

Repacking the FMF-Q2/4

by mxrob

FMF-Q2 DR650SE

Remove the four muffler housing retaining screws with a 4mm allen wrench.

Remove the spark arrester insert from the back of the pipe. This must be removed as it screws into the mid-pipe and perforated steel core assembly.



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After removing the arrester insert and muffler housing retaining screws you must cut the silicone sealant that is applied to the flange surface or you will destroy your pipe trying to take it apart! I'm using a carpet knife here to slide between the housing and flange to cut the silicone.



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Take the time to make sure all of the silicone is cut. The carpet knife did not extend far enough to cut all of the silicone so I took a spare carpet knife blade and ground the knife edges off where I put the black tape handle and finished cutting through the silicone. Mount the pipe back on bike without the rear clamp and tighten down the head pipe clamp and the joint mount bolt. Now you can yank the can off the mid pipe without messing it up in a vise.

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You can see where the packing is blown out and hollow. I was a bit surprised to see this until I got looking a bit further into the Q2's design.



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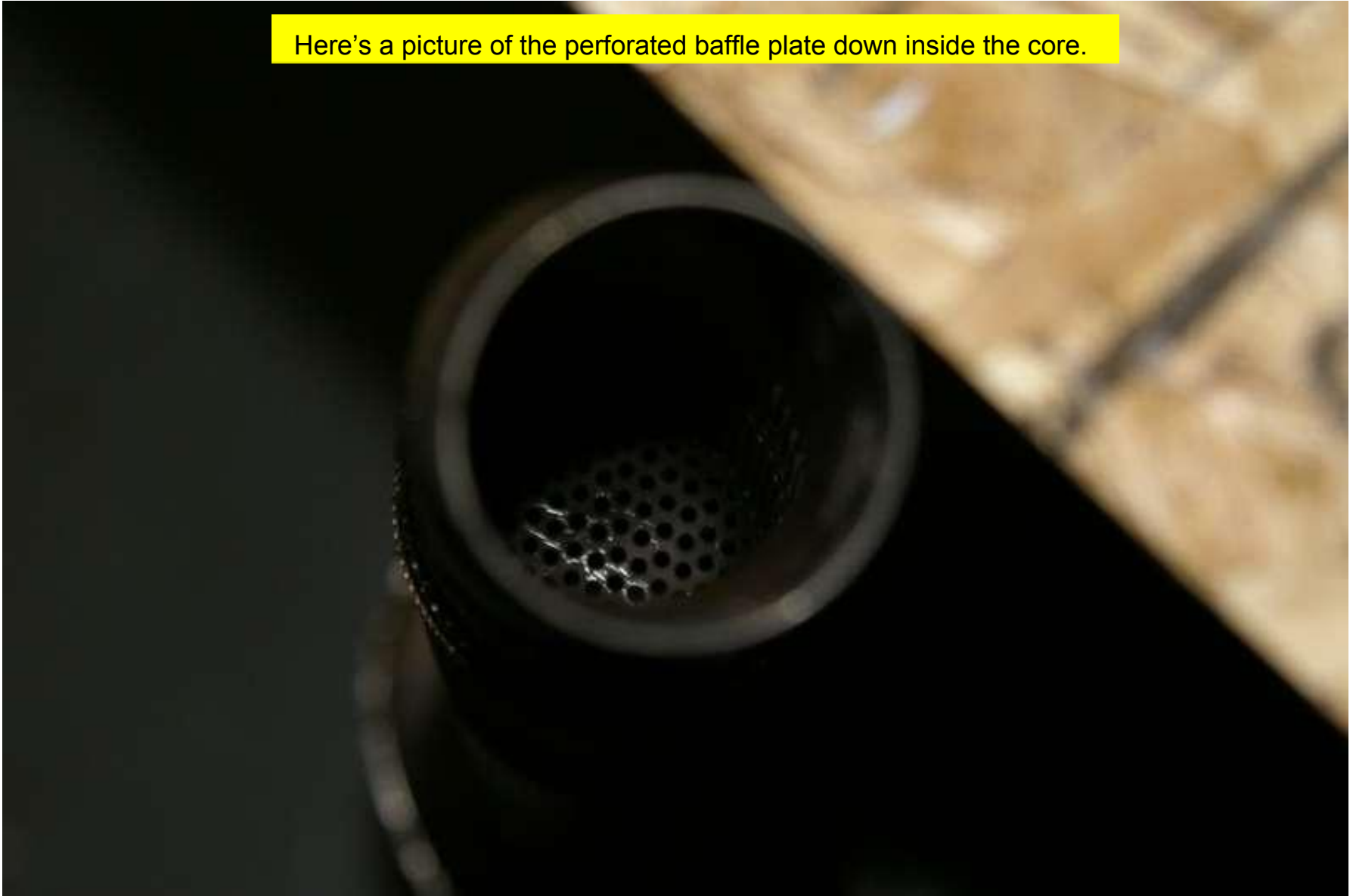


Right about where my finger is pointing there is a perforated block plate inside the core. The holes are bigger than the main core you see here but not by much. The exhaust hitting this plate is deflected to the side which explains the blown out groove in the packing material and also the extra fine screen which would lessen this impact on the packing.

