



This is a guide to replacing the recoil starter for your WEN 56202i, 56203i, 56235i, or 56235iX inverter generator. This guide is best used in conjunction with the generator's manual, included as a physical copy with your unit and available on the WEN website page for each model by clicking "Click here to view the product manual".

56202i/56203i: [link](#)

56235i: [link](#)

56235iX: [link](#)

If at any point you need assistance, have questions, or want to order parts, call WEN customer service at 1-800-232-1195, M-F, 8-5 Central Time, or email techsupport@wenproducts.com.

If replacing any parts, use only genuine replacement parts purchased from WEN Products. Use of replacement parts not sold by WEN Products will void your warranty and could lead to decreased performance or injury.

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TOOLS NEEDED

- Phillips-head screwdriver
- Flat-head screwdriver
- Needle-nose pliers
- Gasoline container
- Ratchet
- 10mm socket
- 8mm socket
- Paper or shop towels

ENSURE THAT THE ENGINE IS COOL BEFORE BEGINNING ANY MAINTENANCE OR REPAIR WORK. FOLLOW ALL SAFETY PROCEDURES LISTED IN YOUR OWNER'S MANUAL. USE COMMON SENSE. AVOID INJURY.

REMOVING THE OLD RECOIL STARTER

1. Drain the gas tank as instructed in your owner's manual.
2. Disconnect the spark plug boot as instructed in your owner's manual.
3. Remove the spark plug and oil dipstick access panels as instructed in your owner's manual.
4. Remove the four screws on the generator's side panel, as shown in Fig. 1 below. Remove the panel.
 1. NOTE: the side panels have 2 tabs at the top; a flat-head screwdriver may be needed to help remove them.



Fig. 1: Remove these four screws (note: oil dipstick and spark plug access panels are still installed as shown here; remove them).

5. Remove the 4 screws from the other side panel as well.
6. Remove the Phillips-head screws from the recoil starter stopper plate on the side panel (Fig. 2 below). Then pass the recoil starter handle and stopper plate through the hole in the side panel.\



Fig. 2: Remove the stopper plate's mounting screw.

7. Remove the 12 Phillips screws from the control panel and muffler cover. 3 of each are shown in Figs. 3 & 4.



Fig. 3: Remove all 6 control panel screws.

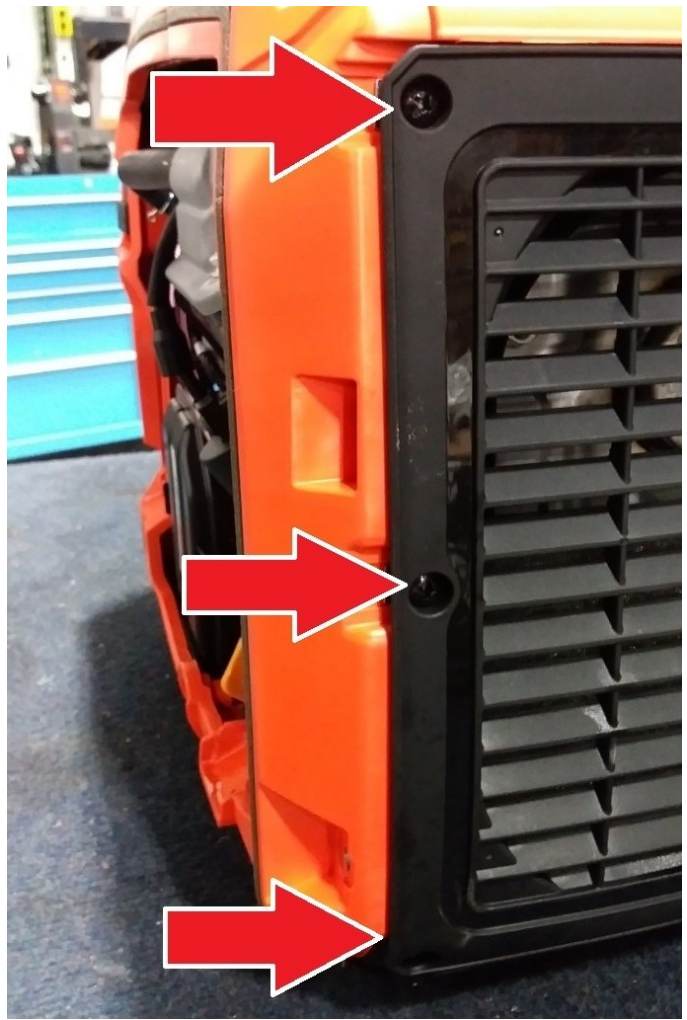


Fig. 4: Remove all 6 muffer cover screws.

