per 12" is the standard today.
- However, If the wide end were 0.080" then we'd get a standard taper. Perhaps the wide end was widened a bit by the installation?
- Now you can pull apart the frame. The gear will slide off its shaft. You may have to pry off the big iron piece in the middle, and move one side of the frame, then the other, but eventually the sides will separate.
- ⚠ In the picture, the second shaft from the right, the one with the spring, will also come off. Make sure the spring doesn't roll away!
- You can pull off the rightmost rectangular part and the shaft second from the right. Set the rectangular part aside, and bag the spring.

Step 94



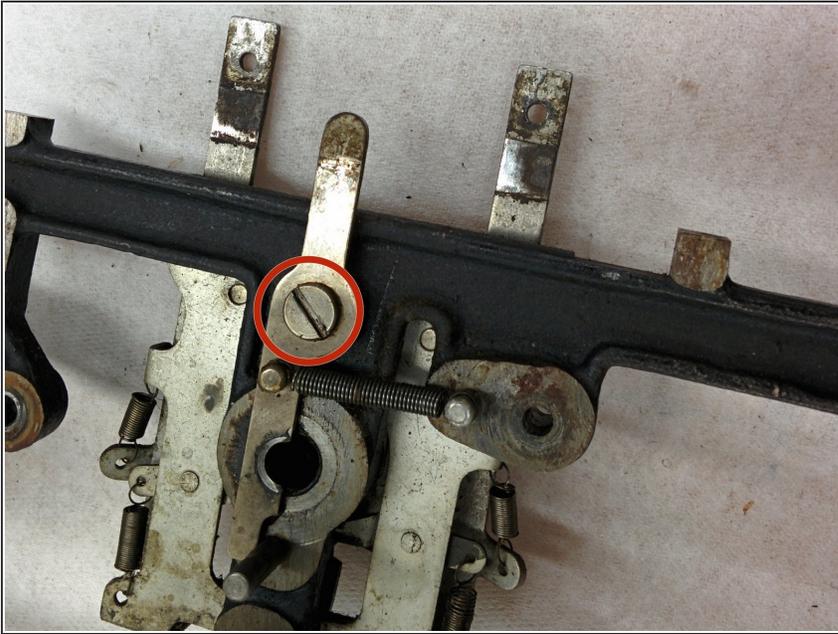
- You can also remove and set aside the shaft with threaded ends all the way on the left.
- Now the left frame is free. Set it aside.

Step 95



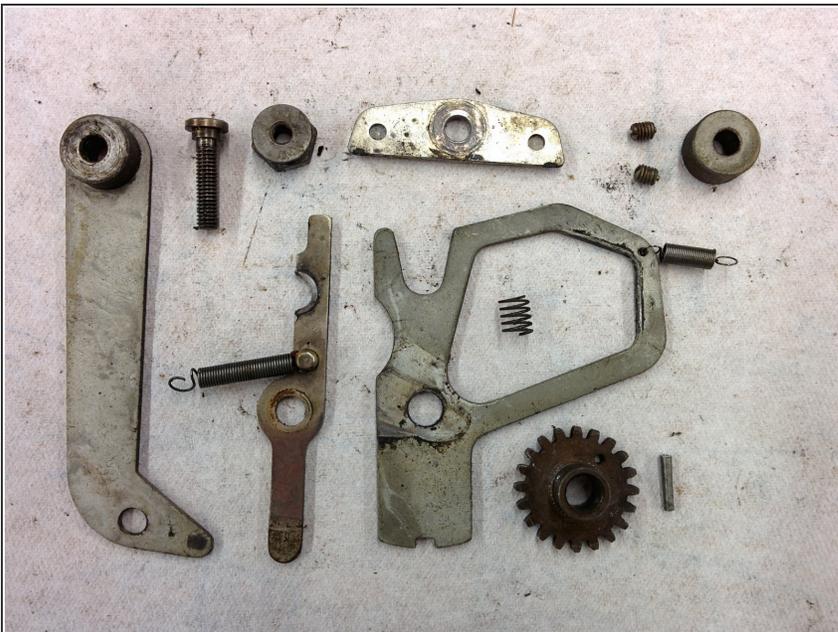
- From the right frame, carefully pry off the iron crosspiece. Set it aside.

Step 96



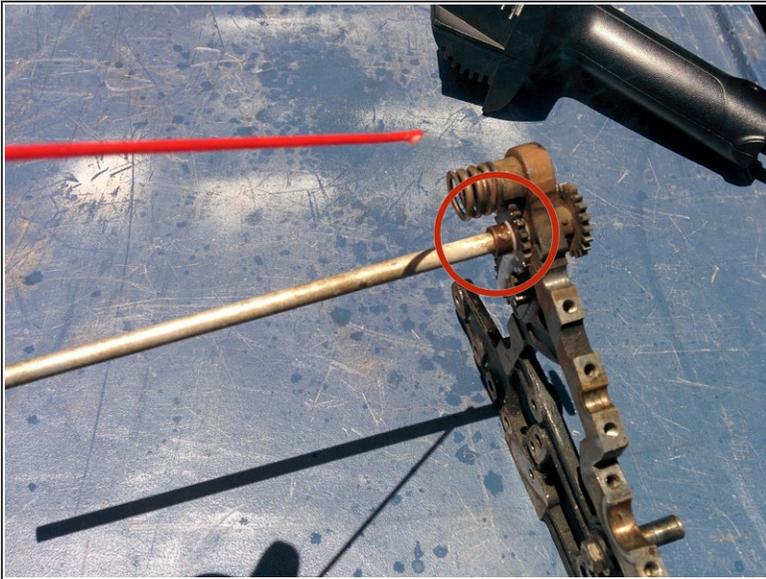
- On the right frame, unscrew this screw. There is a thin nut on the other side of the frame that you should try to hold steady or loosen slightly. If that doesn't work, just slowly turn the screw, since the nut will add lots and lots of friction.
- Remove the spring from its post on the frame, and remove the lever.
- The nut should now slide out.

Step 97



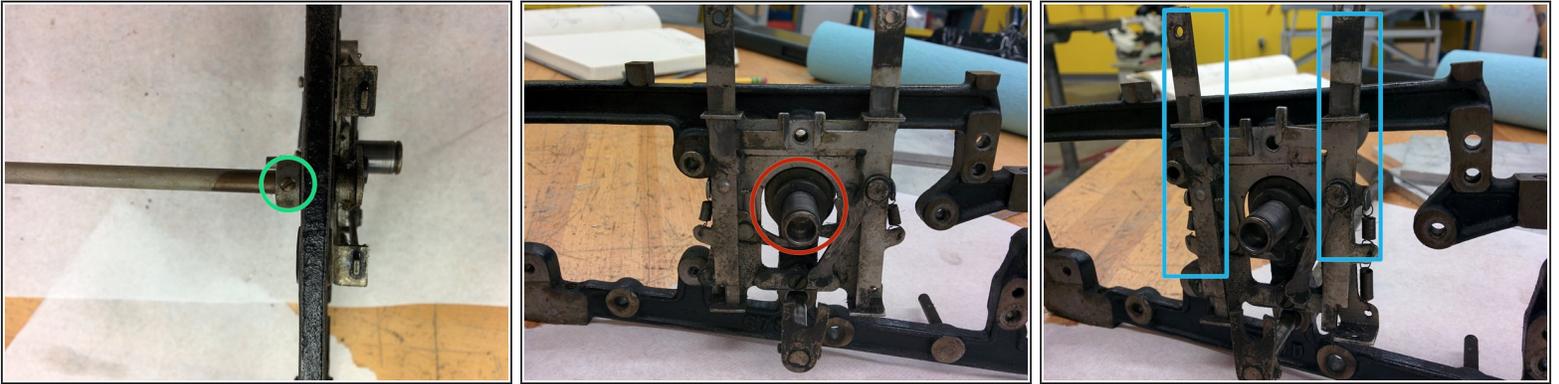
- What's in bag 16?

