

# How to Replace the Flint and Wick

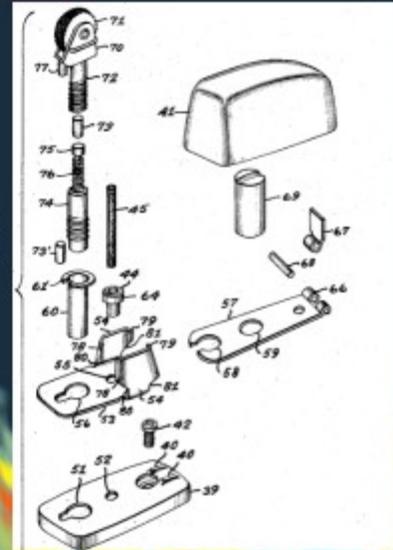
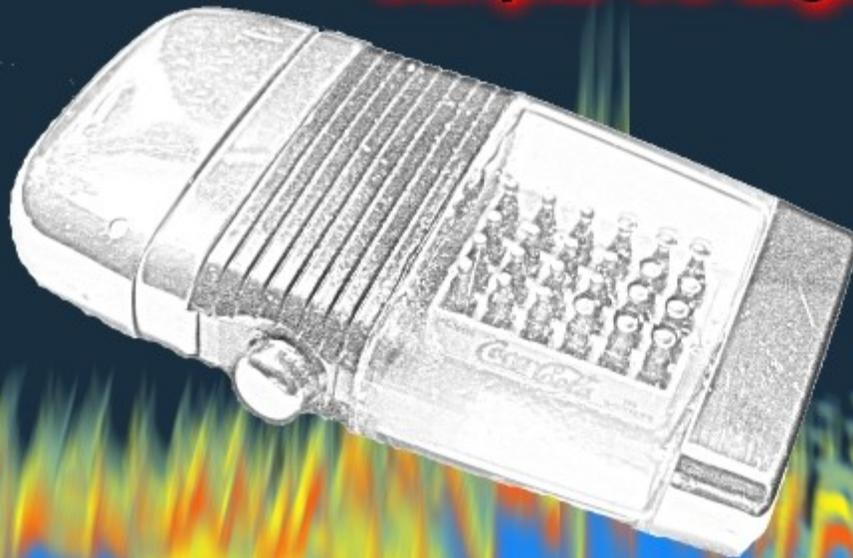
Version 1.01

in a

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by Andy Rowe

## Scripto Vu-Lighter



Long Live the Scripto Vu-Lighter!



10 Fact Filled Pages !



# How to Change the Flint and Wick in a Scripto Vu-Lighter

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Version 1.01

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## Foreword

Having repaired and customized these lighters for over a year now and written a 50 page detailed eBook on repairing Scripto Vu-Lighters, folks often have emailed or posted in forums asking me how to change the wick and/or flint. This inspired me to do this simple inexpensive eBook for those who don't need the whole repair manual but need a quick answer and want it on the spur of the moment.

**Be forewarned that damages can still happen and your lighter and it will no longer be in the factory assembled condition. To some collectors this affects the value of the lighter.**

To fill in the gap here on page 1, endure my

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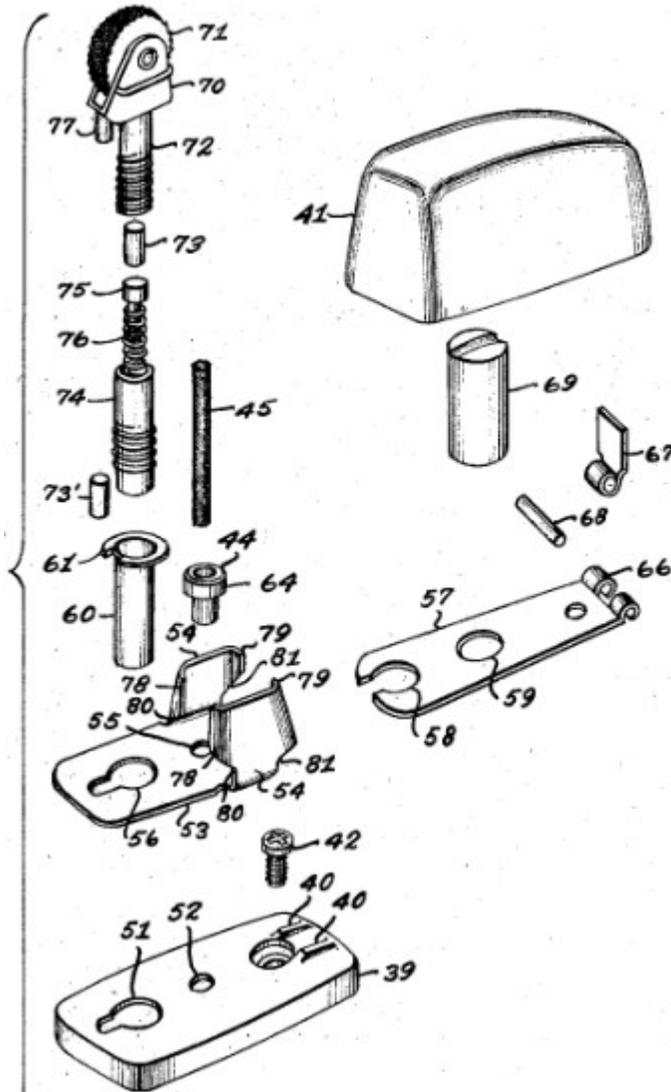
**“How to Repair Scripto Vu-Lighters” ©2011 by Andrew G. Rowe  
50 page eBook**