8. Use the 10mm socket and ratchet to remove the 3 bolts at the bottom of the generator's shells (Fig. 5).

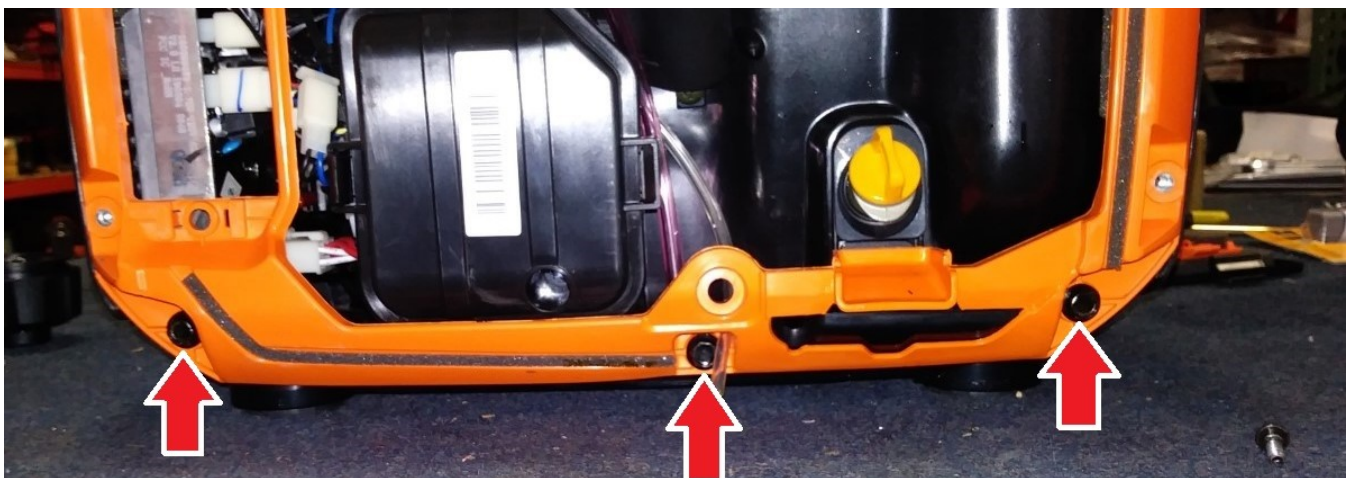


Fig. 5: Remove these 3 bolts from the bottom of each side of the housing (6 bolts total).

9. Remove the 4 screws from the generator's handle. See Fig. 6 below.



Fig. 6: Remove these 4 Phillips-head screws.

10. Gently separate the orange housing pieces from the control panel and muffler cover pieces.
11. As you remove the housing, disconnect the wiring harnesses from the igniter (Fig. 7) and CO sensor (Fig. 8), if your generator has one.

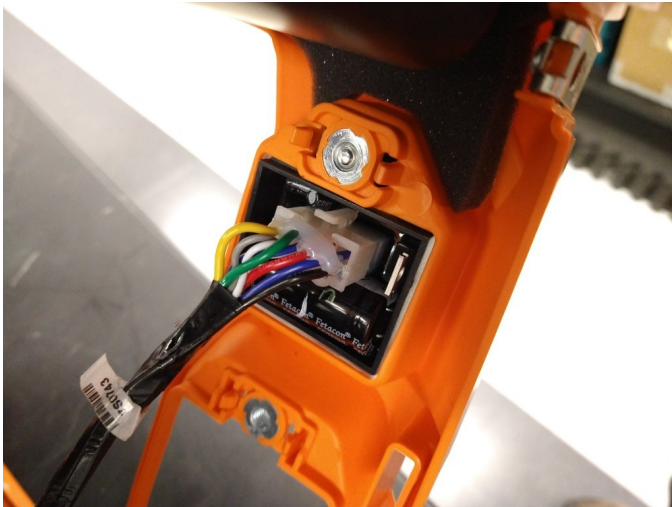


Fig. 7: Igniter wiring harness connected.

