

POINT 65°N
Kayaks SWEDEN



Mercury Skeg Repair

How to fix a jammed Skeg



If the Skeg on your Mercury doesn't come out, the most likely problem is that it has been jammed by sand or smallstones inside the skeg box.



1. To take apart the skeg, you will need three tools:
 1. Spanner (you can use a smaller than the one in the pictures)
 2. Screw with phillips head
 3. Screw with flat head, fairly large



2. Release the skeg with the skeg control to release the tension on the skeg pull up line.



3. If the skeg box is clean and the skeg is easily pulled out by hand, but won't come out by itself, there is some problem with the spring inside the skeg. Unscrew three screws on the Rudder foot plate.



4. You will now be able to pull out the skeg package. You don't need to pull it out all the way, so keep the skeg pull up line attached.



5. The square headed screw holds the spring in place inside the skeg.



6. Push out the screw from the back using the phillips screw driver.



7. Slide out the skeg holder to reveal the spring. The spring in the image is a little deformed, but still operational. If the spring has been badly deformed or is broken, you need to replace it. Also check the plastic screw, which should be undamaged.



8. To assemble the skeg, slide on the skeg holder, make sure the spring end is in the middle of the opening.



9. Put in the plastic screw, make sure the groove in the screw slides over the spring end.



10. Push in the screw, but not all the way. Use the spanner tool to turn the screw a 3/4 quarter turn. You will need to push in your finger on the back side to prevent the screw to slide in.



11. Turning the screw without the spring jumping out of the screw can be a bit tricky. You might need several tries to succeed. As the tension is high on the spring after the 3/4 turn has been completed you will need the screwdriver with flat head to push in the screw into its final position.



12. Keep pressure on the screw with screwdriver or finger to prevent the screw from popping out. Slide the kegholder into the keghole.



13. Push down the kegholder while holding the kegholder in the position shown above. Release the kegholder to see if it pops up again. If it doesn't, the spring wasn't tightened 3/4 turn as specified, or it might have been tightened in the wrong direction. Do the steps 5-11 again.



2. Reattach the Rudder Foot Plate with the 3 screws.