

SHOP NOTES King Midget Maintenance and Restoration

C-26 Engine Cover Hold-Downs *by Bob Olbers*

Over time, the rubber tubing on our engine cover hold-downs can deteriorate. Also, the sheet metal surrounding them can become distorted. These issues may interfere with the proper operation of the hooks. Here's how I refurbished the ones on my Model 3.

I removed the cotter pin, washer, and spring from the bottom of the hold-down and pulled the hook out from the top. I used a plastic-faced mallet and a "shark"-style flat prybar as a hammer and dolly to carefully flatten the metal around the hole without removing too much additional paint (If I had been planning to repaint the panel, I would have used more aggressive techniques and possibly welded or epoxied a washer to the underside to provide additional support). After sliding a ½" length of 3/16"-ID x 7/16"-OD rubber tubing over the hook, I reinserted it into the hole and reassembled the washer and spring. I secured the assembly with a new 3/32" x 1" cotter pin, and repeated this process for the other hold-down.

The refurbished hold-downs look much better and do a much better job of keeping the engine cover closed. ◻