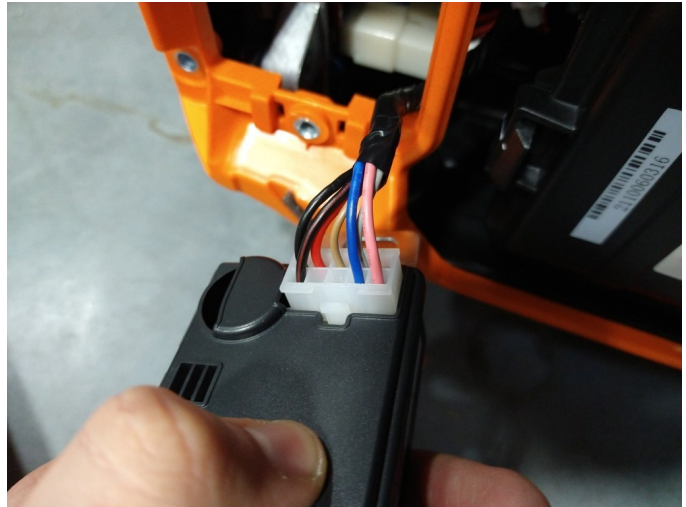


Fig. 8: CO sensor wiring harness connected.

12. As you remove the housing, use the needle-nose pliers to move the hose clamp off the gas tank fitting and down the fuel line (Fig. 9). Then remove the fuel line and in-line filter from the tank (Fig. 10). Make sure to wipe up any spilled gasoline.



Fig. 9: Hose clamp on the fuel tank.



Fig. 10: Line and filter removed from tank.

13. Gently move the control panel out of the way to expose the 2 inverter mounting bolts (Figs. 11 & 12). Loosen and remove them with the 8mm socket. Then move the inverter out of the way.

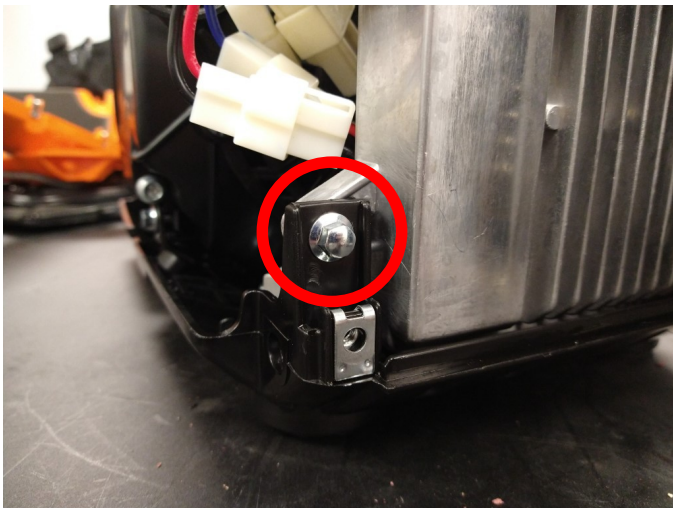


Fig. 11: Left inverter mounting bolt.

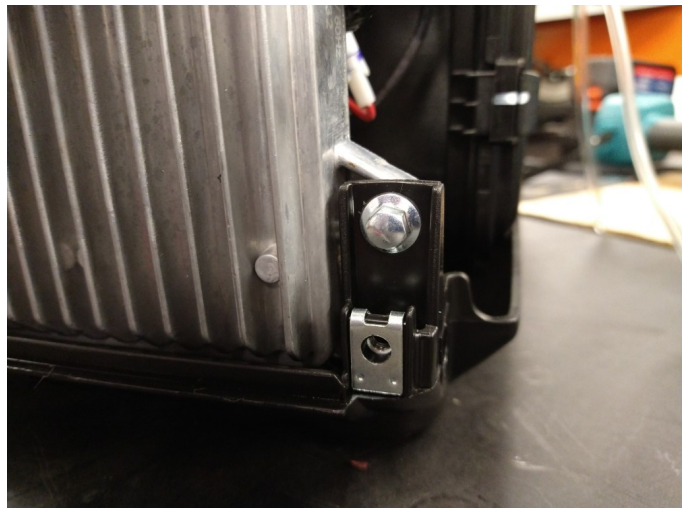


Fig. 12: Right inverter mounting bolt.

14. The recoil starter should now be easily accessible (Fig. 13). Note its orientation. Remove the 3 mounting bolts using the 8mm socket. As you remove the top mounting bolt, make sure not to lose the cable clamp (Fig. 14).