**“How to Date Scripto Vu-Lighters” ©2011 by Andrew G. Rowe  
25 page eBook**

**Scripto Vu-Lighter Repairs and Parts Available**

# Chapter 1: Flint Replacement

Here's an overall schematic of the areas we will be working with.

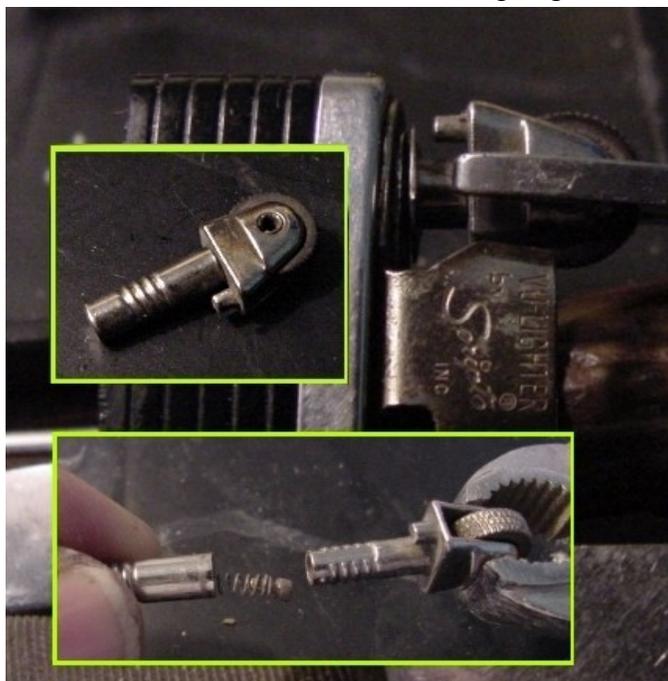


In order to change the wick, part of the procedure in so doing requires the removal of the Flint Wheel Assembly so flint replacement will be addressed first. After that we will tackle the wick replacement procedure.

Did you know a new Scripto Vu-Lighter came with a spare flint? See the two item #73's on the schematic drawing. Slide one in there!



Pull out the striker wheel assembly with small pliers or pry it up gently with a screwdriver. Pouring in some lighter fluid or penetrating oil may be needed to loosen things up. There's an alignment pin at the start so just pull straight up and out. Unscrew the bottom barrel to allow for flint replacement, cleaning or removing blockage from the shaft. Be careful not to bend the spring inside.



At times old flints have clogged the canal and need cleaning or even removing severe blockage. Before replacing a flint, slide a small rod in where the flint goes and see if you can touch the striker wheel, spinning the wheel to see if it is in fact touching the wheel. If not, something like an old flint is lodged inside. If you can't dislodge the old flint or obstruction, you will have to take the wheel off. Do this by tapping the wheel axle out far enough to remove the wheel. Use a small hammer and something like a nail punch. Now you can clear the path open from the top or use a small drill and drill bit to clear it

Reinstall the wheel. I like to clean the old residue off of the wheel to get a nice spark again. Feel to see which direction provides the most friction and put it in that way. They do wear some and can hinder getting a good spark and a quick light. Install the wheel axle and squeeze slightly to center it again. Drop the new flint in and screw the bottom barrel back on. Re-insert the flint wheel assembly if that's all you need at this time.



## Chapter 2: Wick Replacement

First, lets try the easy approach. Simply pull the old wick out. If you still have the brass wick sleeve put in a new wick and push it back in. The very early ones did not come with this or it may have been lost by a previous owner. Without the sleeve, you can still try to push in the copper wire type wicks with some luck maybe.