Step 98



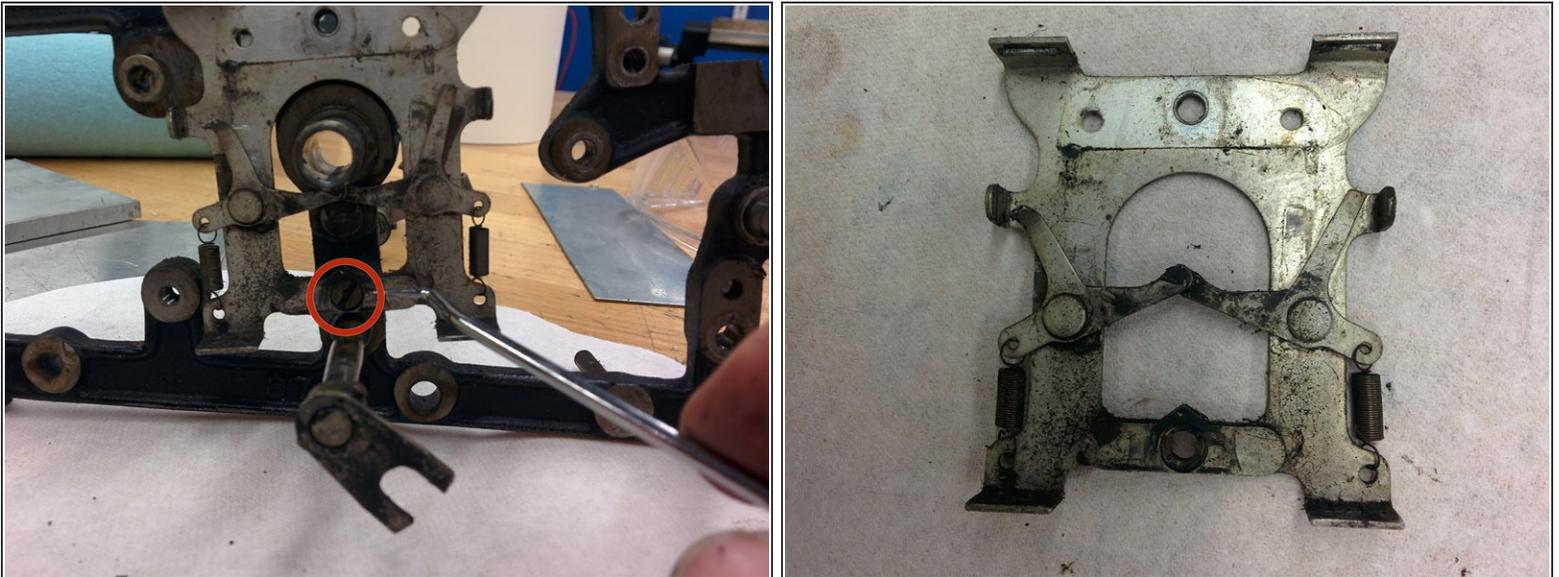
- **Start a new bag 17.**
- Remove the inner taper pin and gear from the shaft at the back.
- Slide the shaft out of the right frame.
- Remove the remaining taper pin and gear from the shaft.
- Set the shaft aside.

Step 99



- Loosen, but do not remove, this set screw. Slide the ring over a bit.
- On the right frame, there is a cam ring that is loose. Remove it, if you haven't already.
- You should now be able to jiggle these levers loose, Remove their springs first. You will probably have to slide the shaft a bit out, also.

Step 100



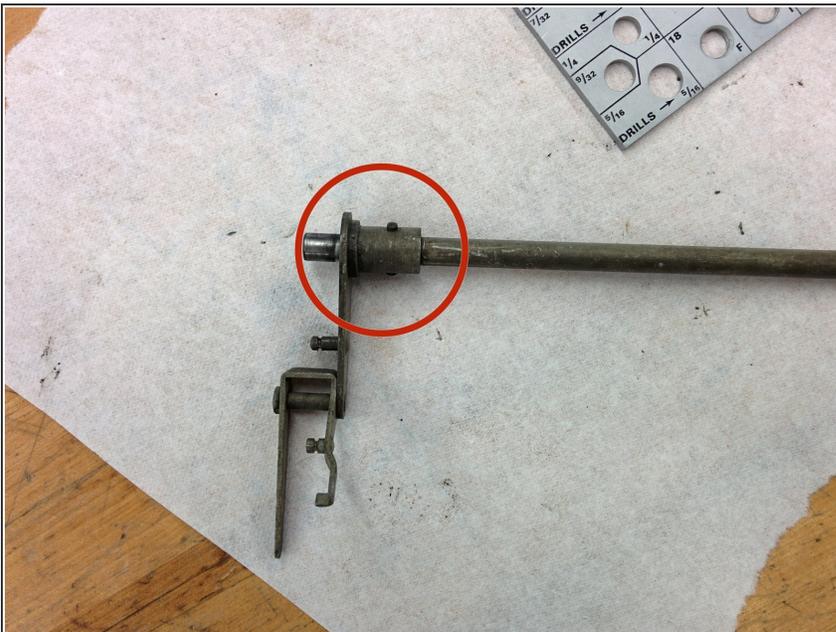
- Remove this **#8-36, 3/8"** screw. It has a flat head, which (for some reason) means it has a triangular-profiled head.
- Now remove the assembly off the frame and bag it.

