

# My Smart Key Reset Tool Instructions

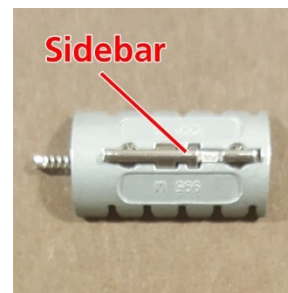
My Smart Key Reset Tool is designed to be an alternative to the Kwikset SmartKey cradles for resetting SmartKey locks so that they can be rekeyed. There are many times when the Kwikset cradles will not properly reset SmartKey cylinders and that is where My Smart Key Reset Tool comes in handy. This tool will reset **all** versions of SmartKey lock cylinders however, care should be used to prevent tool damage (see notes below).

## SmartKey Locks

SmartKey Locks were introduced in 2009 by Kwikset in an attempt to thwart lock bumping, picking and encourage user combination changes. A SmartKey lock is easily recognized by a small rectangular reset hole to the left of the keyway (see picture below). The locks feature proprietary technology that increased the complexity of the lock and decreased its reliability. SmartKey locks were advertised as being bump proof and pick resistant due to their sidebar configuration (see image below). Sidebar locks are difficult to pick because the wafers within the lock must be aligned so that the sidebar drops when the correct key is used. This prevents binding and makes picking difficult.



SmartKey Lock



Sidebar Design

To allow user combination changes, SmartKey locks incorporated a sliding reset sleeve that, when the lock is rotated to the correct position at 3 o'clock, wafers can be moved to new positions. However, a working key is required to align the lock to the reset or 3 o'clock position.

When SmartKey locks were first introduced, they were easy to defeat by forcing them to turn with a screwdriver or other tool. However, Kwikset has redesigned the sidebars and their channels so that they are square and are now impossible to force without breaking the lock face. These new designs are called Generation 4 locks (or 3 depending upon who you ask and when the lock was made).

## My Smart Key Reset Tool

To reset a SmartKey lock the plug must be positioned at the 3 o'clock position. If a working key is not available, the reset sleeve will not be positioned properly to allow it to slide back and reset the lock bitting.

If a working key is not present, the lock must be removed from its housing and reset manually. There are several options for this, but the easiest and quickest way is to use My Smart Key Reset Tool to position all the wafers simultaneously to the number 6 depth position. This will allow the plug to turn in the cylinder to the 3 o'clock position and then a reset tool can be used to push the reset sleeve to the proper position for wafer resetting.

## Reset Procedure Using My Smart Key Reset Tool

The following explains how to use My Smart Key Reset Tool. However, before attempting to reset any SmartKey lock, the cylinder must be properly prepared. I have had great success with CRC Electronic Cleaner and CRC Heavy Duty Silicone to clean and lightly lubricate SmartKey locks. Failure to properly prepare a lock could cause the reset procedure to fail and even damage the reset tool.

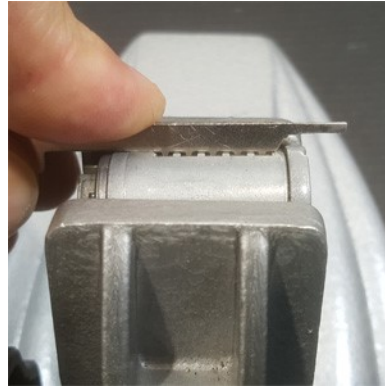


1. Remove the SmartKey lock cylinder from its housing.

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2. After properly preparing the SmartKey lock cylinder, I recommend that you place it in some form of holder such as a vice or other clamp to allow for easier resetting. Please note that if you tighten the vice too much, you will crush the cylinder and prevent it from turning. Orient the lock so that the **bottom** of the cylinder is facing **up**.
3. Gently rotate the lock plug to make certain that all the wafers are free and protruding from the holes in the **bottom** of the lock cylinder. A key tip inserted into the very front of the keyway will make this a bit easier.
4. Insert My Smart Key Reset Tool with the tool tip toward the face of the cylinder. Align the wafer fingers with each of the five wafer holes on the **bottom** of the cylinder. Make certain that the wafer fingers touch each of the wafer bottoms and are aligned in the center of the wafer holes.
5. Push the tool all the way down so that the channels in between the finders touch the edge of the lock plug.

