



Dewalt Reciprocating Saw Sawblade Locking Mechanism Repair

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INTRODUCTION

Repair your saw blade falling out of Dewalt reciprocating saws (sawzall). DCS381 shown but applies to DCS380 and many others.

The Dewalt sawblade locking mechanism spring/pin comes loose and (using only a Torx or flathead screwdriver) you can put the spring back in place and repair the blade lock mechanism yourself.

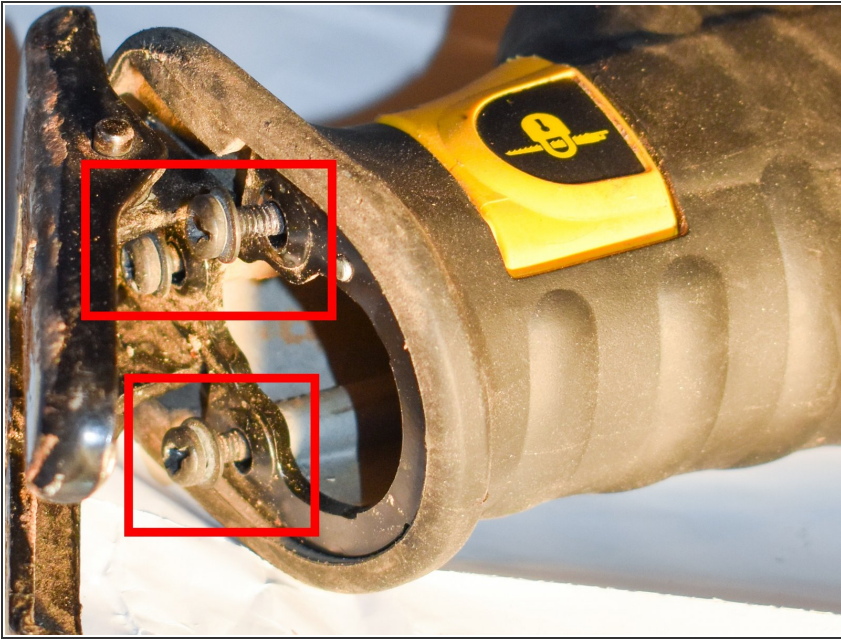
(Related to [DeWalt DW938 Troubleshooting](#)) (Parts and Exploded View here:

<https://servicenet.dewalt.com/Products/D...>)

TOOLS:

- [T20 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
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Step 1 — Remove the foot



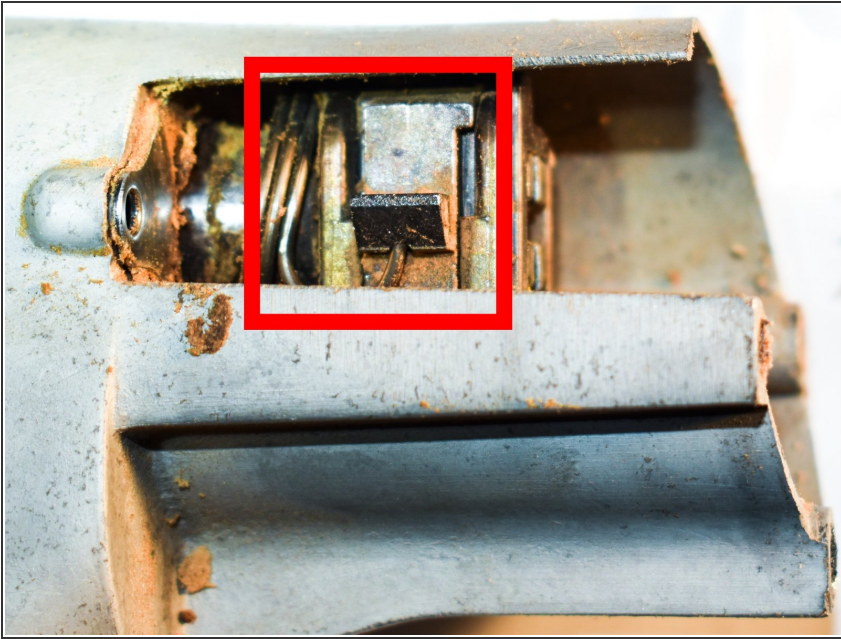
- Remove the 3 screws holding the guide foot and plate to the saw body with a T20 Torx or medium flat-blade screw driver.