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Here's a picture of the perforated baffle plate down inside the core.



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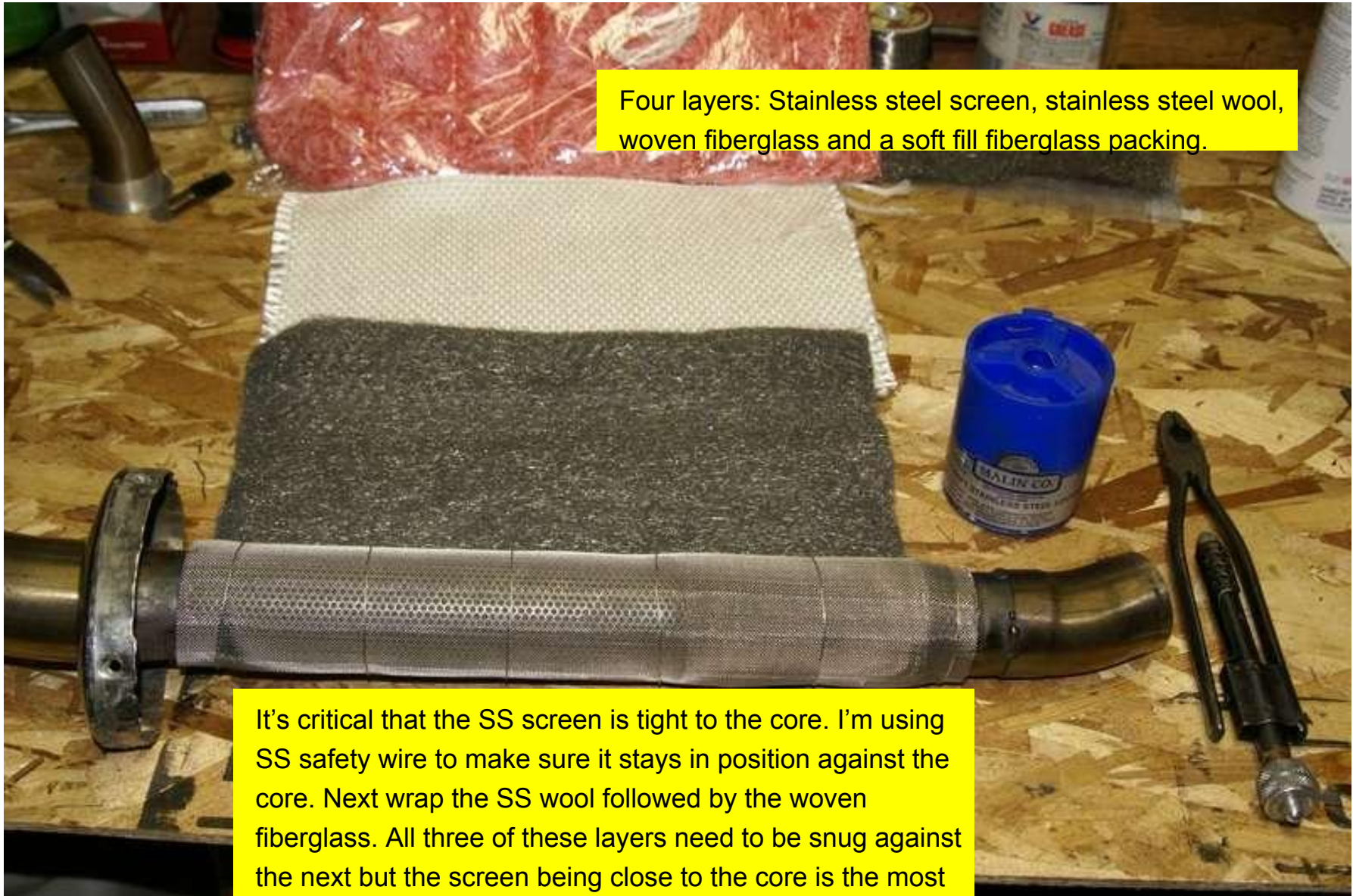
The FMF Premier Multi-Layer Packing kit!



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Four layers: Stainless steel screen, stainless steel wool, woven fiberglass and a soft fill fiberglass packing.



It's critical that the SS screen is tight to the core. I'm using SS safety wire to make sure it stays in position against the core. Next wrap the SS wool followed by the woven fiberglass. All three of these layers need to be snug against the next but the screen being close to the core is the most critical part.