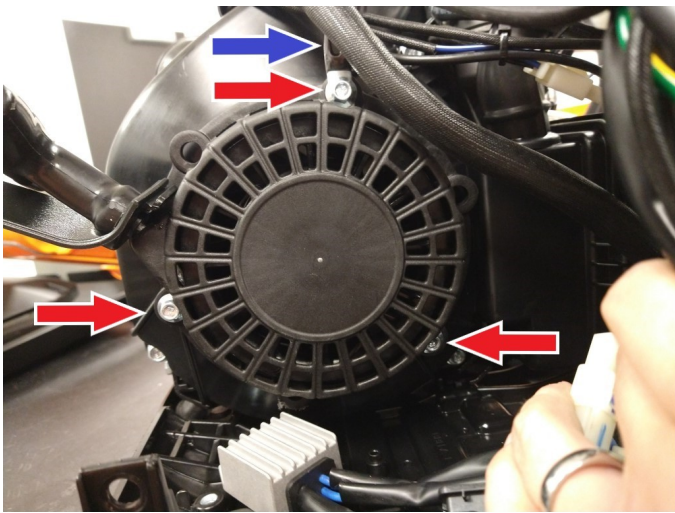


Fig. 13: Recoil starter mounting bolts (red); cable clamp (blue).

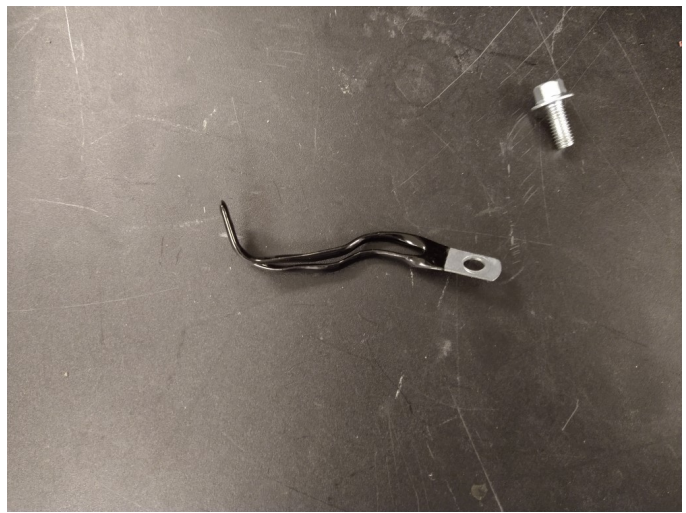


Fig. 14: Cable clamp removed.

15. Gently dismount the recoil starter from the generator (Fig. 15).

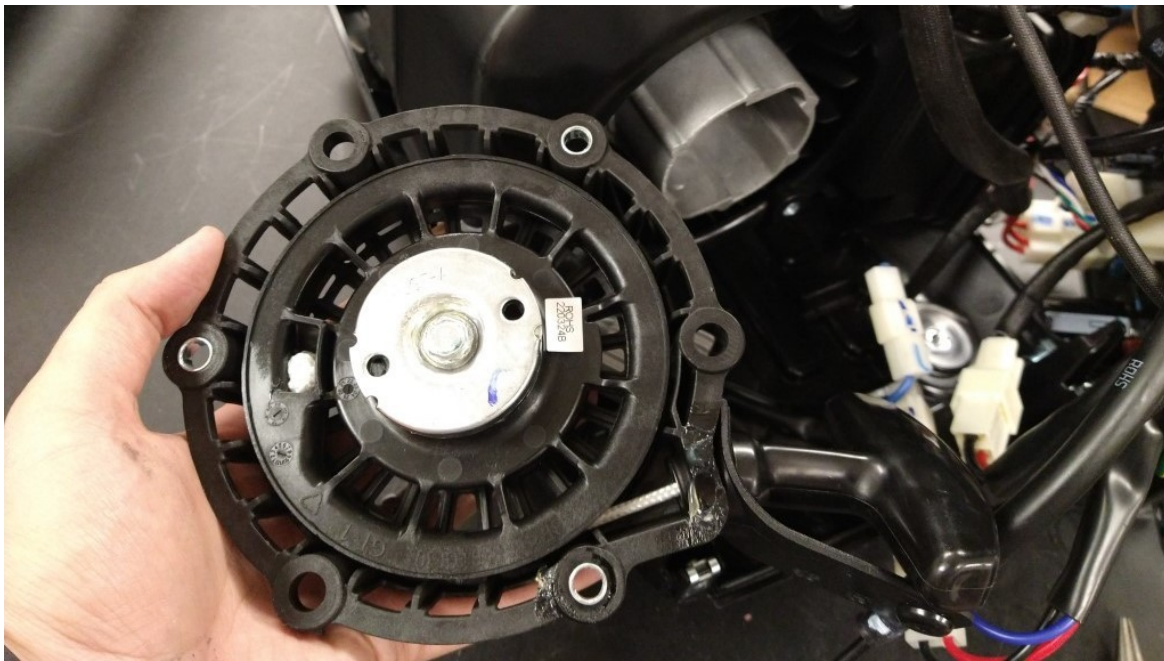


Fig. 15: Recoil starter removed.

