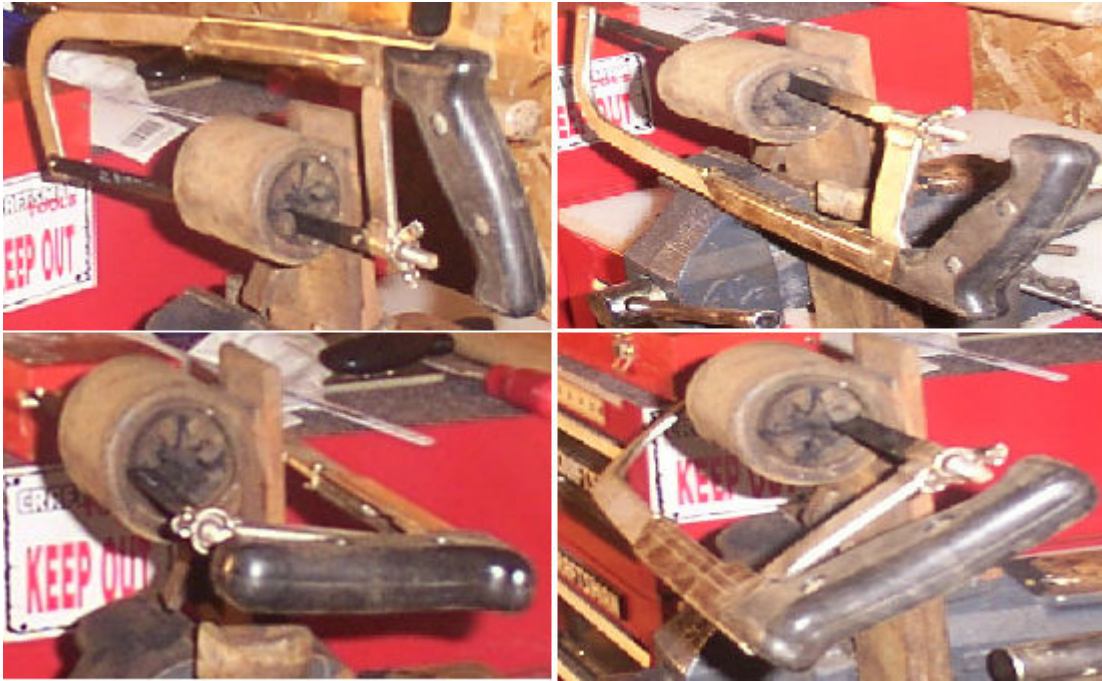


Now cut four cuts at 90° angles to one another with the hacksaw.



Use a small punch, chisel, or screw driver to pry the rubber bushing out.



Step 3 – Removing Outer Bushing:

To remove the outer bushing position the spring in the vise so a cut can be made along the spring eye seam (noted in the following picture by the yellow text).



Now thread your hacksaw through the hole, and cut along the spring eye seem until you have cut through the outer bushing.



After cutting through the outer bushing, use a chisel, punch, or old screw driver to pry the bushing away from the spring eye. You may have to use a hammer.



After you have pried one side of your cut away from the spring eye, the bushing can be hammered out.



Step 4 – Cleaning the spring eye:

The opening of the spring eye can accumulate caked on rust from years of use.



It is a good idea to clean this up prior to installing new bushings. To clean, use a chisel or punch with a hammer to chip off the heavy areas, and a file to clean off the other areas. Finish it off with emery cloth sprayed with your favorite penetrating oil.



Now you're ready to install your new bushings!

Conclusions:

This is not a fun job. Being from salty snowy Minnesota, the fight usually starts with removing the springs from the vehicle. Typically this is accomplished with a grinder or a torch and sets the mood for the remainder of the project. While the project is generally a pain, it is not complicated. The only tools needed are a jack, a set of jack stands, a bench vise, a grinder, and some general hand tools. Two people can have this job completed in a weekend, possibly less depending on how difficult it is to remove the springs.

Suggestions:

I suggest having new hardware on hand to reattach your front end. This will include new bolts and nuts for attaching the springs, new bolts and nuts for attaching the shackles (if you remove the shackles), new u-bolts for attaching the axle, and any other hardware that was difficult to remove during disassembly. Once everything is reassembled it is a good idea to get your front end realigned.