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INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPLACING A DAMAGED TRIPOD LEG

A damaged tripod leg can easily be replaced, but requires the use of a drill or drill press and a 3/32" drill bit to remove the rivet that fastens the leg to the center mast strut arm. If you are unable to perform this type of repair, stop here and contact H&G Enterprises at 541-479-5880.

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STEP 1 - Install a 3/32" drill bit into the chuck of either a hand drill or drill press (preferred). Locate the rivet that fastens the damaged leg to the center mast strut arm and turn the leg so the peened end (not the head) of the rivet is facing up. Support the leg clamp fixture with a block of wood, allowing the rivet head to overhang the edge of the wood block. Using a moderate speed on the drill, drill out the peened section of the rivet. Generally, the rivet will start to spin on the drill bit and this is good. Continue applying a downward pressure on the drill while the rivet spins and push it entirely out the other side. **Stop the drill and remove the rivet before removing the drill bit from the hole.** If the rivet does not spin and come out in this manner, stop drilling after the peened section of the rivet has been removed. Support the back of the leg, around the head of the rivet using a small socket or similar tool that has a recess to drive the rivet into. Using a small punch or similar tool, lightly tap the rivet out of the hole.

STEP 2 – Now the damaged leg is free to be removed from the upper tripod hinge connection. Examine the replacement leg at the connection end. You will notice an oval shaped shaft that crosses between the two side ends. This shaft will snap into a mating yoke assembly in the hinge base section. To remove the damaged leg, firmly grasp the leg about mid-point, while holding the PVC mast with the other hand. Keeping the leg near the center shaft, pull **hard, STRAIGHT DOWN**. This will separate the leg from the yoke. **Do not attempt to bend the leg outward, just pull straight down.**

STEP 3 – To install the replacement leg, position the tripod so the top of the mast is on the floor with a carpet or soft cloth to cushion it from damage. Position the replacement leg so the oval shaft meets the yoke opening and the leg is near the center of the shaft. Using the palm of your hand, apply enough force to the footpad of the leg to pop it into position.

STEP 4 – Remove the two, 6-32X1/2" machine screws from the leg connection fixture. Assemble the center mast strut arm to the leg connection and replace the two machine screws. Tighten each screw all the way in, then back out 1/4 turn. The repair is now complete.