The following procedure has some hurdles along the way and is a good bit more involved if you want to get that old Scripto working again.

### **Step 1: Striker Wheel Assembly Removal**

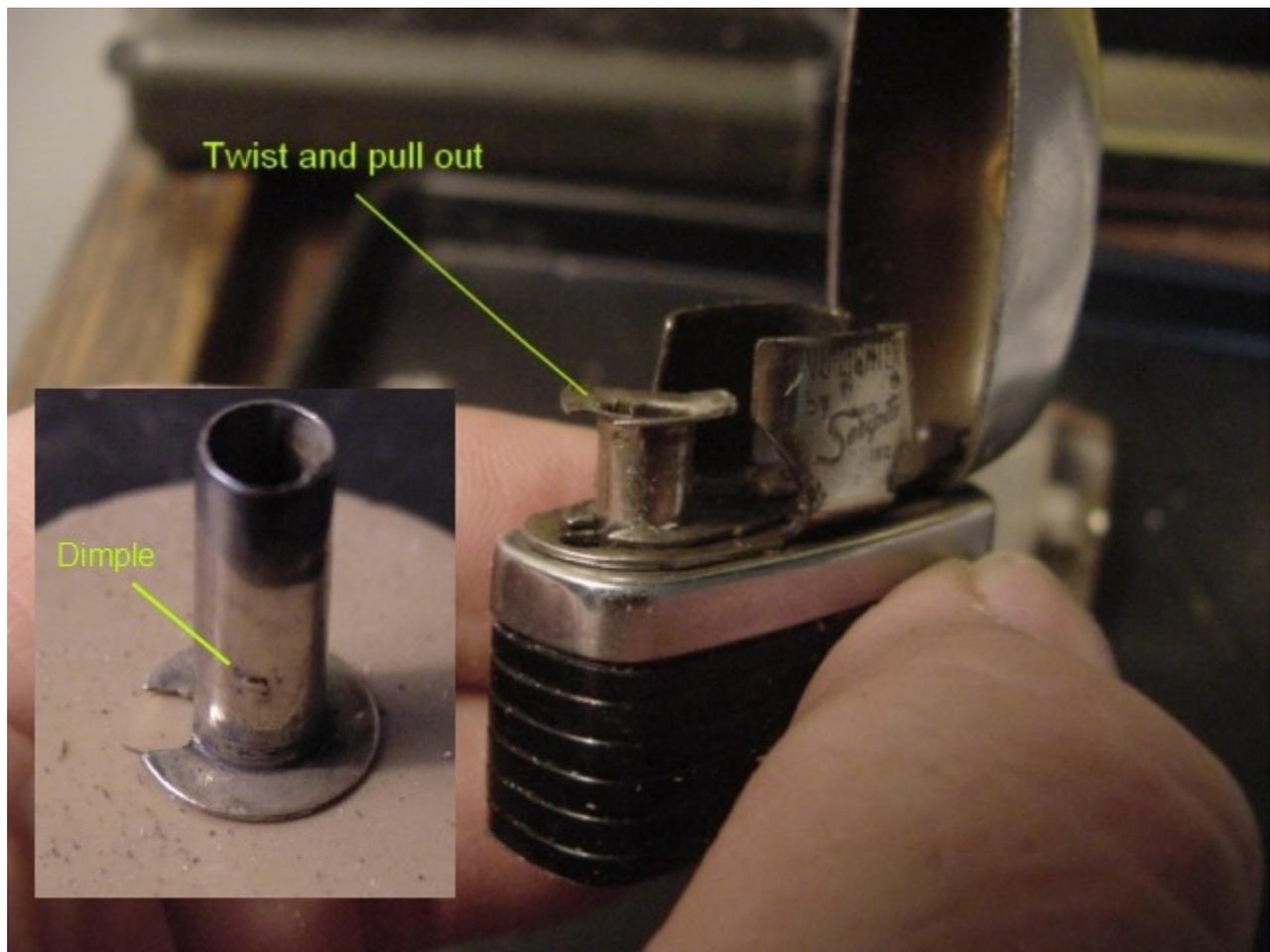
Remove the striker wheel assembly group as described in Chapter 1.

### **Step 2: Striker Wheel Assembly Holder Removal**

**Warning:** *This removal is one of the harder items to get out at times. Sometimes its just plain impossible to get them out without damage beyond repair. My repair manual has a fix for this.*

To remove the striker wheel assembly holder, pouring in some lighter fluid or penetrating oil may be needed to loosen things up. **Do NOT try to pull it all the way out at once!** There is a dimple along the shaft that was designed to keep it in place somewhat. You can pry it up gingerly with a small flat screwdriver along the outer ridge diameter up to about 1/8 inch. They bend easy. If it does bend a little don't worry too much they are straightened back out pretty easy.

