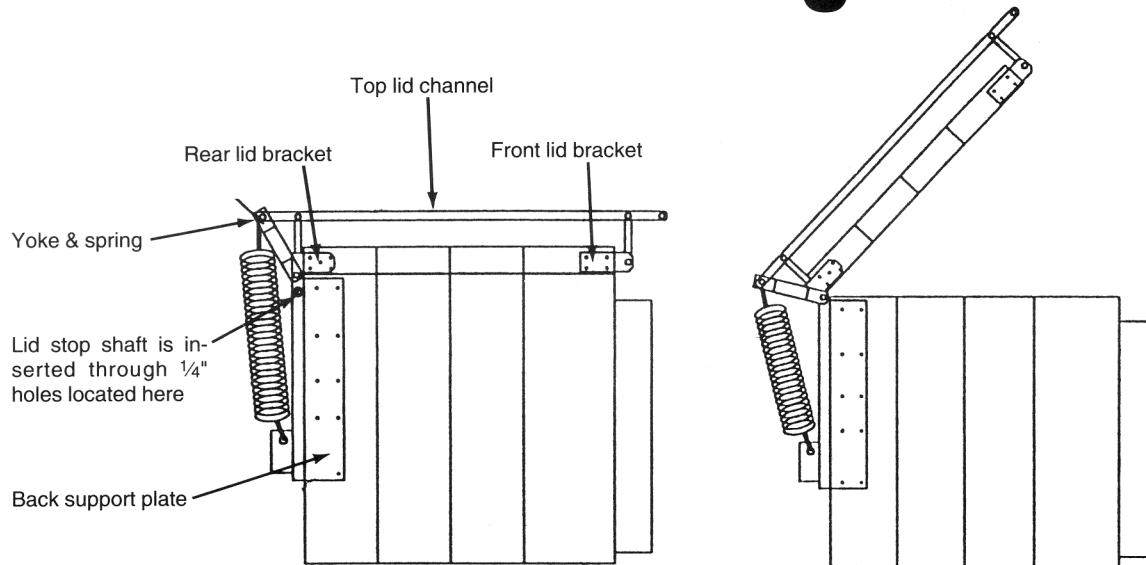


# How to Install the Paragon LiteLid



## Before Starting

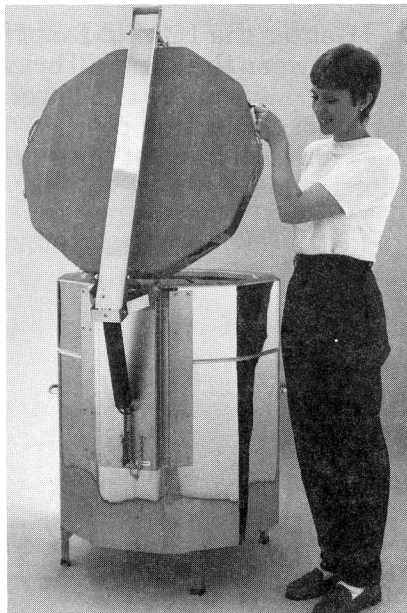
After reading and following instructions in each step, place a check in the box. Do not go to the next step until you have checked the box of the previous step.

Though the LiteLid is simple to install, take your time. Perform each step only after reading the instructions for that step.

### Important:

The most common mistake is to install the back support plate (see diagram above) without the necessary lid play. Without correct play at the back of the lid, the front of the lid will tilt upward at high temperatures. So be sure to follow step 9 on page 3. If the lid tilts upward during firing, you will need to remove the back support plate, drill new holes and reinstall it.

Installing the lid brackets and back support plate is easier if someone holds the parts for you while you mark the holes.



A rear view of the LiteLid.

## Tools Needed

- 1/4" Nut Driver
- Electric Drill
- Center Punch or Nail (to start holes)
- Hammer (to start holes)
- 13/32" Wrench or Adjustable Wrench
- Slotted Screwdriver
- Pliers, for installing locking spring on stop shaft
- Ruler (optional), for centering LiteLid on lid
- Safety Glasses (wear when drilling holes)

## Parts Shipped

Please check the carton for the following parts:

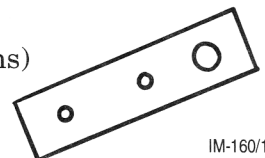
- 1/8" Drill Bit
- LiteLid, preassembled
- 1 Lid Stop Shaft



- 2 Spring Locks



- Bag of #8 sheet metal screws
- 1 lid handle
- 2, 5/8" long bolts & 2 nuts
- 1 Spacer (for 10-sided kilns)



# Installation Instructions

Before starting, check the carton label to make sure you have the correct LiteLid kit for your kiln.

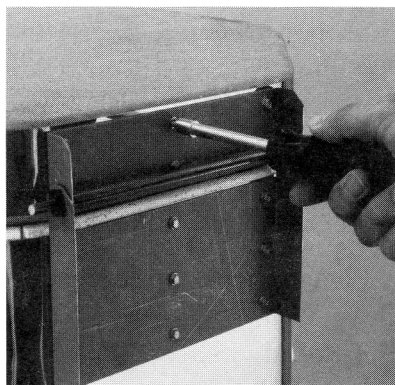
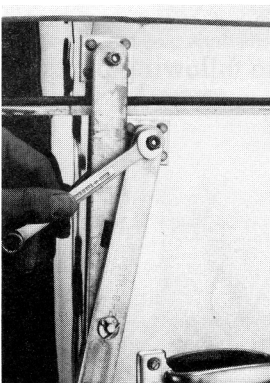
## Prepare Lid

**1** □ Remove the lid handle from the kiln. Save this handle. You will use it again in Step 14. If your kiln has a venting prop (to vent lid), remove the venting latch from the lid.



