RELEASING THE WICK- OLDER HEATERS

Some older heaters have no owner's manuals avavilable and just getting the old wick removed can be a frustrating experience. In almost all older heaters the wick control shaft - the wick winding shaft - must be pulled out of engagement with the wick sleeve so the wick sleeve can be pulled up and out of the heater so the wick can be removed and replaced.

The methods of securing the wick control shaft in a convection heater can take several forms, from a gland nut to a "circlip" or snap ring to a lever attached to the shaft which swings down into a retainer.

LEVER ON WICK SHAFT:

Wick Replacement, Citation SCJ2012 and some Sanyo Convection heaters

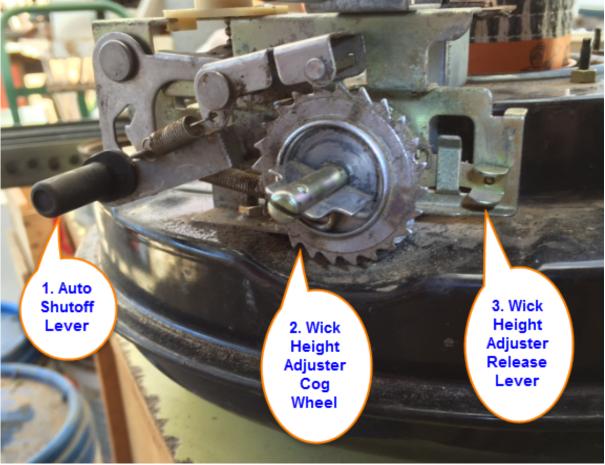


Photo by John Harvey

1. First, put the shutoff lever in the "off" position. This will raise the pin that rides on the wick adjuster cog wheel. This must be raised in order to move the cog wheel outboard.

2. Next, raise the adjuster release lever. This will allow the entire wick adjustment shaft to move outboard, pulling the gear away from the cam on the wick holder that raises and lowers the wick.

3. Now the wick holder can be removed from the casing by pulling it straight up.

Reinstalling the wick holder with the new wick is just the reverse. However, the wick adjustment shaft must be pushed in to engage the toothed ramp and then held in place until the lever is lowered into position. It appears to be spring loaded.

Kindly provided by John Harvey



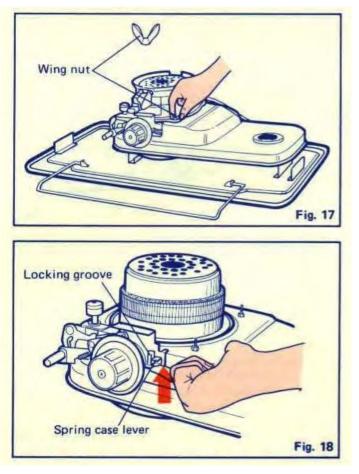
Photo by John Harvey

SPRING CASE LEVER:

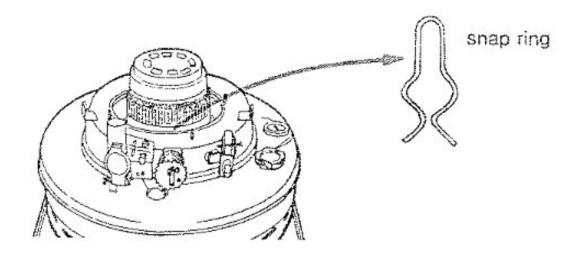
The illustration at right is from the owner's manual for a Crestline 3800 heater.

The wing nuts holding down the burner unit must be removed, then the "Spring Case Lever" is released as on the Citation SCJ2012 heater above.

The wick is then installed as above.



SNAP RING:



The drawing above shows a snap ring holding the wick in place - the snap ring fits into a groove in the wick control shaft. Use needle nose pliers to remove the snap ring and then the shaft will pull out of engagement from the wick sleeve.



Some manufacturers used a "Circlip" instead of a snap ring and they can be a bit more difficult to remove. An ice pick can often pop up the circlip so it can be removed. It is reinstalled by simply pushing it down over the groove in the shaft.

REINSTALLING THE BURNER UNIT:

When reinstalling the burner be very careful when tightening the wing nuts. The first wing nut must not be tightened too tightly! That would pull the burner down and compress the rubber gasket under that wing nut and make it impossible to have an even wick gap all around the wick.

Tighten the wing nuts carefully, going to opposite corners, until the wing nuts are about the same tension on the gasket and the wick gap is uniform all around, as this illustration from the owner's manual for a "Future, The Duke" clearly shows.