Now try to grab it with pliers at the slot and twist a little to loosen it. Use more penetrating oil maybe. Pull straight out for about 1/4 inch and *then rotate it counter clockwise 1/4 turn* to allow the small barrel dimple to come out freely through the slot. Sometimes the dimple catches on other things so maybe rotate the holder around 360 degrees while pulling up gingerly until it pops out.



### Step 3: Flip Top Cap Assembly Removal

Twist the whole top assembly 90 degrees to expose the small phillips head screw. Press hard so you don't strip or damage the head and remove the screw. The whole Flip Top Cap Assembly will now come off.





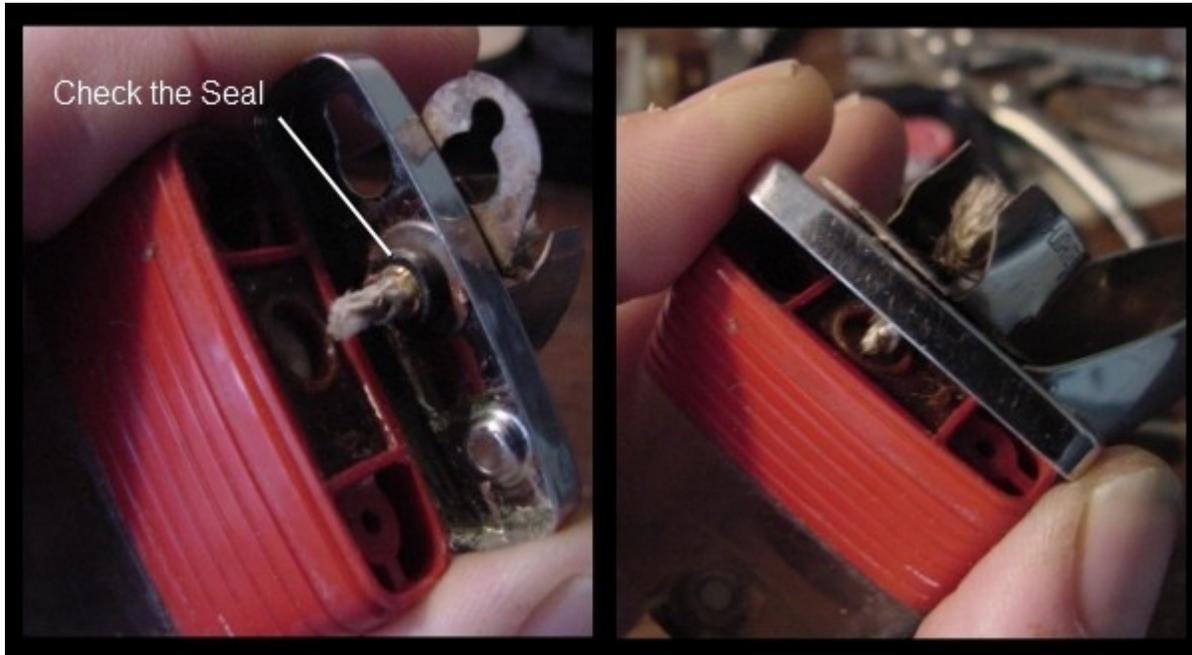
#### Step 4: New Wick Installation



Remove any previous wick leftovers of course. Originally a brass sleeve surrounded the wick allowed for easier insertion of the wick into the foam of the wick reservoir as stated at the beginning of this chapter. Use it again if you want or have it. You can use a regular lighter wick for any generic fluid lighter. I like the ones with the brass wire in them. Push it down through the hole from the top by either twisting the copper wire integrated type wicks or using a small push rod to thread it through. Allow enough wick underneath to sit down into the wick well after you screw the top section back on. It doesn't take much. Many wicks are way too long for the Scripto design, so you can probably get two or 3 even from a single replacement wick. A 1/2 inch piece is enough.