Step 101



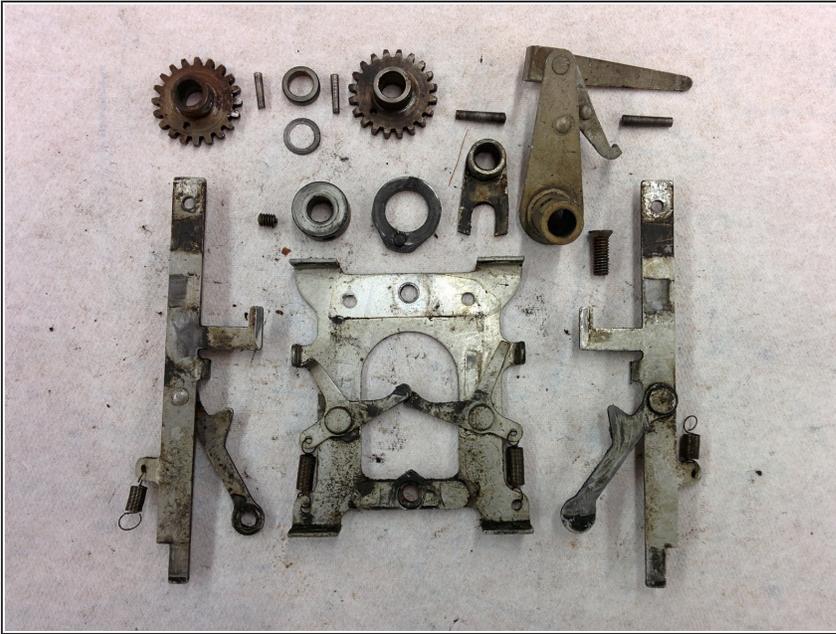
- Remove taper pin and part from the right side of the shaft.
- The taper pin is larger than the previous ones: 0.112" at the big end, 0.096" at the small end, and 0.517" long. This places the taper at nearly 3/8" per 12", which is not standard.
- Again, though, if the wide end were 0.107", then the pin would be standard.
- Slide the shaft out of the frame, and slide the bushing off the shaft.

Step 102



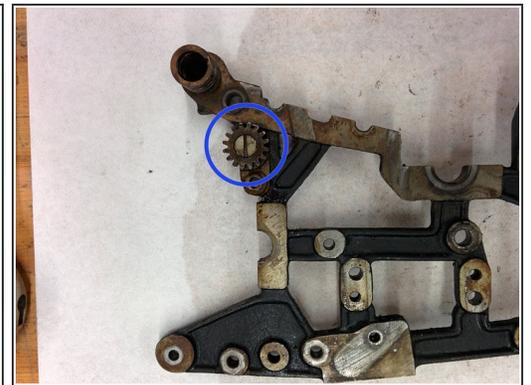
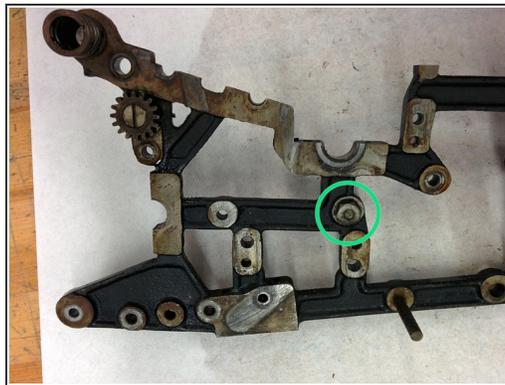
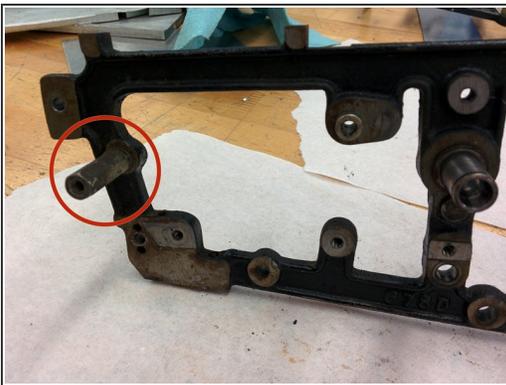
- Remove taper pin and part from the other end of the shaft.

Step 103



- What's in bag 17?

Step 104



- **Start a new bag 18.**
- On the front of the right frame, remove this 1" hex standoff with 3/16-32 threaded male end. There is also a washer, o.d. 0.379 x 0.048.
- In the middle inside of the right frame, remove this 3/8 nut. There is a split washer on the inside and a regular washer on the outside, plus a screw-in post with 3/16-32 threads.
- On the back of the right frame, unscrew the #8-36 screw holding the gear.

Step 105



- On the front of the left frame, unscrew the 1.5" hex standoff with 3/16-32 threaded male end. Remove its accompanying washer.
- In the middle of the left frame, unscrew this #8-32 spring post, remove its accompanying washer and the part it was holding on.
- In the front inside of the left frame, remove this 3/8 nut and the spring post 1/4-28 screw.

Step 106



- Remove this ordinary #6-40 screw and its nut. Remove the padded rest part.
- We've pulled everything we can off the frames, and have completed the disassembly of the main body.

Step 107



- So it's a good time for a break. Maybe go on a pirate ride.
- Be sure you secure your iPhone.

Step 108



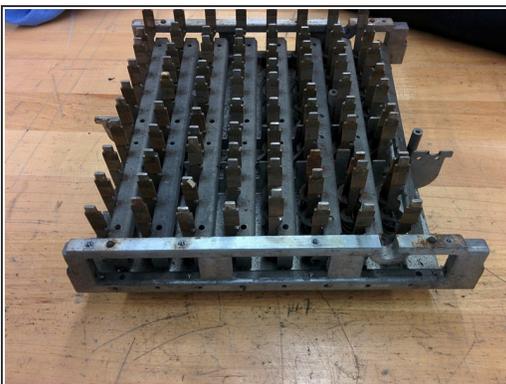
- What's in bag 18?

Step 109 — Taking apart the keyboard assembly



- Now we are going to take apart the keyboard assembly! Hooray! **Start five new bags: 19A through 19E.**
- Unhook the spring from the keyboard baseplate.
- Turn the keyboard assembly so the clearing shaft is at the top, and remove these four #4-48 screws with their lock washers. Put them in bag 19E.

Step 110



- Turn the keyboard assembly over, and remove the frame by lifting up a bit and then out. There are pins on the frame which allow lock bars for each row to pivot.

Step 111



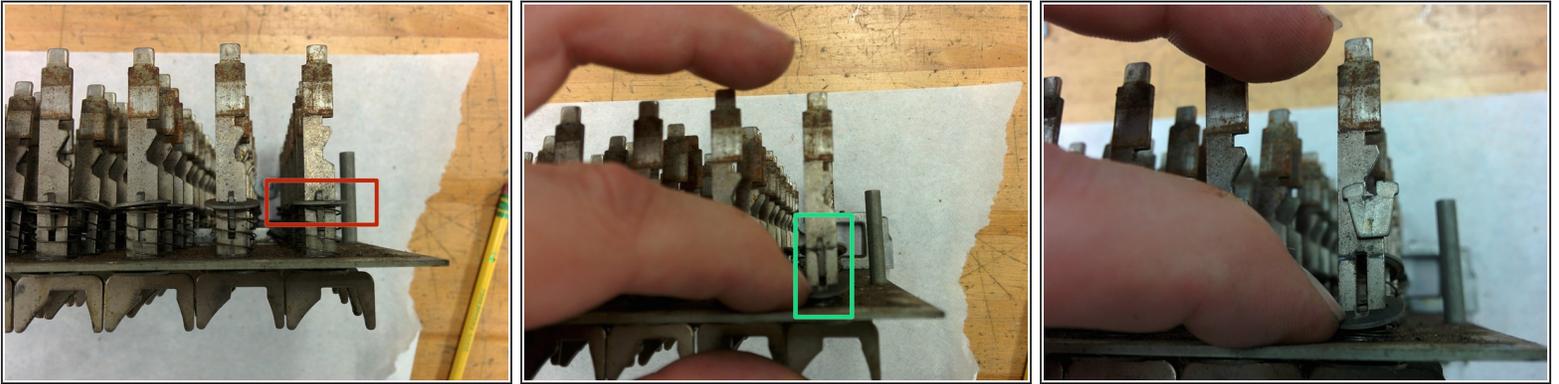
- The lockbars have springs attached to them. Remove the lockbars by unhooking the spring end on the lockbar side first. Leave the springs attached to the base plate for now.

