

Brett (Maverick) on the forum has created this HOW-TO guide for changing the Universal Joints on a Jimny (and SJ/Vitara as they are similar)

Many thanks to Brett for preparing it.

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Guess what I had to do today?

You will need these tools and about 45 minutes.



The parts for each vehicle (Jimny/SJ/Vitara) can vary depending on the vehicle and prop-shaft fitted. Make sure you have the correct part for your vehicle. For example: Jimnys tend to have ADK83901 as standard. Mine has later Samurai propshafts fitted (Transfer box conversion) so I needed the UJ for this (ADZ93902)



So, I assume you know how to hold a spanner, and that things come apart easier with a little penetrating oil..

Lift one wheel off the floor to remove the prop, it makes life easier.

Make a mark on both the Yokes so you get them correctly aligned when you re-assemble. Also mark the splines on the sliding section of the propshaft in case it comes apart. The propshaft is balanced and re-assembling incorrectly can result in im-balance.



Then remove the circlips in each of the joint caps. Tapping the cap inwards can help with this.





I use a ½" extension socket – fits well on top to drive the races out. A 24mm socket below the joint allows you to drive the end caps out.



Here you can see the 24mm socket below that lets you drive the races out, I find that lubing with light oil (3 in 1) helps them slide out.



Once the end cap is completely proud of the yoke you can pull it the final few mm with mole grips if necessary



If any of the caps do not move then you could well be not driving them straight.

MARTIN LINES COMMENT:--

If they are stuck I was taught another method by an “old lag” from the trade. Lay the propshaft along your arm with the yoke end beyond the end of your hand (i.e. in the air). Tap the base of the yoke with a hammer, note the use of the word TAP and not HIT. It seems that the less effort you use the better. As you tap the yolk the opposite end cap walks itself out of the joint. It really worked for me!





Once you have the end caps off the joint is then loose and can be dismantled and cleaned up.



Refitting:

Remove the races from your new UJ and grease them up.



Place one into your yoke, tap it a little way in, slip the cross piece in and pop in the other race. Tap all the way in until you can fit your first circlip.







Once your first circlip in in, turn the yoke over and tap the opposing race until you can get the second circlip in.



Repeat on the other yoke and you are done (remember to align the marks you made earlier!)

If any of the joints are stiff, give them a wack here, it should free them up!



I hope that helps someone.