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TOZ-35M Firing Pin Spring Replacement

Posted on **January 19, 2013**

The Russian TOZ-35M free pistol that I've had for a couple of years has been occasionally misfiring. There's a click but no bang.

While this is easy to deal with in a competition — you have two hours for 60 shots plus your sighters, usually 10 or 20 — but it's distracting. It breaks my concentration.

So I'd like to fix it.

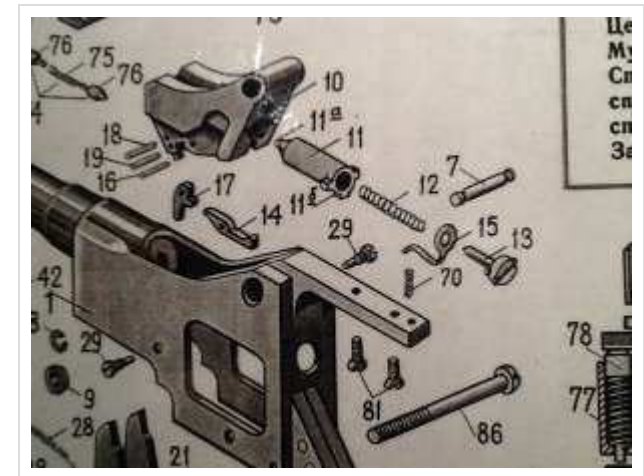
The Web says either the gun is dirty or the firing pin spring needs to be replaced. So I first cleaned the whole gun as thoroughly as I could without doing more than removing the grips and squirting cleaner and then compressed air in every nook and cranny, but it continued to fail.

When a fellow free pistol shooter at a recent match said he had extra springs for sale, I bought two and, as I went to store them in the box for later installation, I discovered the small bottle I had thought was for oil was actually for spare parts, and there was already a replacement spring in there.

So then I had three spares. That should suffice for several years.

Replacing the part is straight-forward if you rehearse the steps and plan ahead for what surprises there might be.

In the picture (click it for a bigger image), the part in question is the curly spring, #12.



It is inside the #10 block to its left, which is then held in the frame by pin #7.

Here are the steps.

1. As always, check the firearm to make sure it is unloaded. And then check again.
2. Remove the grips.
3. Examine block #10 from the side and note how the breech open/close lever fits into it. During re-assembly, you'll need to line that up correctly. (It would be hard to do it wrong.)
4. Once that's noted, drive out pin #7. On mine, it moved quite easily in the direction I guessed (from right to left). There is no tension on the parts and, after the pin is out, block #10 can be extracted — it literally falls out if you turn the frame upside down.
5. In the next step, you'll need to put a moderate amount of pressure on screw #13 with a screwdriver. I have padded jaws in my shop vice and so I placed block #10 therein with that screw facing up for this step but read the next step before proceeding.
6. Screw (#13) rotates only a fraction of a turn to release. The head has three small flanges that hold it inside the block (#10) and, once released, you'll feel the pressure of the firing pin spring. (You are wearing your safety glasses, yes?) The pressure is not extreme but, if you aren't expecting it, parts could go flying so be ready.
7. Now, rotate the screw slightly left and, when you feel the pressure of the spring pushing up, gently release that pressure.
8. You can then remove the screw (#13), the small flat spring (#15) and firing pin spring (#12) as a unit.
9. At this point, I also fished out the firing pin (#11) and cleaned it before beginning re-assembly.
10. Re-insert the firing pin if, as I did, you removed it.
11. Remove the old firing pin spring and compare it to the new one. The new spring should be longer — mine was nearly 1/4" longer.
12. Place the new spring (#12) on the shaft of the screw (#13) with the small flat spring (#15) still in place.
13. Guide that assembly (#13, #15 and #12) into the hole in the firing pin (#11).
14. Make sure the tail on the leaf/flat spring (#15) lines up with its slot.
15. As during dis-assembly, you will again feel pressure as you push the firing pin screw (#13) down — as you do, pay attention to the alignment of the tiny flanges on the screw's head and their receiving slots in the block (#10) and, when fully inserted, turn the screw slightly clockwise while visually checking that all three flanges are rotated securely into place.
16. Reassembly of the block into the frame is straight-forward — just remember to line up the breech open/close lever as you (hopefully) noted earlier — and finally re-insert the pin (#7) to hold it in place.
17. Do a final check of operation to be sure everything is working.