Step 112



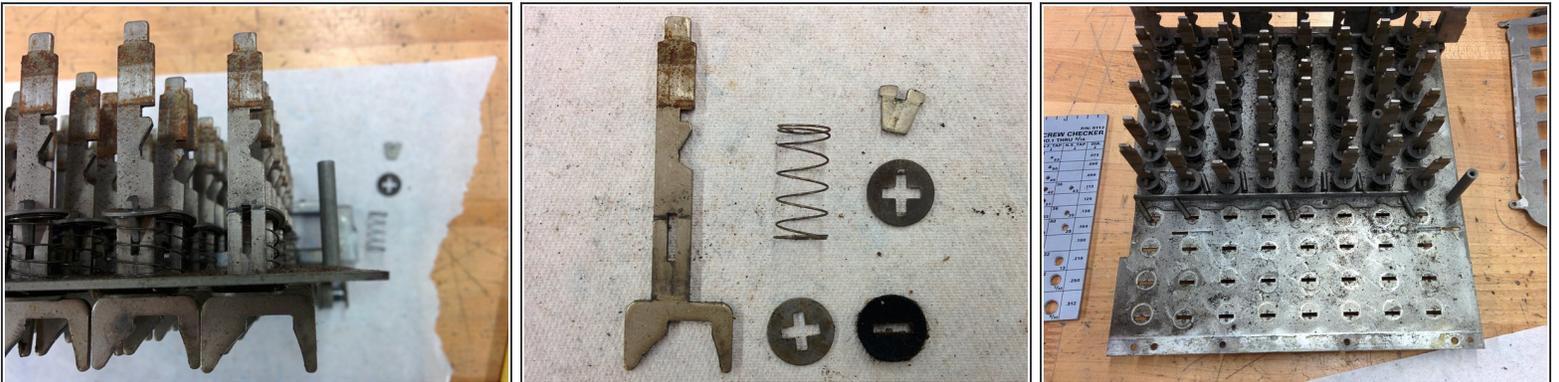
- Turn the keyboard over and unhook both ends of this spring. Place the spring in bag 19E.
- Turn the keyboard over again and remove these two horizontal clear and locking bars.
- Note that the bars are identical except that one has an extra piece riveted to it. The riveted bar is farther up and points to the left. The other is lower down and points to the right, as shown in the image.

Step 113



- Now, for each key, first press down the washer.
- Next, lever out the key stem retainer that is in the slot.

Step 114

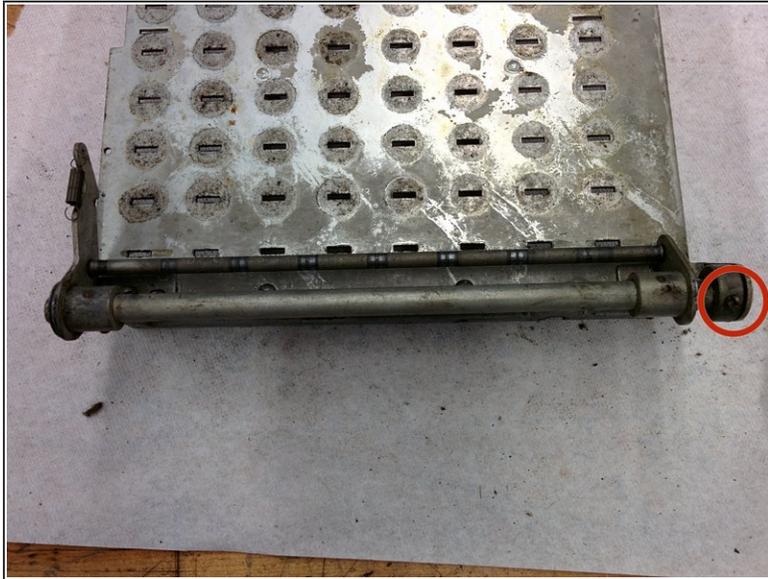


- Next, lift the washer and spring off the top of the key stem.
- You can now pull the key stem out from the bottom. There will be a metal washer and a felt washer.
- Place the stems in bag 19A, the metal washers and retainers in 19B, the felt washers in 19C, and the key springs in 19D.
- Do the same for all keys.

 The zero keys do not have bottom washers or felt washers.

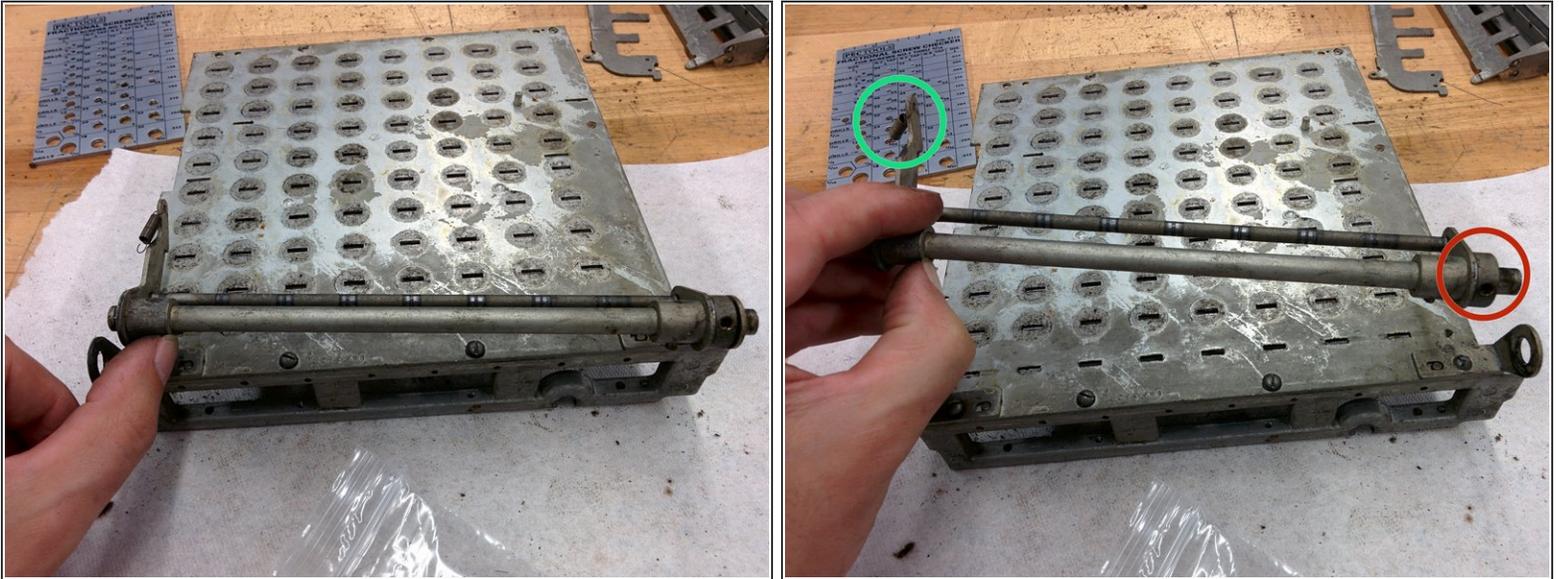
 Note that the key stems for the zero keys are curved to fit around the zero shaft.

