

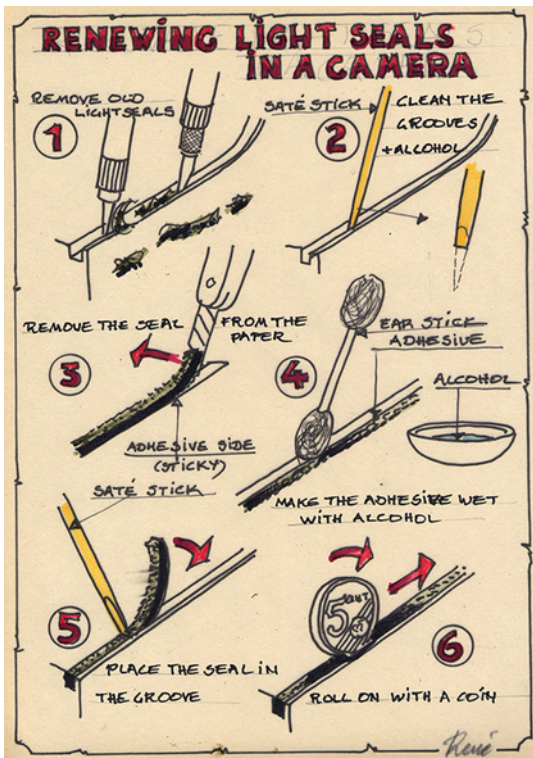


RENEWING LIGHT SEALS IN A CAMERA

René Smets – mai 2020

Countless cameras, among the best ever built, are quarantined, not because of the corona virus but because of the digital virus. Many of them also remain unused because they are no longer light-tight.

There are now custom sealing sets available to refurbish any camera on the market, and it's within the reach of any amateur with minimal skills.



In this description, you will find all the necessary data for the purchase, but also tips on how to place these seals.

Here we go:

Buy the appropriate set for your camera; this set consists of cut-out black foam strips as well as pictures showing where each element should be placed.

The first job is to remove the old seals, which is best done with a thin knife blade and a thick, blunt needle. (see sketch 1)

Next, clean the groove with a wooden skewer stick with the tip removed, wrapped in a cloth soaked in alcohol. (see sketch 2).

Now take the seal for this area, remove the rubber side with a cutter; the easiest way to do this is to put the seal with the adhesive side and the protective paper downwards (see sketch 3).

Now rub the adhesive side with a cotton swab soaked in alcohol: the moisture of the alcohol will help you to position the seal better in the groove. (see sketch 4).

Gently press the seal into the groove with a flattened skewer stick (see sketch 5).

Once the entire strip in place, roll a coin over it without applying too much pressure (see sketch 6).

Once all the seals are in place, reassemble all the parts, close the camera, wait a few minutes and then check whether everything is correct and nothing has moved. If something is wrong, don't panic, the kit contains a duplicate of each part, so you can redo anything you're not satisfied with.

When everything is in order, close the camera and leave it like this for 24 hours, which gives time for the alcohol to evaporate and the glue to stick.

That's how I refurbished a Mamiya RB 67 that had been in the closet for years. It's up to you now. Good luck!

René Smets

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Here, some pictures of the kit in question...