Step 2 — Remove the rubber cover and lever



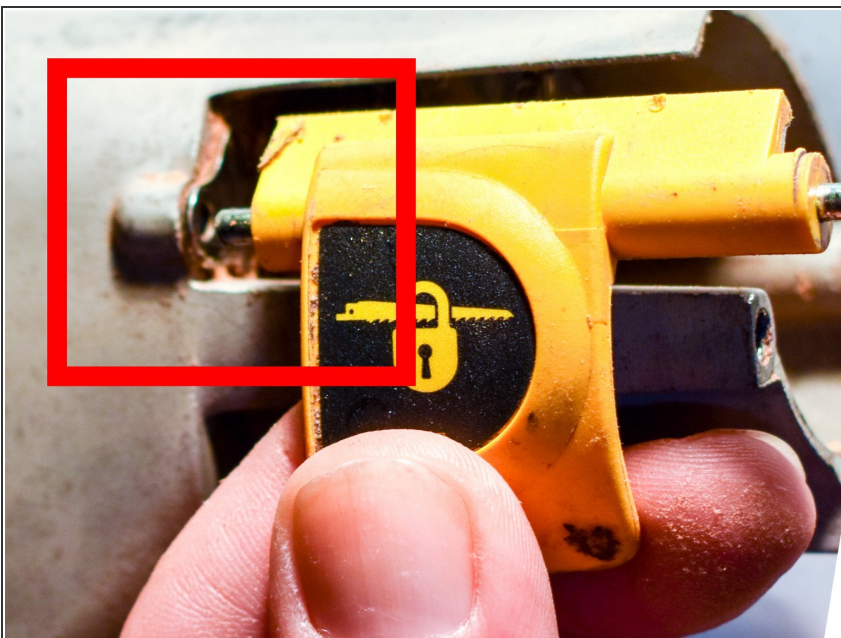
- Remove the rubber body cover and yellow lever with your hands. There are no screws holding them on.

Step 3 — Put the spring / pin back in place



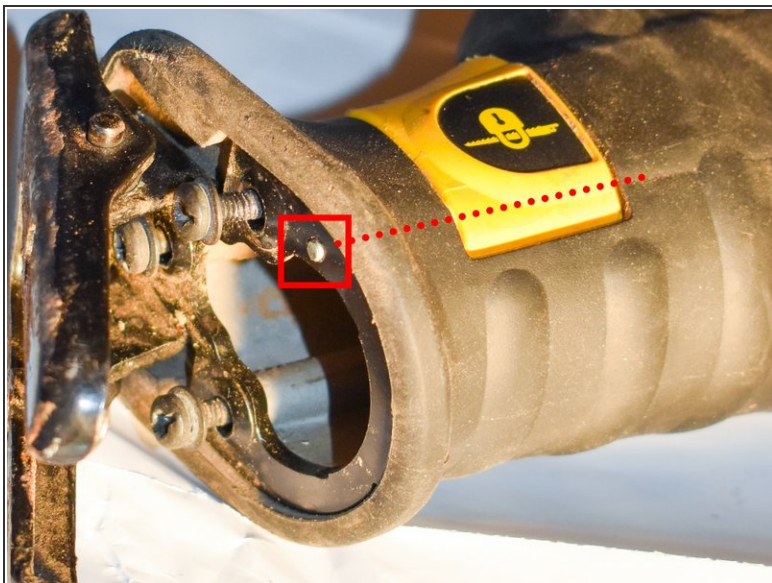
- Push the locking mechanism up and put the spring / pin in the hole in the locking mechanism.
- Use your fingers or a pair of pliers.
- The locking mechanism should move up and down freely. That is the plate with the metal triangle. The spring / pin goes in a hole in the metal triangle.

Step 4 — Replace the rubber cover and yellow lever



- Place the rubber cover over the saw body.
- Insert the yellow lever in the hole in the rubber cover.
- Align the pin on the yellow lever with the hole in the saw body. (Shown without rubber cover.)
- Push the rubber cover on completely.
- Make sure that the pin on the yellow lever is correctly inserted into the hole in the saw body. (Shown without rubber cover.)

Step 5 — Install the face plate / foot



- Align the pin in the yellow lever with the hole in the face plate.
- Install the face plate with 3 screws.
- Test the lever and make sure that the blade does not fall out.

Make sure the lever moves the locking mechanism up and down. This will hold the blade in.