

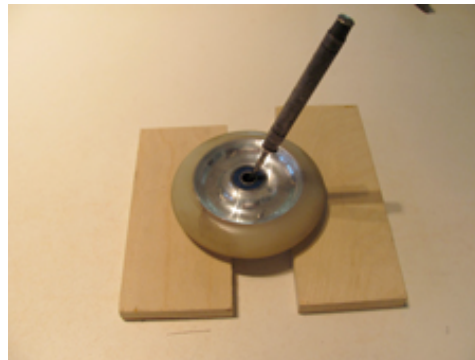
Scooter wheel bearing removal & installation instructions

Installing scooter wheel bearings is not always easy. It can be especially difficult in metalcore wheels. Here are some instructions and tips that may help you remove bearings, and install new bearings. More tips at scooterdad.com.

Bearing removal

Warning: Bearings are very likely to damage during removal!

Lay your wheel on a sturdy flat surface and make sure the bearing on the bottom has room to fall out of the wheel. You can use a few strips of wood as long as they are thicker than the bearing.

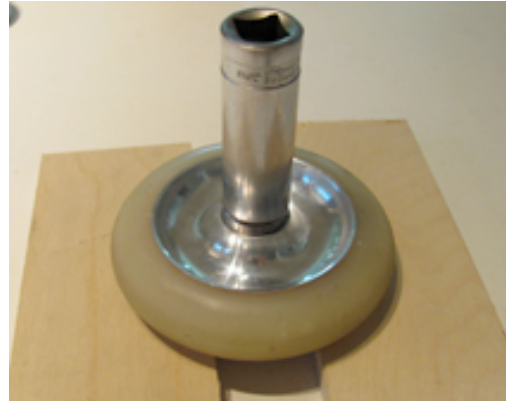


Take an old flathead screwdriver or a punch and insert it through the top bearing past the spacer. Hold it in an angle so the tip rests on the inner rim of the bottom bearing. Tap the punch or screwdriver with a hammer. Repeat this, switching sides on the bearing until it falls out of the wheel. If the bearing comes out easily without a lot of force, the bearing may still be usable. If excess force was needed, the bearing is likely damaged. Turn the wheel over and repeat the process above.

Installing new bearings

Keep the new bearings in the freezer for a half hour. Keep your wheel at room temperature or warm it out in the sun if you can. **Put some grease inside of the wheel where the bearings go on both sides of the wheel.** This helps bearings slide in and out easily.

Now take your first bearing and lay it on the wheel. Use a socket with a slightly smaller diameter as the bearing (we use a 5/8 spark plug socket) and place it on the outer rim of the bearing. Start tapping on the socket, rotating your taps so the bearing goes in evenly.



If the bearing tilts a bit, tap on the high side to level it out. **Always keep the socket in between the hammer and the bearing.** This is to avoid hitting the center rim of the bearing. Keep tapping the socket rotating your hammer strokes around the top edge of the socket until the bearing is completely inside the wheel.



Now turn the wheel over. Take a front axle and put the second bearing on the axle followed by the bearing spacer. From the top of the wheel, slide the axle with the spacer and the bearing inside the bearing at the bottom of the wheel. This lines up the bearings and the spacer and prevents the spacer from tipping over while you are tapping. Now take the socket and tap in the top bearing using the same process.

Remove the axle and check the spacer. If it is loose and rattles inside, the bearings may not be in all the way or the spacer is worn and too narrow. If it is snug between the bearings, check if the bearings turn easily. If they do not turn smoothly, the bearings are in too far or the spacer is too wide.

DO NOT LEAVE OUT THE SPACER. The spacer is there to avoid bearings being squeezed and will improve spin and extend the life of the bearings.

Do not worry if the bearings are a bit slow at first. They need some time to break in.