



How to re-key Kwikset Key-In-Knob Lockset

Need to change your locks? Don't replace them - re-key them!

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INTRODUCTION

Kwikset key-in-knob locksets are one of the most readily available door locksets on the market. This guide will show you how to re-key (or re-pin) them yourself without needing to call a Locksmith.

Moreover, many of the techniques contained within this guide can be applied to other brands and door lock models as well!



TOOLS:

- [Cylinder Removal Tool](#) (1)
- [Plug Follower](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [Kwikset or LAB Re-keying kit](#) (1)

Step 1 — How to re-key Kwikset Key-In-Knob Lockset



- Start by removing the lockset from the door, or packaging. Separate and set aside the interior half of the lockset.
- Hold the lock so that the side with the keyway is facing directly away from you.
- Locate the driver bar on the back of the exterior, or keyed, half of the lockset. It is the long cylindrical post that protrudes from the back of the lock and is hollow on the end.
- Insert the cylinder removal tool into the end of the driver bar and turn until the tab (circled red) is in the twelve 'o clock position.

Step 2



- Turn the lock so that the keyway faces the ground.
- Directly underneath the driver bar is another tab (circled red) just above one of the threaded posts.

Step 3



- Using the edge of the cylinder removal tool, depress the tab from step 2 while removing the driver bar.
- ⓘ You should be able to pull the driver bar right out by hand. If it doesn't come out easily, here are a few tips:
 - Make sure the tab from step 1 is completely vertical and pointing towards one of the threaded cylinders. It can easily shift out of position, preventing removal of the driver bar.
 - Rotate the entire assembly 180 degrees so that the keyway faces the ceiling. While depressing the tab from step 2, wiggle the entire lockset. The driver bar should slide right out.

Step 4



- With the driver bar removed, insert the forked end of the cylinder removal tool into the back of the lock.

Step 5



- Gently pushing the end of the cylinder removal tool into the back of the lock should dislodge the cylinder from the rest of the lock.

Step 6



- Use the forked end of the cylinder removal tool to remove the c-clip from the back of the plug.

Step 7



- With the c-clip removed, insert the key that currently operates the lock and use it to turn the cylinder plug 90 degrees.
- ⚠ **Do not pull on the key!**
- Use a plug follower to gently push the plug out of the cylinder from the back, as pictured.

Step 8



- To rekey the cylinder, simply dump the bottom pins out of the plug and replace with the appropriate sized pins for the new key.
- ⓘ Although not necessary, a key gauge can make identifying the correct pins much quicker.
- Ensure proper operation by reinserting the plug into the cylinder and rotating it to the 9 'o clock and 3 'o clock positions, taking care to make sure the plug does not accidentally come out of the cylinder.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.