You're now ready to install the new recoil starter (next page).

INSTALLING THE NEW RECOIL STARTER

16. To install the new recoil starter, simply follow the directions above in reverse. Some helpful tips and things to note are below.
- Reassemble the recoil starter in the same orientation as before (shown in Fig. 13).
 - Don't forget to reinstall the cable clamp (Figs. 13 & 14). Make sure to wrap it around the wiring harnesses as shown below in Fig. 16.

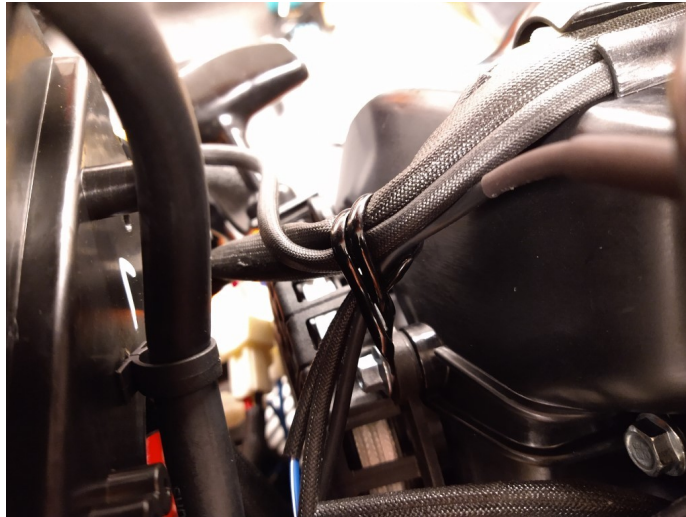


Fig. 16: Cable clamp wrapped around wiring.

- Don't forget to reconnect the fuel line to the gas tank, as well as the igniter and CO sensor (if applicable) wiring harnesses.
- When reassembling the orange housing pieces and the control panel and muffler covers, insert the tabs on the tops of the control panel and muffler cover pieces into the slots in the orange housing pieces (Figs. 17 & 18).



Fig. 17: Control panel tabs.



Fig. 18: Muffler cover tabs.

- When reinstalling the control panel and muffler cover pieces, make sure that the threaded inserts (shown below in Figs. 19 & 20) are installed properly. The threaded part goes toward the inside of the generator; the flat part goes toward the outside of the generator.

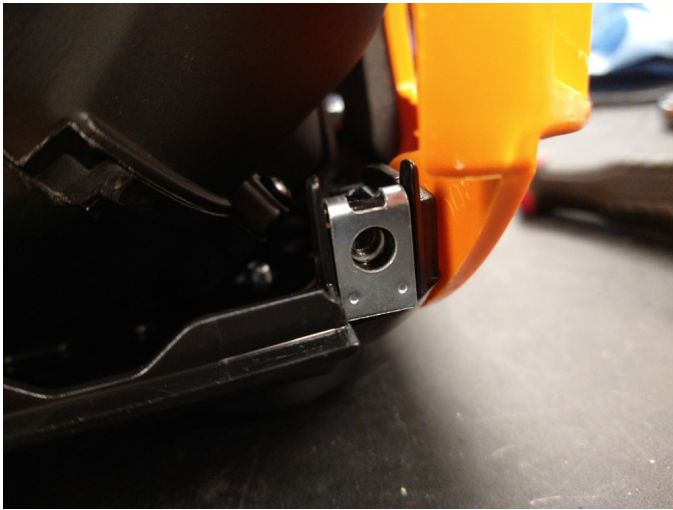


Fig. 19: Threaded insert installed.



Fig. 20: Threaded insert orientation.

- It's a good idea to wait to finalize tightening all the housing screws and bolts until after all panels are reinstalled. Install all the fasteners halfway so that everything is aligned, then tighten everything up.
- Route the carburetor overflow hose and pressure equalization hose through the hole in the bottom of the housing, over the bolt, as shown in Fig. 21 below.



Fig. 21: Hoses properly routed.

- Don't forget to reconnect the spark plug boot before starting the generator.

QUESTIONS? PROBLEMS?

Contact WEN Customer Service at 1-800-232-1195, M-F, 8-5 CST, or email techsupport@wenproducts.com