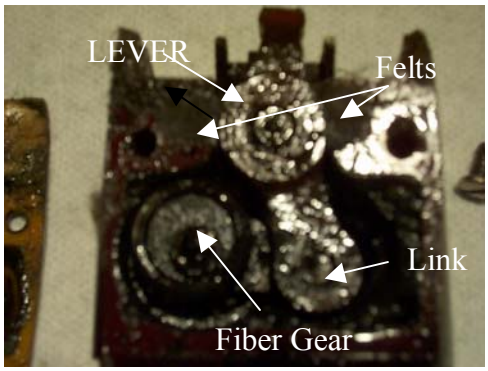
How To Perform Maintenance On Oster Clippers

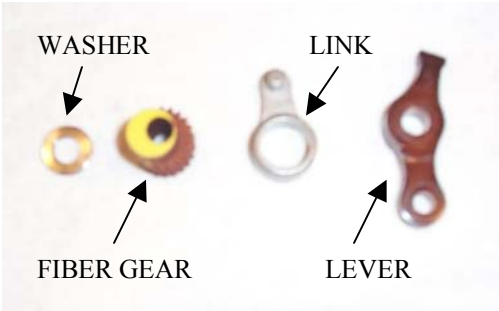
Oster clippers rely on routine maintenance or they will fail. The units will overheat and cause a number failures if they aren't kept clean and free of hair. The following pages will show you how to clean them, check for damage, complete lubrication, replacement of the gears, final testing before putting back in service.

The clipper head needs to be blown out with your hair dryer on a daily basis. Not doing so will clog the air flow and could prevent the blade from seating securely on the hinge and latch. A dirty latch could give "blade wobble" or a "corn rowing" effect on the cut. Hinges and latches don't last forever and may need replaced.

Taking the rear switch housing off and checking for compacted hair is another routine maintenance item. Not blowing this out routinely blocks the airflow to the armature and will burn it up. You will also notice the unit getting very hot very quickly during use.



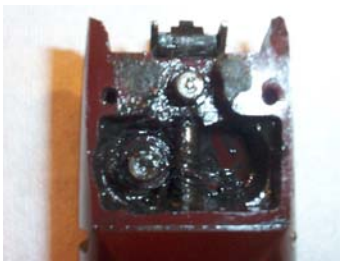
Take the gearbox plate off and expose the gearbox. Take a set of needle nose pliers and take all the gears out. Pull the lever out, then the link, then the fiber gear and washer. DO NOT REMOVE THE FELTS ON EACH SIDE OF THE LEVER. Then take Q-Tips or paper towel and get as much of the dirty grease out of the gearbox.



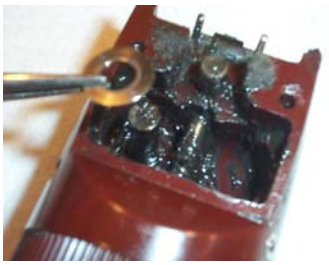
With the gears all out, clean them thoroughly and check for damage. Look closely at the fiber gear and make sure there isn't a groove worn in the middle of it. Replace if the groove is real deep.

Take the link and put it on the fiber gear like it would go when running. Check for a sloppy fit, and replace it it is. A sloppy fit between the link and fiber gear will cause a clacking sound while the clipper is running.

Lastly, check the part of the lever that fits into the blade, if the ends are rounded off replace it.



Clean Gearbox



Replace washer

Replace fiber gear

After you get the gearbox as clan as you can get it, replace the gears one at a time with plenty of grease. Use Oster clipper grease of get some good lithium grease from an auto store.

First replace the washer. If you forget the fiber gear will burn up.

Next, replace the fiber gear, use plenty of grease. Too much is good because of the high temperatures inside the gearbox while in operation.

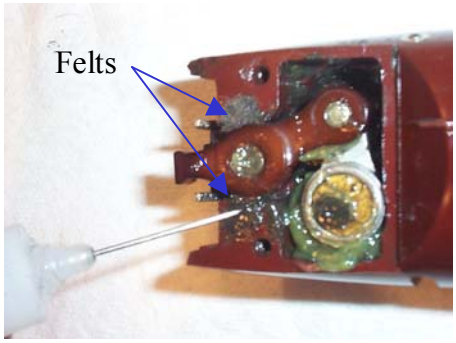
Try not to get any grease on the felts around the shaft that holds the lever. We are going to oil them later and grease will prevent the oil from saturating the felts.

Replace the link. Make sure there is grease on the top of the fiber gear so the link will slide easy.

Put a spot of grease on the post of the link where the lever fits onto.

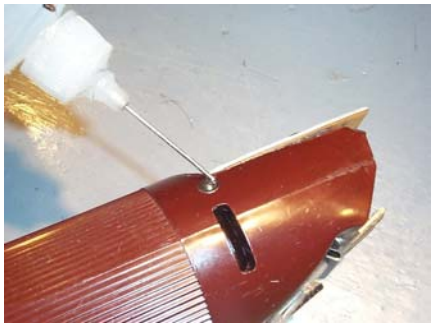
Before installing the lever put a small drop of grease in the center hole. Do not grease the post where the lever attaches you might get grease on the felts.

Being careful, set the lever on top of the post and push down slightly. Align the post of the link to the hole in the arm of the lever and finish pushing down into place.



Oil the felts with clipper oil. Not too much but enough to make them look dark. The felts will be gray in color if they are dry, and will cause the lever to overheat as it rocks back and forth. Oiling also gives a tight fit around the lever.

Put the gearbox plate back on. (first thing you took off)



Finally, take clipper oil and lube the armature gear. It only takes a drop but its very important to do this.

Start the clippers on low speed and listen for anything strange. They should sound smooth running. Let them run for 5 minutes to let the new lubrication work. The clippers are ready for use.