### Step 5: Flip Top Cap Assembly Installation

**Warning:** The plastic ring that fits into the wick well may be deteriorated and need replacing.

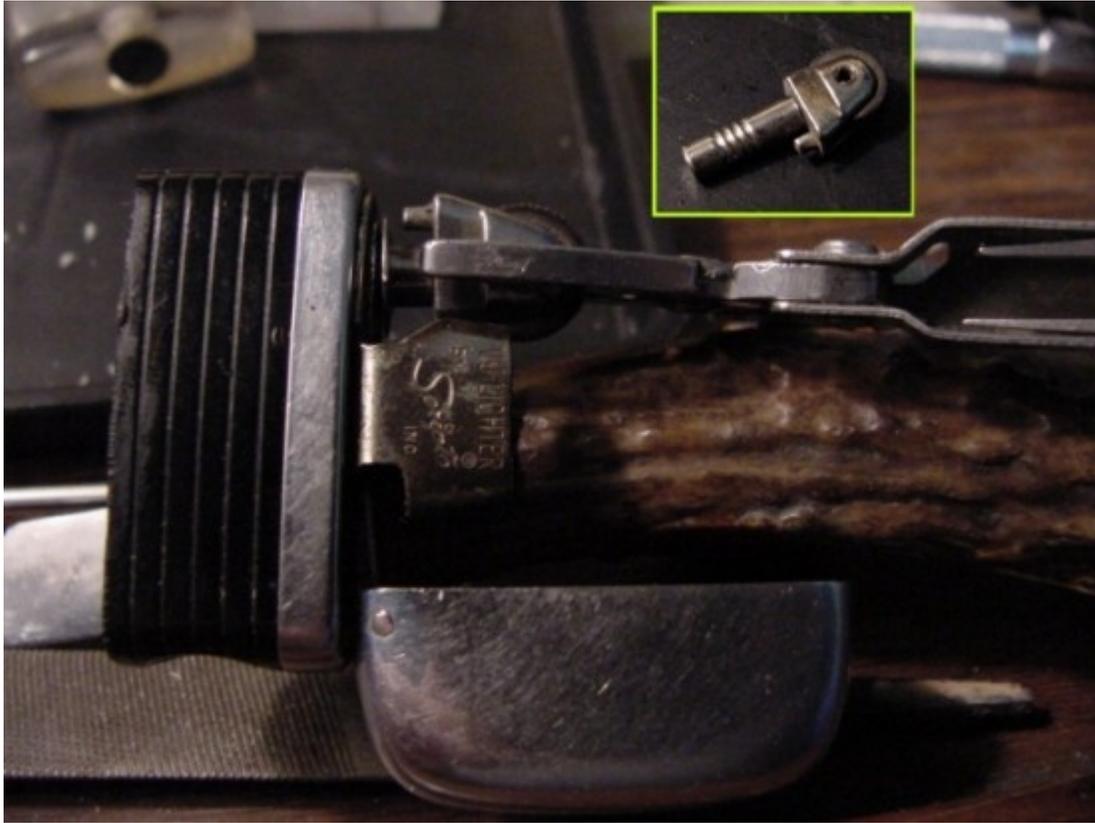


To put the top section back on, first make sure your seal that fits into the wick well cover is good. Turn the Flip Top Cap Assembly sections at 90 degrees of each other as we did to dismantle. Fit it into place allowing the wick to fit into the wick well. To properly do this, it goes on with the wick off to one side lining up with the wick well hole, making sure the screw hole is on the correct side. Make sure the wick is not hindering the seal between the wick canal and the plastic ring or it will leak profusely. Reinstall the small screw. I have some fixes for problems here in my Repair eBook.

Then twist the upper section to its proper fit. Now put the Flint Wheel Assembly Holder back in with open slot toward the end of the lighter. Don't forget about the dimple which is offset from the slot a bit. Once installed, you may need to flatten out the holder again with something like the head of a nail set to get it flush.



Reinstall your striker wheel assembly, douse the new wick with some fresh fluid and flick away!



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Scripto Vu-Lighter Repair Parts Available

In closing I'd like to include a section of the [“How to Date a Scripto Vu-Lighter”](#) eBook which I find captures the essence of how I feel about our little Scripto relic.

The Scripto Vu-Lighter holds firm as one of the most interesting portable fire-makers that any caveman would have given his rights of first-born to own. Upon seeing the spark he would have gasped for his breath as he dropped it in fear. Upon gaining the courage to flick at it again with a stick maybe, then getting an understanding of what he possessed he would have bowed before the heavens every time he used it. He had to bend down to start the fire anyway right? Hehe. Yeppers, had the caveman been given one of these by some alien angel, mankind would have been jump started so far into the future that we would now be rocketing into the forth dimension on a regular basis(carrying a Scripto Vu-Lighter of course Hahaha).

Andy Rowe

# **Thank You!**

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## **Special Thanks**

to  
James Abaied  
for his support, friendship and help in the research

**Long Live the Scripto Vu-Lighter!**