On mine, the click of the firing pin is now significantly louder. It should go "Bang!" much more reliably now.

See you at the 50 Meter line!

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3 THOUGHTS ON "TOZ-35M FIRING PIN SPRING REPLACEMENT"

**Allen Connell**on **January 19, 2015 at 5:08 AM** said:

Yes, The Firing Pin Return Spring should be replaced every 5000 rounds to keep your 1911 in proper working order. You gave very fine procedure. Thanks for sharing.



Nicholas

on **April 18, 2015 at 10:16 AM** said:

@Allen Connell: Well, for 1911 pistol 5000 rounds are the mark, we are discussing TOZ 35 and if you use only Standard Velocity 22 LR Ammo, then 10000 rounds is safe limit for the Firing pin spring.
Nick



Nicholas

on **April 18, 2015 at 10:10 AM** said:

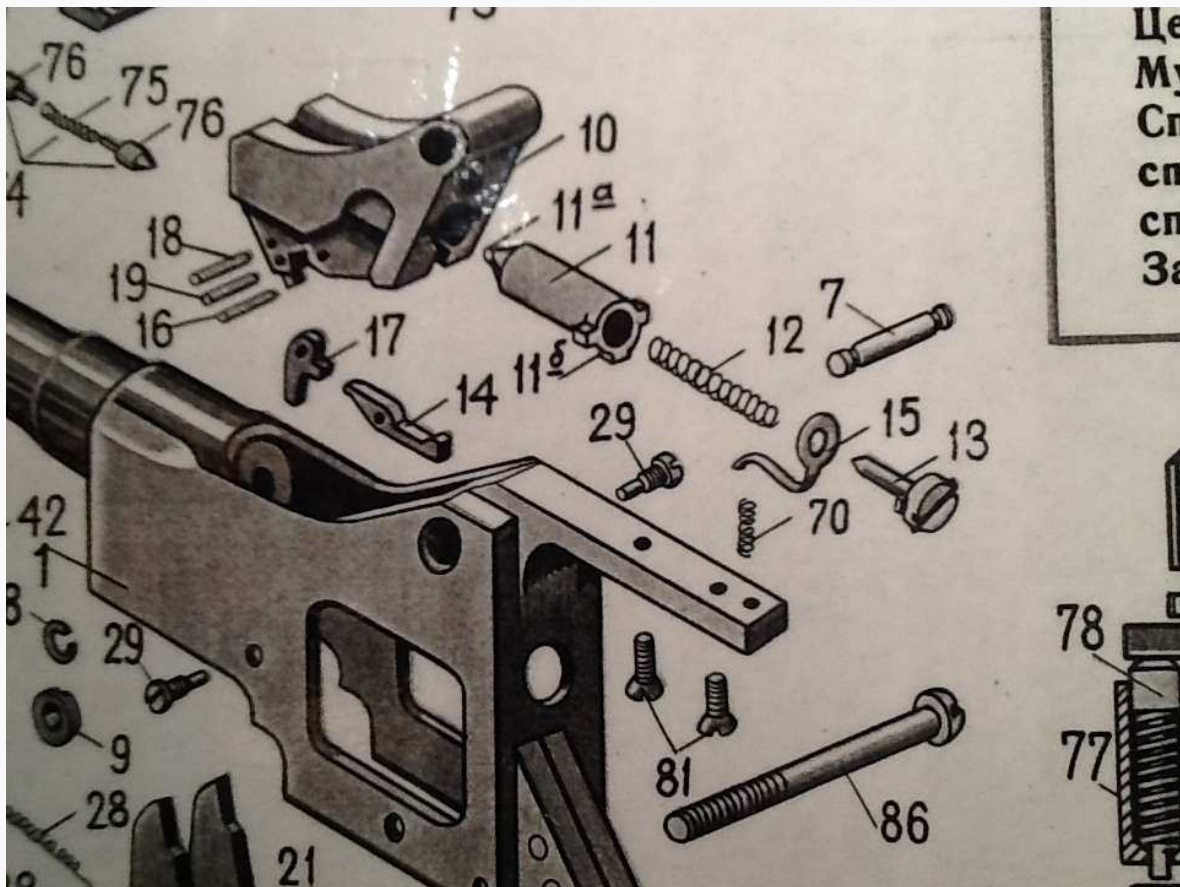
This is the best instruction I have ever read about this wonderful pistol...and not only about it!
Great job!!! Congratulations and tanks a lot for posting it!
Nick

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