Step 115



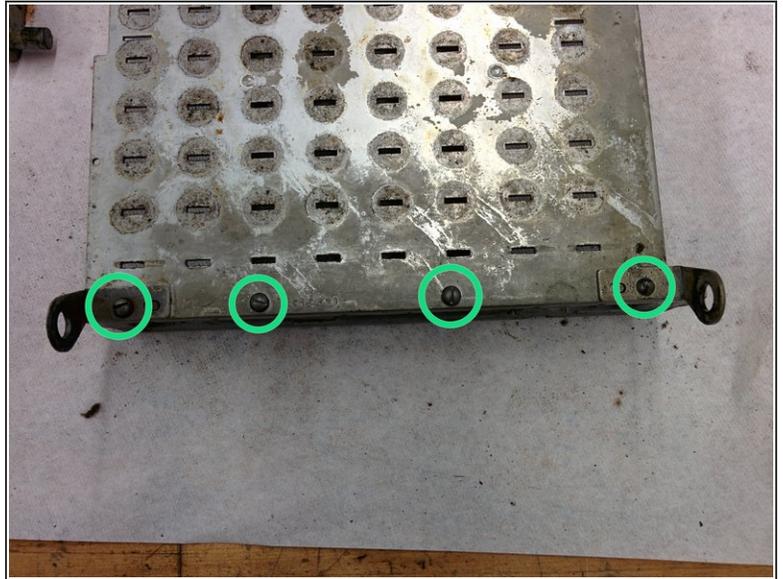
- Remove the set screw on this bushing and put it in bag 19E.
- Move and twist the bushing so that it is loose.

Step 116



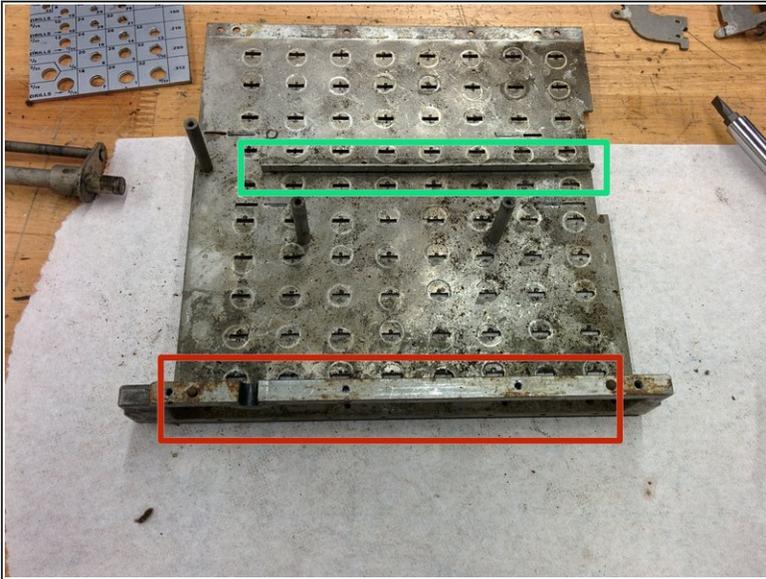
- Slide the entire shaft to the right, and lift it out of the left bushing.
- Remove the shaft by sliding it out of the right bushing.
- Put the bushing that remains on the shaft in bag 19E.
- Also remove the spring that remains and put it in bag 19E.

Step 117



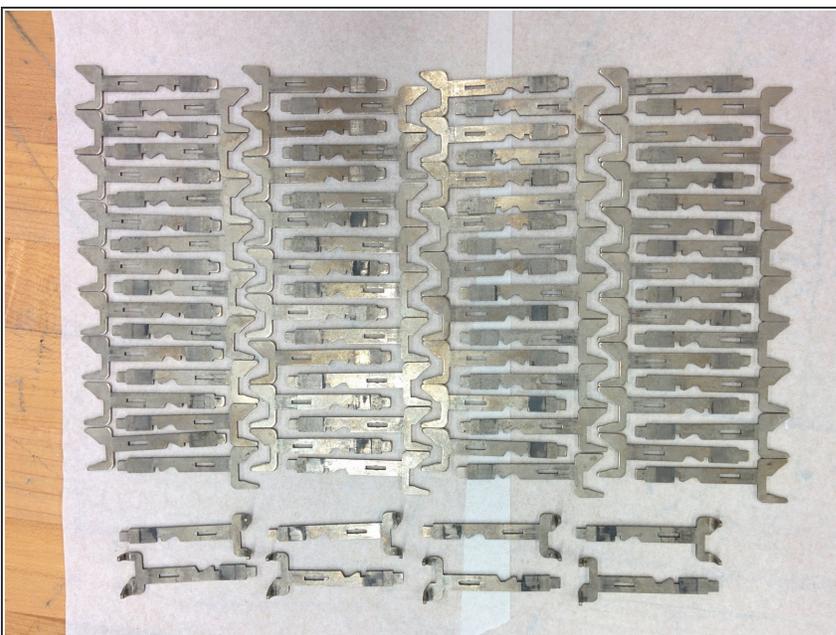
- Look at the matching serial number now revealed.
- Remove these four screws and their lock washers. Place them and the right and left bushings in bag 19E.

Step 118

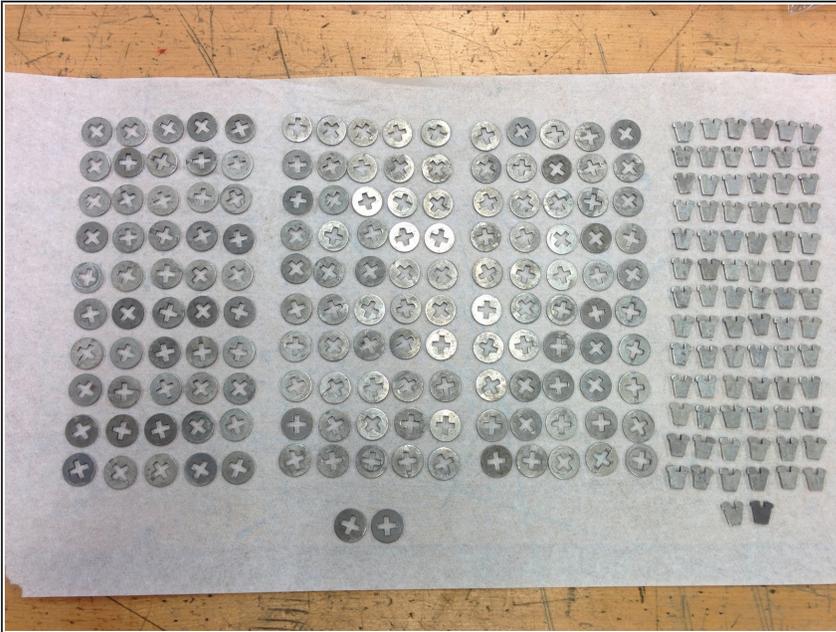


- Turn the keyboard plate over and remove the frame piece.
- Now you have two frame pieces.
- Also remove the eight springs on the spring strip and place in bag 19E.

