

TEST PLATEN INSTALLATION AND REMOVAL

In a normal testing program, it may become necessary to change the machines upper platen to stay in compliance with ASTM specifications.

CAUTION should be exercised when attempting this procedure to prevent possible operator injury.

Because of the weight variation between test platens, it is recommended that two (2) individuals perform this procedure to prevent possible operator injury. If you have any questions related to the changing of a test platen after reading this section of the manual, contact Test Mark Industries Technical Support at 1-800-783-3227.

All Test Mark Machines are shipped without the test platens installed in them. You will find them packaged separately in the shipping carton with the machine.

Step 1: Turn on the machines hydraulic pump and with the load control valve, advance the machines piston downward until the setscrew hole located in the bottom front of the piston is fully visible. Then place the load control valve in its hold position and turn the hydraulic pump off.

Step 2: Then from behind the machine or from the front slightly to one side, one individual using both hands lifts the MA-0101 cylinder platen into the top of the machine inserting the platens holding stem into the 1 ½” diameter hole in the bottom of the piston until there is a tight fit between the top of the platen and the bottom of the piston.

Then, the second individual using the ¾” allen wrench supplied with the machine tightens the piston set screw until tight, being careful not to over-tighten the screw damaging either the piston or set screw threads.

Step 3: Carefully inspect the platen to piston fit making sure that the platen is securely locked into the piston and that there is no visible air gaps between them.

If a single individual must perform this procedure, the following method may be used. However, it is not recommended and caution must be exercised to prevent possible personal injury.

Step 1: Place a 6” x 12” concrete cylinder in the center of the machines bottom crosshead.

Step 2: Place the MA-0101 cylinder platen on top of the concrete cylinder making sure that it is centered.

Step 3: Switch on the machines hydraulic pump and using the load control valve, slowly lower the machines piston, making sure that the platens holding stem is in alignment with the 1 ½” diameter hole in the bottom center of the piston. Advance the piston down slowly until about 1 ½” of the holding stem is up inside the piston.

Step 4: Place the load control valve in its hold position and switch OFF the hydraulic pump. Then lift the platen until it makes full contact with the bottom of the piston. Now, holding it in place with one hand, use the ¾” allen wrench to tighten the piston set screw, being careful not to over-tighten it.

Step 5: Carefully inspect the platen to piston fit making sure that the platen is securely locked into the piston and there are no visible air gaps between them.