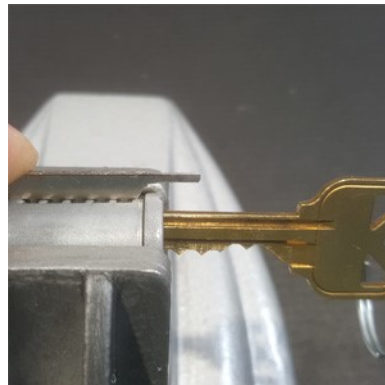
**Note:** You should not have to force the wafers into position. If they are not moving smoothly, try cleaning the lock again. If that does not work, the cylinder might be damaged and need to be replaced.



*Inserting the Reset Tool*

6. While continuing to apply downward pressure on the tool, place a blank or cut key just inside the front of the keyway and turn it until you feel the tool bind in the wafer holes. This binding signifies that the wafer fingers are positioned properly, and they are all the way into the lock.

**Note:** When inserting the key, do not push it too far into the keyway or it will hit and obstruct the first wafer.

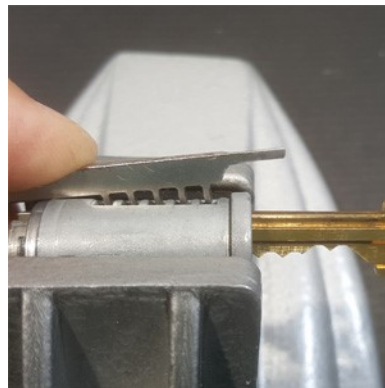


*Turning the Plug*

7. Continue to apply slight turning tension with the key so that the tool **slightly** binds in the wafer holes. Now rock the tool up out of the wafer holes while continuing to apply turning pressure. If the wafers are positioned properly, the plug will turn once the wafer fingers clear the wafer holes. Turn the plug clockwise 90 degrees.

**Notes:**

1. Only apply enough turning pressure to keep the wafers trapped but not enough so that the tool gets trapped in the wafer holes.
2. If the plug does not turn when the tool is removed, repeat the above process.

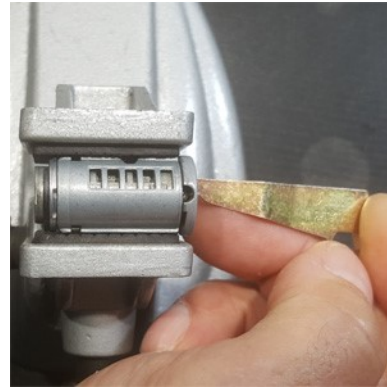


*Remove the My Smart Key Reset Tool*

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- Once the plug is positioned at the 90-degree mark, insert the Kwikset SmartKey tool into the square hole that is now below the keyway. Apply inward pressure until you feel the reset sleeve push backward and a slight click is felt and/or heard.

**Note:** If you can't push the reset sleeve into the proper position the lock could be damaged and need replacement. Do not force the tool to try to get the sleeve to move as it will break the reset tool. Instead, replace the cylinder with a new one.



*Insert the Kwikset SmartKey Tool*

- Insert the key with the new bitting into the keyway being careful to avoid turning the plug.



*Insert the New Key*

- Rotate the key 180 degrees counterclockwise then 90 degrees clockwise until you see the wafers align with the wafer holes. To check that the key is oriented properly, try to remove it. A gentle constant pulling pressure on the key will allow it to be more easily extracted when it is in the correct position. Reinstall the cylinder into the lock and reinstall the lock on the door.

**Note:** Before reinstalling the cylinder in the lock, test the lock by inserting the new key and turning it several times in both directions. Do this a few times to make certain that the lock has kept the new key bitting.



*Rotate the New Key CCW 90 Degrees*

### Tool Reset Tip Notes

There is a reset tip on the end of My Smart Lock Reset Tool. However, it is very thin and delicate. Misuse or repeated use could cause the tip to break. I advise that you only use the tool reset tip as a last resort. Instead, use a Kwikset SmartKey reset tool to avoid breakage of your My Smart Key Reset Tool. After all, it's much cheaper to replace the Kwikset SmartKey tool than My Smart Key Reset Tool. Lastly, the wafer fingers should not be used to force wafers into the plug as breakage of the fingers or tool could result.

Happy Resetting! --- Steve



## My Smart Key Reset Tool Instructions

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You can download a Kwikset SmartKey lock presentation by visiting:

<https://upfrontsolutions.biz/downloads/KwiksetSmartKeyPresentationWebV2.pdf>

You can download these instructions by visiting:

<https://upfrontsolutions.biz/downloads/MySmartKeyResetToolInstructions.pdf>

You can watch a video version of the instructions by visiting:

<https://upfrontsolutions.biz/downloads/MySmartKeyResetToolInstructions.mp4>

You can buy more tools by visiting:

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