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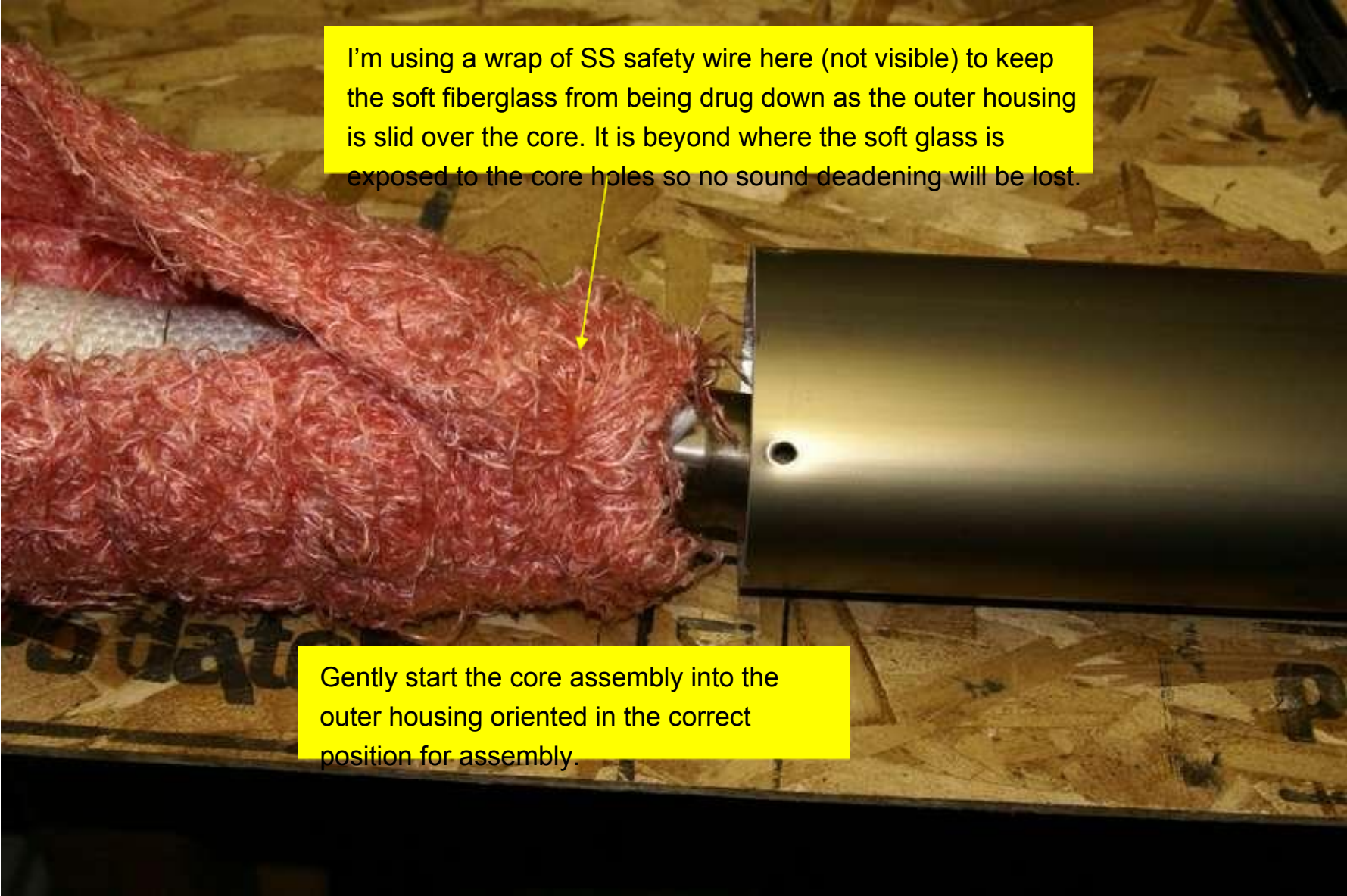
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Again I'm using SS safety wire to hold the SS wool and woven fiberglass layers snug to the SS screen. Next is the soft fiberglass layer. This layer should not be wrapped tight.



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I'm using a wrap of SS safety wire here (not visible) to keep the soft fiberglass from being drug down as the outer housing is slid over the core. It is beyond where the soft glass is exposed to the core holes so no sound deadening will be lost.

Gently start the core assembly into the outer housing oriented in the correct position for assembly.

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Tuck the packing in gently all around the housing as you slide the core back in.