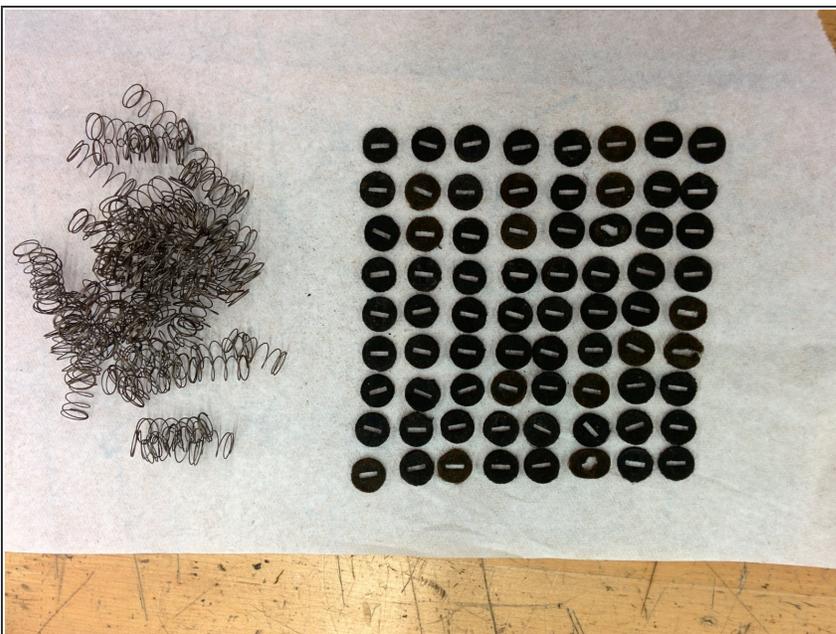
Step 119 — What's in bag 19A?



- 8 zero key stems
- 72 non-zero key stems

Step 120 — What's in bag 19B?

- 152 metal washers
- 80 retainers

Step 121 — What's in bags 19C and 19D?

- 80 key springs
- 72 felt washers

Step 122 — What's in bag 19E?



 I lost the set screw, and one lock washer was missing.

Step 123



- Congratulations! You've completely taken apart the keyboard assembly! Well done!
- Maybe go find a leaf to chew on as a reward.

Step 124 — Taking apart the selecting gear assembly



i It's called that because when you press a key, rock bars cause the plates on the assembly to move so that the same number of teeth as the key you pressed will be selected to engage other gears.

! Note well the orientation of the parts relative to each other!

- **Start bag 20 and 20A.** 20 will be for the parts, while 20A will be for the large separating springs that you'll see shortly.
- Remove this taper pin.
- This will let you slide off two parts: the crank, and the bushing. Bag them with the taper pin.

Step 125



- Remove this taper pin.
- This will release three parts: a large locking cam, a washer, and a small locking cam.

Step 126



- The selecting gears come in pairs of facing teeth with a spring in between each gear in the pair.
- The gears have a stop pin between each pair which is held in place by some turns of a retaining spring.
- Use a very thin screwdriver (1mm worked for me) to pry out the end of the retaining spring. It should then slide off the pin.
- You can now bag the retaining spring, the pin, the pair of gears, and their separating spring. Put the large separating spring in bag 20A.
- Each pair of gears is numbered. Write down the sequence! Mine is: 9, 10, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2.
- Remove all the gear pairs.

Step 127



- After the gears is a set of two cams which can slide off.
- What's left on the axle is a gear and a bushing. The gear is held in place with a pin.

Step 128



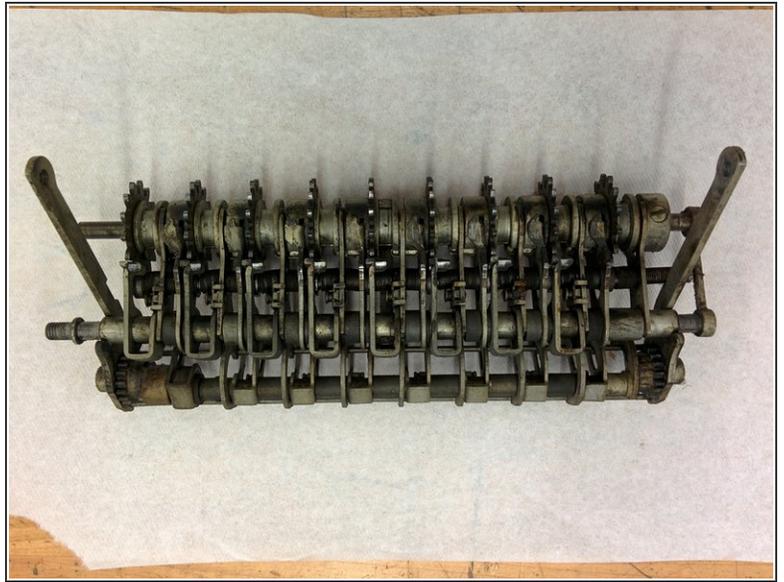
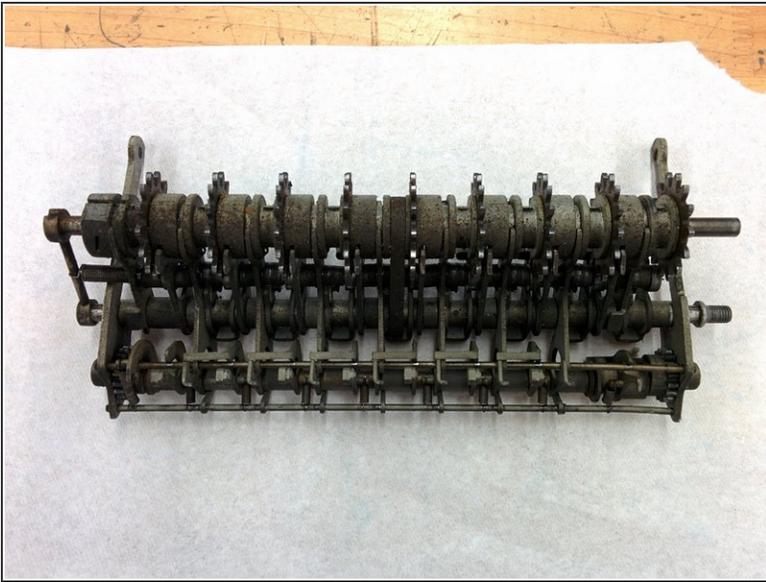
No instructions yet.

