

SHOP NOTES King Midget Maintenance and Restoration

C-25 Door Pulls *by Bob Olbers*

Worn or broken door pull cables are a nuisance. I figured out an easy way to replace them without needing to solder or crimp fittings onto wire rope.

Materials:

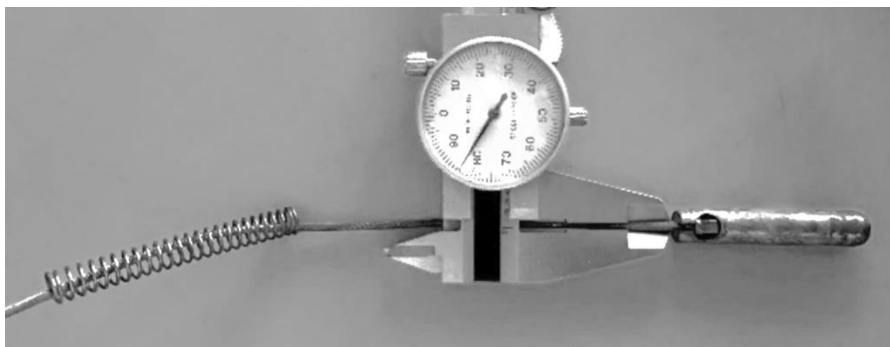
- 18-8 Stainless Steel Lanyard - Not for Lifting, Eye-to-Eye, 1/16" Rope Diameter, 12" Long, Uncoated - McMaster-Carr 30345T146 (qty 2)
- Windshield Washer & Vacuum Hose (Non-Reinforced) - 5/32" X 5/32"- NAPA NBH H459 (a couple feet)

Refer to the illustration to see how the door pull components are assembled. To disassemble the door pull, start by removing the retaining screw to release the cable. Pull the plunger end out from the jamb side of the door. Disconnect the cable stop from the plunger, then remove the plunger and spring. Pull the cable back through the door and remove.

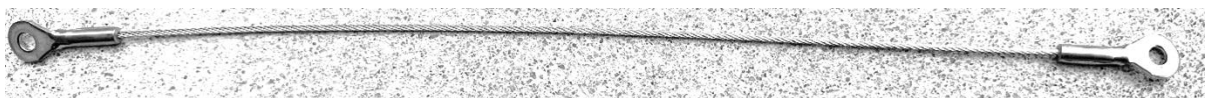
The replacement lanyard comes with an eye crimped onto each end. We need to adapt one eye into a cable stop. I held the eye with Vise Grips and ground the end down with a belt sander. A Dremel tool, grinder, hand files, etc. could be used instead to accomplish the same result. Remove enough material until the remaining cable stop fits nicely into the round recess in the plunger.

Cut a 7-1/2-inch length of the vacuum hose and slide it past the cable stop up to the eye end of the lanyard. Feed the stop end of the cable through the through the metal tube structure inside the door and out to the jamb side. Pass the coil spring over the cable stop, then insert the stop into the plunger recess so that the spring is retained. Pull the lanyard back towards the inside of the door to retract the spring and plunger inside the door to clear the latch striker, then close the door. Allow the spring to push the plunger back past the latch striker until it seats against the door jamb. Take up the slack in the lanyard, then mark and drill for a sheet metal screw to mount the eye to the inside of the door. Once the cable has been affixed, you should be able to pull on the cable to retract the plunger into the door and allow it to open.

The new pulls are slightly shorter than the originals that came in my car, so I needed to move the hole slightly backwards. This was no big deal since someone had already redrilled the mounting location a few times anyway as the screw loosened up over time. □