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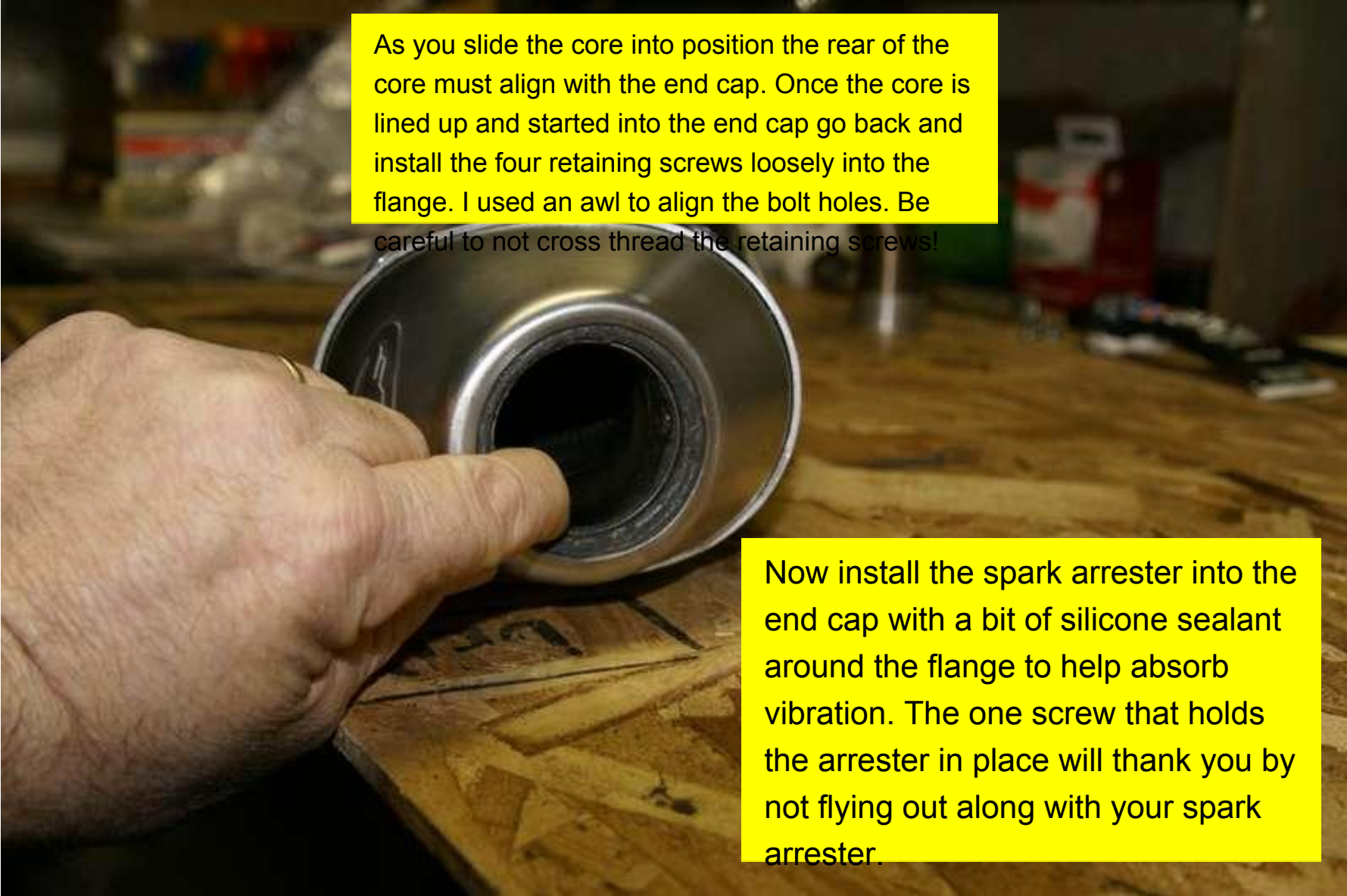
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Tuck the packing into the flange area and make sure no packing is trapped between the outer housing and the flange. Apply silicone sealant to the flange surface and line up the screw holes.



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A close-up photograph showing a person's hand pointing into the end cap of a metal pipe. The pipe is lying on a wooden workbench. The background is a workshop with various tools and equipment.

As you slide the core into position the rear of the core must align with the end cap. Once the core is lined up and started into the end cap go back and install the four retaining screws loosely into the flange. I used an awl to align the bolt holes. Be careful to not cross thread the retaining screws!

Now install the spark arrester into the end cap with a bit of silicone sealant around the flange to help absorb vibration. The one screw that holds the arrester in place will thank you by not flying out along with your spark arrester.

Install the screw loosely and go back to the front of the pipe and tighten the four retaining screws. Return to the spark arrester pressing it into the core and securing the screw.

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You are done! Wipe down the pipe and install it back on your bike with some Hi-Temp silicone on the mid-pipe to head-pipe clamping joint. Let everything set over night to cure the silicone before cranking up your bike. That was easy! ☺