Step 129



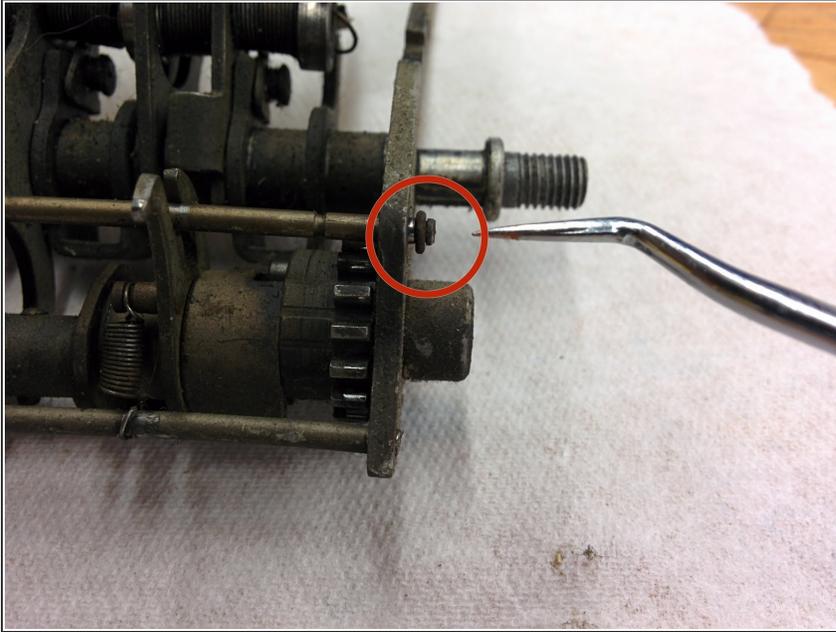
No instructions yet.

Step 130



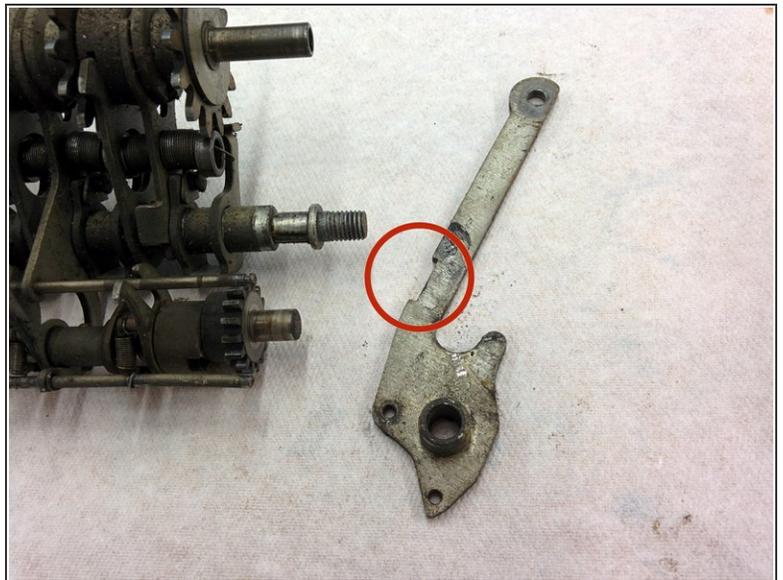
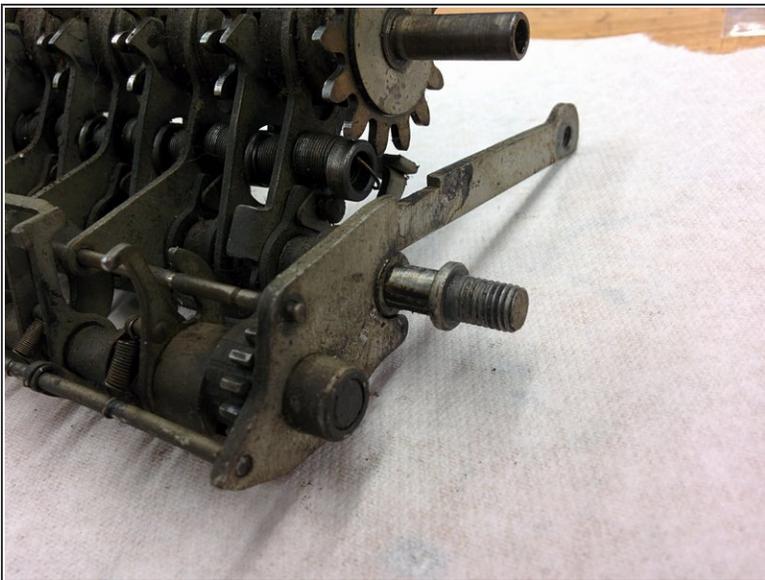
- Now we'll disassemble the intermediate gear assembly.

Step 131



- **Start a new bag 21A and 21B.** I put the small parts in 21B.
- With the assembly face-up so that the side levers are facing downwards, remove this retaining wire.
- I'm not certain if the rod below this one also had a retaining wire, or if it just broke off. I did notice that the two rods are actually different.

Step 132



- Pull off the side lever.
- Note that there is a notch in the lever. The side lever on the left side does not have a notch.

Step 133



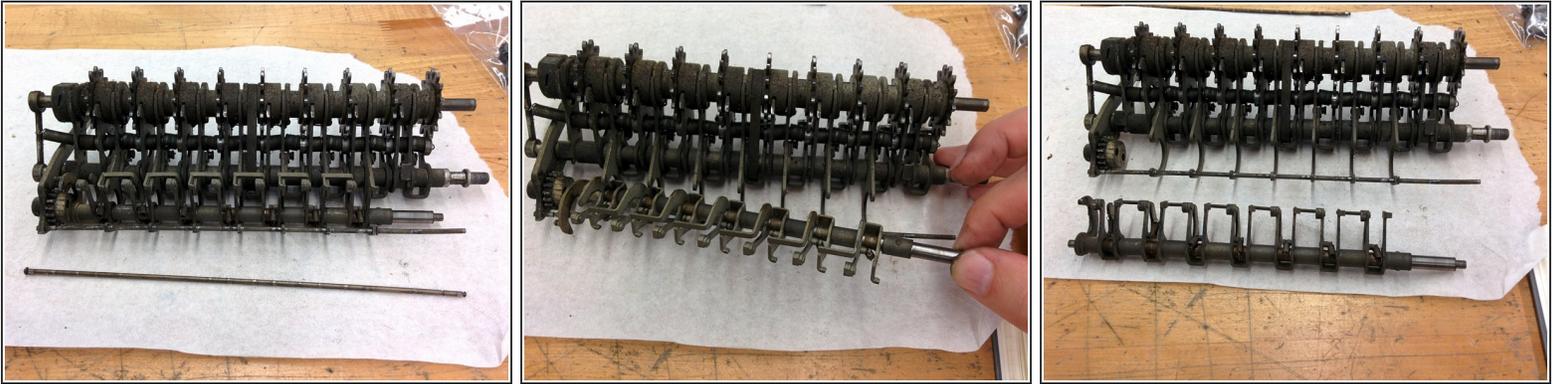
- Pull off the driving gear which drives the eccentric axle.
- You can take the pin out of the gear.
- Then you can remove the eccentric follower from the axle.

