

Shaft _____
Size _____

Bob's Tips for using your new Bass Wheel

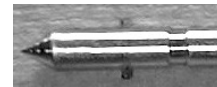


The bass wheel is designed to replace the endpin shaft. The first thing to do is remove the shaft; if you cannot pull it out, see below.



Please note that the wheel shaft has a flat spot. This is designed to be used with the setscrew in the endpin collar, so the wheel stays pointing in one direction... If it rotated you could not control the bass while rolling it! Some prefer to roll the bass face-first, others (me!) from the side. Once you have determined the bass orientation you prefer, tighten the two nuts on the shaft so the flat spot is at the right position for you so it doesn't move.

If your endpin will not come out, the endpin may have a crossbar or other structure that prevents you from losing the pin inside the bass, and sometimes even from removing it from the bass, as shown in the photo of an Engelhardt shaft. If you cannot pull the pin out because of this or another structure, you'll want to shove the pin all the way into the bass and retrieve it through an f-hole. You'll then need to cut whatever is keeping the shaft from being removed. In some cases the other end may be blunt, rather than pointed. If so, you may be able to put the pointed end inside the bass and the blunt end outside, which will help rubber tips last longer!



However, if you are in an environment where the floor can be sacrificed, removing the rubber tip and digging in with the point can be a good thing for your sound, to couple your bass with the floor. They aren't pointy by accident! In some cases, however, such as a hollow stage with a flexible floor, it may make it even more boomy, which may or may not be a good thing.

My Replacement Rubber Tip Suggestion for Kays/Engelhardts with 1/2 inch shafts:

Some places sell replacement tips for a lot of money -- My solution for a more robust tip is a simple and inexpensive (cheap Bob!!) one. The larger the tip, the more rubber, so I went to a local hardware store and bought TWO types of tips, a 1/2" (13mm) Vinyl Furniture Tip (Ace Hardware ACE 5015623 or equivalent) and a 5/8" (16mm) Rubber Straight Tip (Ace Hardware ACE 51239 or equivalent) The tip shown between the Ace tips in the photo is the original Engelhardt rubber tip, which you can see is smaller and softer. First, slip the slim vinyl 1/2" tip on the pin, and then force the 5/8" rubber tip over it, as shown in the photo below. This results in a much more robust tip that lasts much longer. I've seen these same tips at other hardware stores, usually in a four-pack, and they are inexpensive.



For 10mm or less Endpins: This is the Super Endpin Ball, it's a very cool idea — wish I'd thought of it! Dial the small screws to size it to your endpin, and then use the larger knob to tighten it. The sleeve is just large enough for the popular 10mm endpin shaft size, and easily dialed down to the 8mm size, or other sizes smaller than 10mm, approx 3/8". It is available for sale on our web site. *This ball will not fit stock Kay/Engelhardt 1/2" endpins.*



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