



Illustrated Installation Guide and Instructions TAK-Latch Upgrade

STEP 1

Start your installation by first removing your original factory latch. AK's have a latch rivet that is peened out on both sides of the latch housing. Pick the side of the rivet that appears to have a smaller head and is less peened out and drive out the old rivet from that side.



STEP 2

Place a backer block with a ~1/4" hole centered on the larger head of the rivet. Use a scrap of 2x4 to support the other end of the weapon to prevent it from rolling around on you.



STEP 3

Use a store bought 3/16" pin punch with a tapered tip (don't use a flat tip punch as that will flare the rivet further). Place the tip inside the dimple of the rivet and drive it out with a hammer. 3/16 is just a bit smaller diameter than the 5mm factory rivet allowing it to be driven out easily. Check the opposite side of the rivet and make sure it's started and lined up with your backer block after the first few hammer blows.



STEP 4

Continue hammering and drive the rivet all the way thru housing. Your punch is now acting like a captive hinge pin, keeping the spring and latch together in place. Save the factory rivet if you ever want to restore the factory latch.



STEP 5

Support the latch assembly by placing your finger over the factory latch and spring. Carefully pull out the punch, then remove the latch and the spring. Save the spring for installation with your new Innovative Ordnance TAK Latch. Keep the original factory latch with your old factory rivet.



STEP 6

All AK mag latches are made slightly longer than necessary and each is individually hand fitted to the weapon. You'll need to perform a dry run fit of all your magazines and ensure they all latch in reliably. The tip of the latch may need to be ground or filed to size until it operates smoothly with all of your mags.



STEP 7

First, dry run the latch without the spring installed. Fasten the TAK-Latch into the latch housing using the hinge screw and nut supplied in your kit. Use a screwdriver to assist in making the final few turns into place. Make sure both sides of the hinge hardware are just touching the latch housing and that the latch moves freely. As you engage your magazine for testing, simulate the action of the spring by pressing the latch back with your finger.



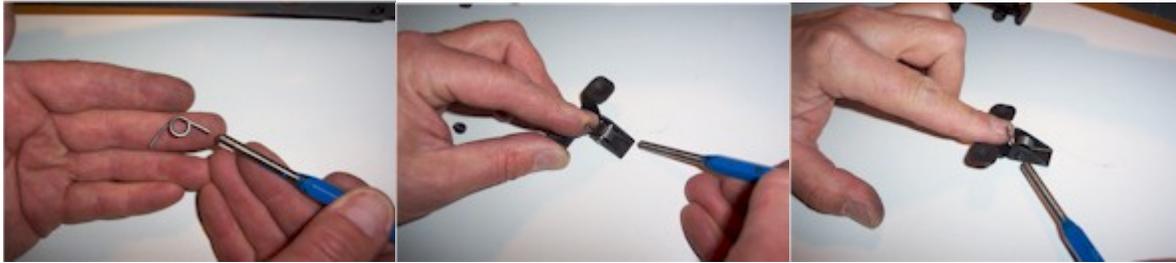
STEP 8

If your latch needs adjustment, remove the hinge screw and nut and put them aside. The best tool for the job is a benchtop belt sander, however you must be extremely cautious to not grind away too much metal. If there's just a little bit of material to remove, a file will take care of the job. After adjusting the latch, fasten it back into the latch housing just like you did before. Perform a final dry run with all your magazines, ensuring they all lock into place with a smooth fit.



STEP 9

Now that the latch is ready, assemble it together with the spring. Notice on the spring there's a short arm and a long arm. Be sure the short arm points toward the tip of the latch where it engages the magazine lug. Use the assembly guide pin provided in your kit to keep everything together. The guide pin acts as a 3rd hand and helps you install everything in place (Note that your guide pin has a dimpled end and a tapered end).



STEP 10

With the spring and guide pin in place, rest the long arm of the spring against the mag latch housing. Place the assembly into the housing, then press it into position until the guide pin is basically lined up with the hole in the latch housing. Push the hinge screw into place, making sure to push on the dimpled end as you drive out the guide pin. A little "wiggling" of the screw and the latch will help to move things into place easier. Start the nut on the exposed end of the screw and tighten them up until their heads just touch the latch housing.



STEP 11

Before applying your thread locker, dry run the latch one last time. Fasten the latch into place as before, this time ensuring the latch moves freely under spring tension and does not bind. Each magazine should lock into place with a positive click of the latch, and unlatch without anything dragging. When applying the threadlocker, remove just the hinge nut off of the latch housing. Apply a small amount on the tip of a punch or toothpick, then paint it onto the inner threads of the nut avoiding the bearing surfaces. In addition, place a small amount of threadlocker onto the threads of the hinge screw as well. Reattach the nut and remove any excess threadlocker with a Q-Tip or rag. Once that's cleaned up, ensure the latch is still moving freely in case there's any final adjustments required to the hinge hardware. Once the threadlocker has cured, apply a few drops of gun oil on the moving parts.