Step 134



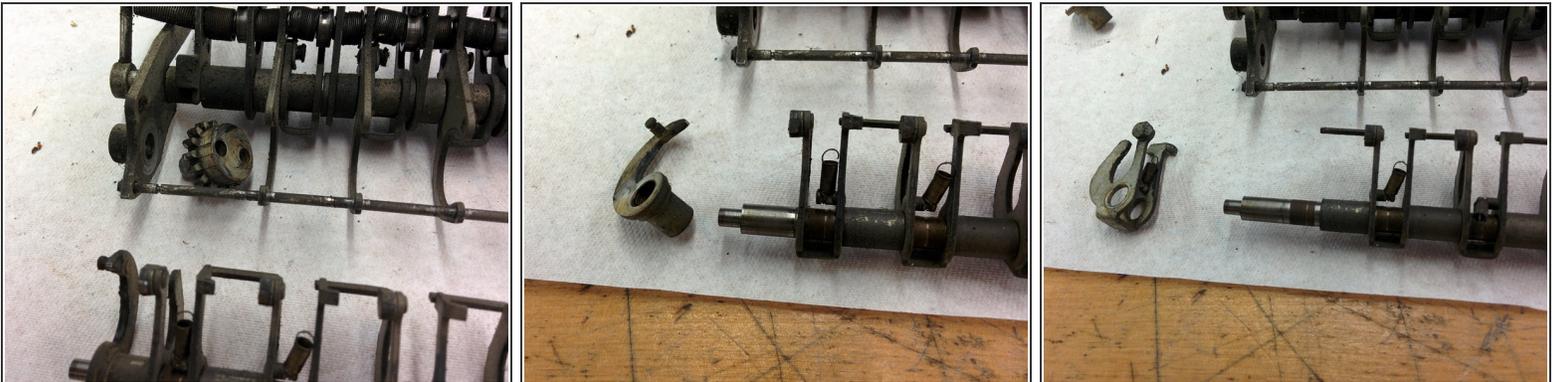
- Next, remove the funny-shaped lever from the axle along with its spring.
- Remove the washer from the axle.

Step 135



- Now you can pull the top rod out from the left side. May as well keep its retaining wire with it.
- You can now remove the bottom eccentric axle assembly.

Step 136



- Remove the eccentric driver gear from the left side.
- Remove two levers from the left side of the eccentric axle.

Step 137



- Remove a bushing.
- Remove another funny-shaped lever.
- Keep going until all parts are removed.

Step 138



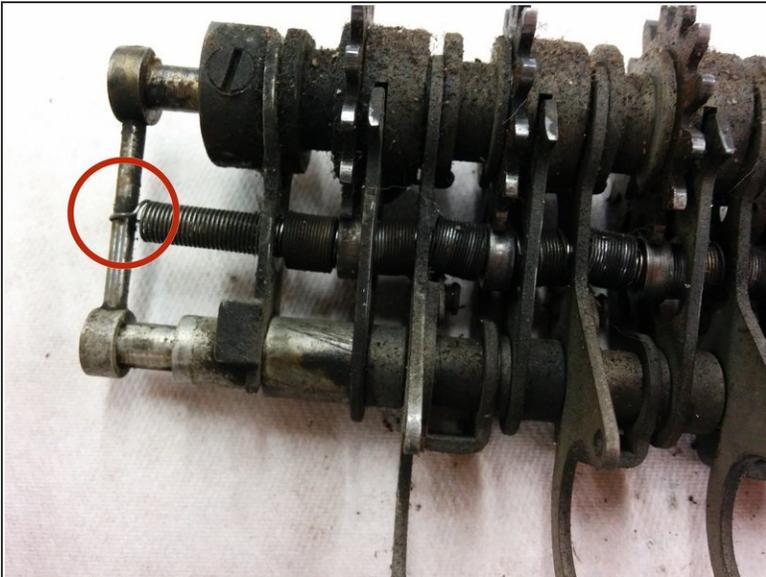
- Remove this retaining wire from the remaining rod.
- Pull it out from the left side.
- The left side lever comes off as well. This lever does not have the notch that the right side lever has.

Step 139



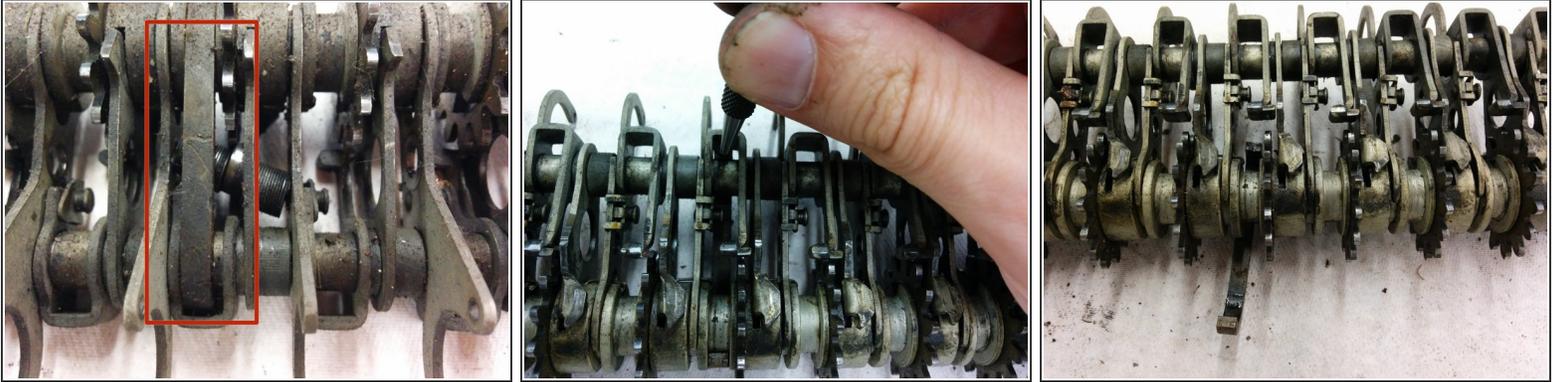
- Note well the difference between the top rod and bottom rod, shown here with their right sides aligned, then their left sides aligned.

Step 140



- Unhook the detent spring.
- With a little work, you can pull the long spring all the way out, and the various other springs and bearings will come out.

Step 141



- There is a strap that holds the two remaining axles together.
- Turn the assembly over, and use a punch and hammer to gently tap the strap off.

Step 142



- The two axles are now only held together with this long pin.
- You can use a wrench and a screw driver to gently but firmly pull the pin out.

Step 143



- The two axles are now separated. We will work on the top axle first.

Step 144



- **What's in bag 21A?**

Step 145



- **What's in bag 21B?**

Step 146



- **Start a new bag 22.**
- From the left end, you can remove sets of these: a small lever, a long bushing, a large lever, a short bushing.
- At the end is an extra-long bushing.

Step 147



- **What's in bag 22?**