

Shimano Cardiff Series Maintenance

This article describes in detail the steps to disassemble and service you Shimano Cardiff series reel (100,200,300,400 and left hand equivalents). Keeping your reel clean and well maintained will ensure that the reel will perform properly when you need it most. The Cardiff is designed for both fresh and salt water, however heavy use in salt water requires more frequent maintenance. At a minimum, this service should be performed on an annual basis to ensure peak reel performance.

Shimano parts referenced in the article can be ordered by calling Shimano directly at 1-877-577-0600. These instructions are valid for the original Cardiff as well as the A series Cardiff.

List of tools that may be needed for service:

1. Small Phillips screwdriver
2. Q-tips
3. Shimano oil part number BNT1445
4. Towel or rag
5. Shimano grease part number A-dra1/4 (¼ ounce size will do around 10-15 reels)
6. Schematics of the reel
[[cdf100](#) | [cdf101](#) | [cdf200](#) | [cdf201](#) | [cdf300](#) | [cdf301](#) | [cdf400](#) | [cdf401](#)]
7. 10mm wrench or nut driver or the Shimano tool that came with the reel
8. Small flat head screwdriver
9. Toothbrush
10. Rubbing Alcohol

1) Remove the handle side plate assembly from the frame. This is done by removing the 3 side plate screws. (See fig 1)

20) Using Q-tips and alcohol, clean the spool raceways on the frame (See figures 13 & 14)

21) Apply a small drop of oil to the spool shaft bearing.

22) Clean all excess grease from the worm gear (level wind gear) See fig 15

23) Clean line guide eyelet with a Q-tip and alcohol. (See fig 16)

24) Apply oil to the worm gear. One drop at each end and one or two drops in the middle.

25) Clean all excess grease from idle gear and bearing. Apply one drop of oil to the bearing. (See fig 17)

26) Reassemble the reel and check performance. Tip When installing the handle side plate back onto the frame make sure the thumb bar is in the up position. If not the clutch (thumb bar) will not work correctly.

