

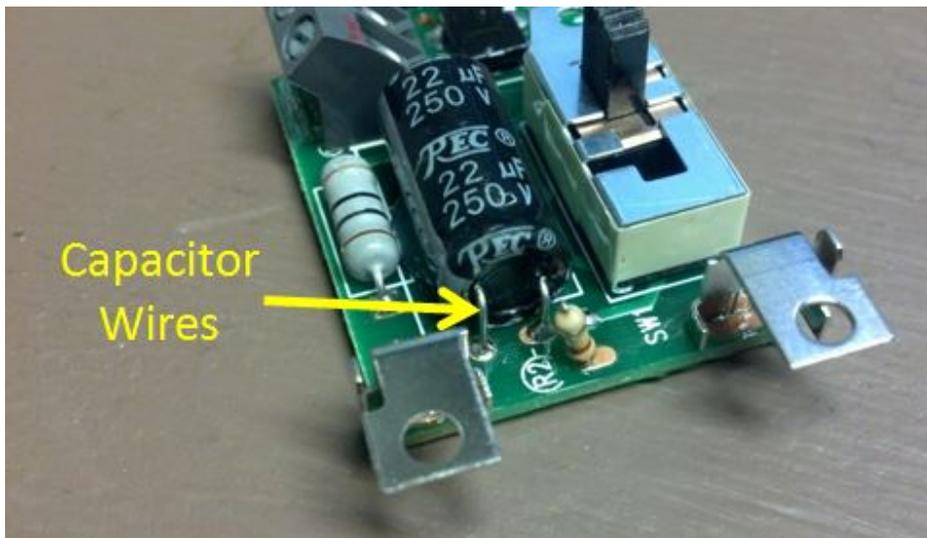
What Damage Can Happen When You Drop Your Clipper

We all hold our breath when we drop a clipper because we hope it still runs when we pick it off the floor. Our clipper is the most important tool we have as a groomer, so we have to do our monthly maintenance, clean the hair from it, and make sure it doesn't hit the floor.

All clippers have the same problems when they are dropped, but we will look at the Andis AGC Ultra Edge because its the most common clipper among most groomers.

THE SWITCH

When the clipper hits the floor, it jars the insides very much. The switch has a capacitor on it that can bust loose from the circuit board. It has two small wires that are only soldered to the board, and when the clipper hits the floor they can break.

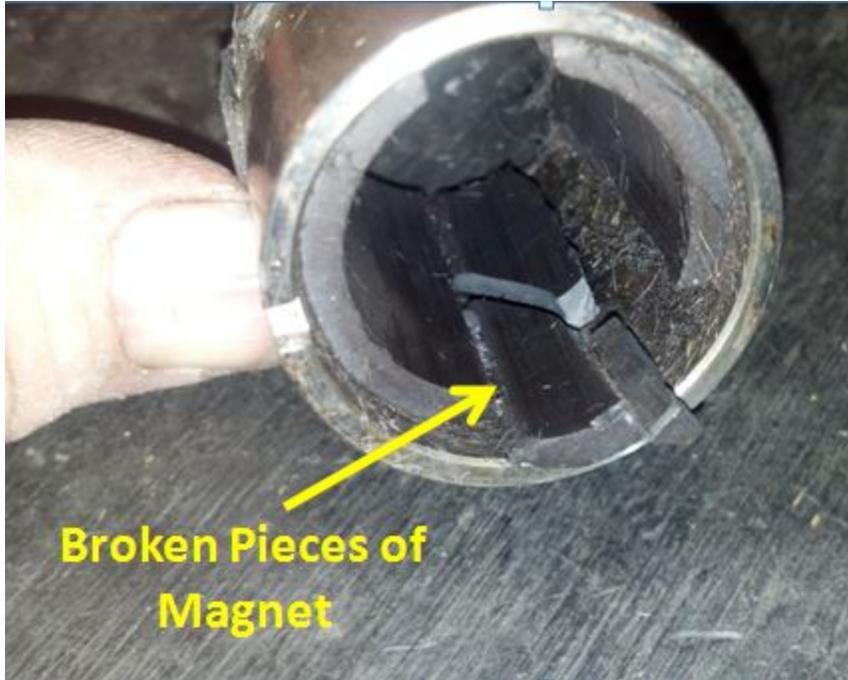


If just one of these wires is broken, you will loose your high speed. The switch is screwed into the rear motor mounts of the clipper. The motor mounts are just two plastic posts located on the bottom clipper body that holds the rear of your motor. If either of these mounts break off when the clipper is dropped, it can cause your clipper to get hot when running. The motor vibrates because nothing is holding it at the back thus causing the heat. This ever happen to you? Lower clipper bodies are about \$10.00

THE MOTOR FIELD

This is a big thing that can short out your armature, blow your switch, and possibly cause smoke to come from the clipper. Figure about \$90 to fix this if the damage is this extensive.

The motor field is a round steel tube lined with two curved magnets, your armature spins inside this tube. When your clipper is turned on, your brushes cause a negative polarity to the magnets and this causes the armature to spin, which moves your blade drive back and forth making the blade cut.



If you drop your clipper, and it hits hard enough, you can crack these magnets. They can fragment causing shorts which can blow the armature and switch. Also, if one of the fragments is small enough, it can lodge against the armature inside and pin it so it doesn't move. Usually when this happens you can hear the clipper "hum" when you turn it on, but it won't run. If you experience this, don't try to use it anymore and send it in for repair. A new motor field can cost about \$25.00, armatures are about \$40.00, switches are about \$15.00, plus the labor charge.

Since your clipper is so important to your working or not, you need to take care of it. I learned by experience a long time ago that setting a clipper under a dog on the table can really ruin your day. I use a small table next to my grooming table, and I set shears and clippers on it when not using them. It may be a lifestyle change for you to start doing that as well if you're having your equipment kicked off the table on a regular basis.

Read those labels, and have fun grooming!