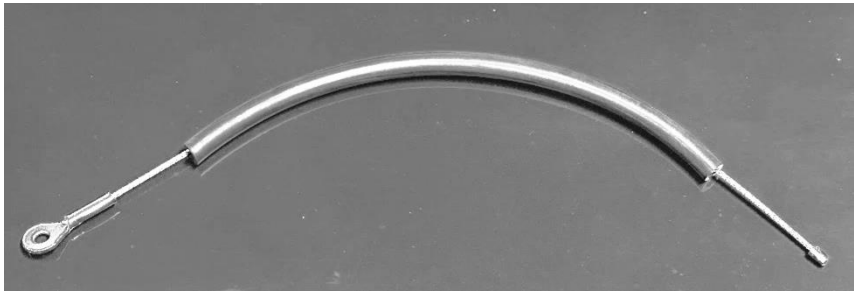
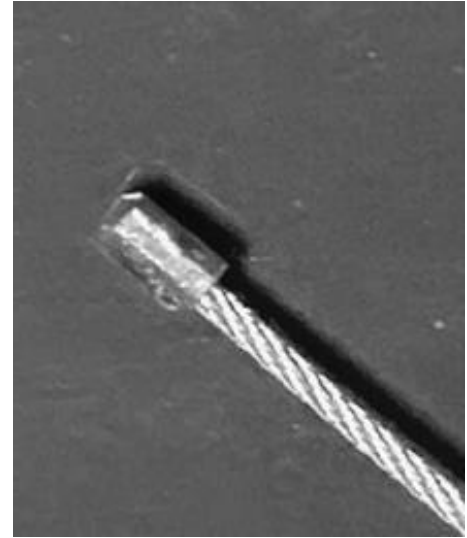
Original pull with spring and plunger



Replacement lanyard prior to modification

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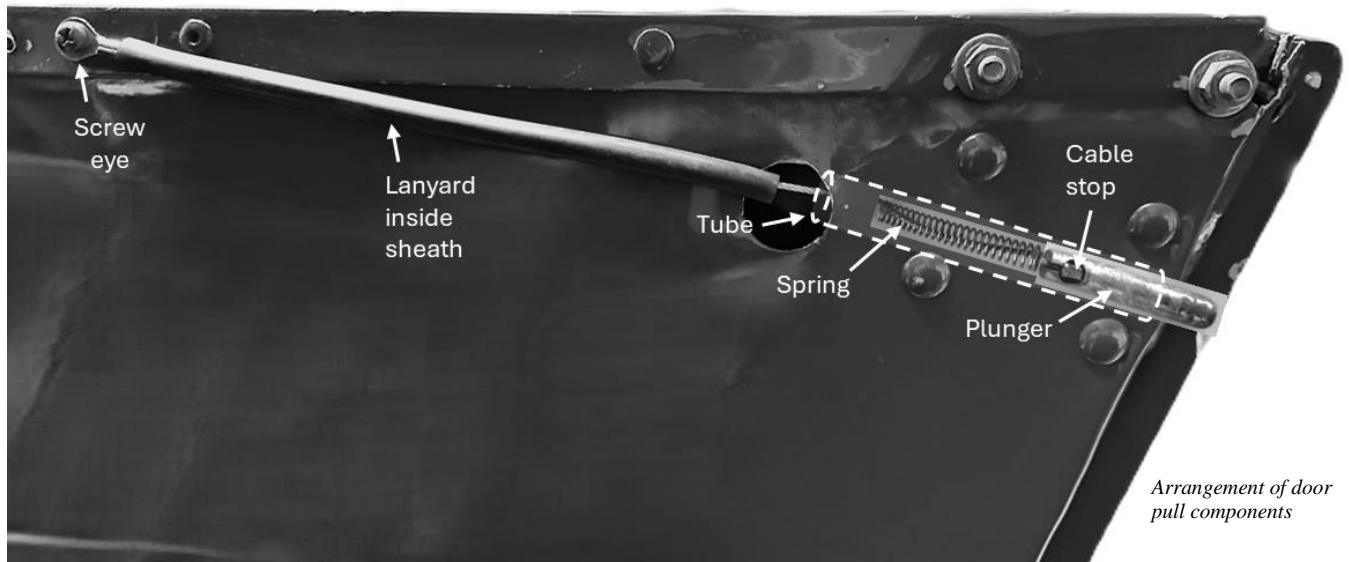
Grind down one eye into cable stop to fit into retaining hole in plunger



Finished lanyard with vacuum hose sheath



Lanyard passes through tube inside door; plunger and coil spring retract into tube from jamb side to allow door to open



Arrangement of door pull components

C. Body & Frame