Remove lid vent latch from lid.

**2** □ Remove both upper and lower lid hinge halves from the kiln. Remove the chain supports or other lid support.



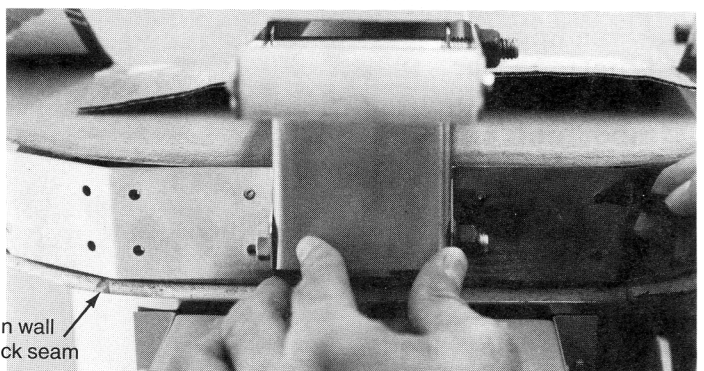
## Install Lid Brackets

**3** □ Make sure the lid is centered on the kiln so that the lid edges are lined up with the firebrick sidewall edges.

**4** □ Lay a piece of protective cardboard on top of the lid. Lay the LiteLid, which comes pre-assembled, on top of the cardboard. Let the back support plate hang down the back of the kiln. The front of the LiteLid (the end with the wooden handle) goes above the switch box. However, you can rotate the LiteLid so the front handle is on a different kiln side if needed.



**5** □ Center the LiteLid front lid brackets horizontally between the kiln wall brick seams and vertically between the upper and lower edges of the lid. Hold the brackets in this position while you mark two holes for each bracket (four holes total) with a felt-tipped pen.



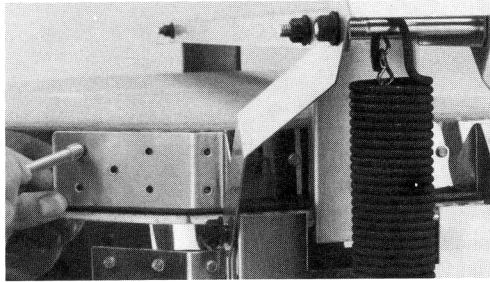
Kiln wall brick seam

**6** □ Move the brackets out of the way. Drill holes. *Note: Drill holes with a 1/8" bit. Tap a mark in the metal with a center punch or nail to start holes. Do not over-tighten screws. Stop turning when the screw feels snug. Wear safety glasses when drilling.*

Screw the front brackets onto the lid using the sheet metal screws. Then drill the other holes and install screws. Reinstall the venting latch removed in Step 1. You will probably use one of the bracket screws for the venting latch, depending on the kiln model.

**7** □ Install the rear LiteLid brackets on the lid, centered horizontally between the kiln wall brick seams and vertically between the upper and lower edges of the lid.

Mark two holes on the lid band with a felt-tipped pen for each bracket. Since it is harder to hold the rear brackets in place to mark the holes, it may be easier to drill two holes in one bracket and install the screws before going on to the other bracket.



Drill holes and install the rest of the screws in the rear lid brackets.

**8** □ There must be a  $\frac{1}{16}$ " gap between the inner lid surface and the top of the kiln wall at the hinge. This is to insure sufficient room for expansion. Place several sheets of paper with a total thickness of about  $\frac{1}{16}$ " under the lid at the hinge area. Then go to the next step to install the back support plate.

### Install Back Support Plate

**9** □ The LiteLid hinge has play in it to allow the lid to float at high temperatures. This adjusts for heat expansion. Lift up and down on the back support plate that attaches to the back of the kiln to feel this play. Now lift it to its uppermost position within this play. Make sure it is straight. Install two screws in the top, then two in the bottom.

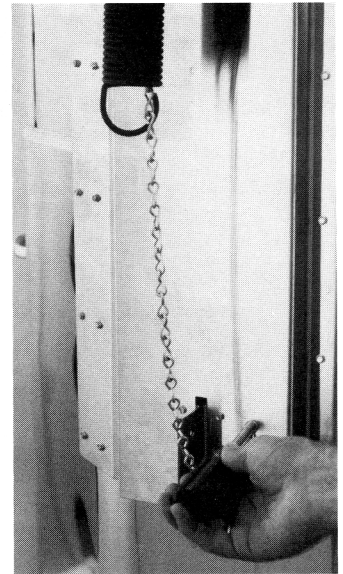
**10** □ Drill the rest of the holes for the back support plate. Install screws.



Installing the back support plate.

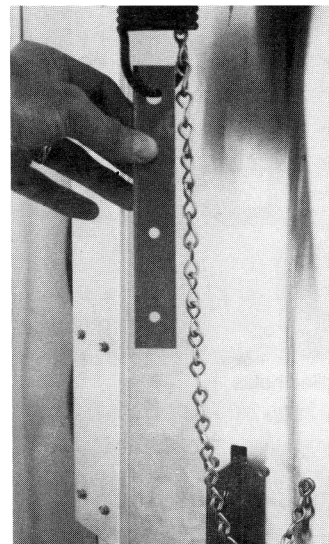
### Attach Chain & Spring

**11** □ You will find a safety chain attached to the top lid channel (the piece that runs across the top of the lid). Thread this chain through the spring. Attach the other end to the back support plate using a #8 sheet-metal screw. The hole is pre-drilled.

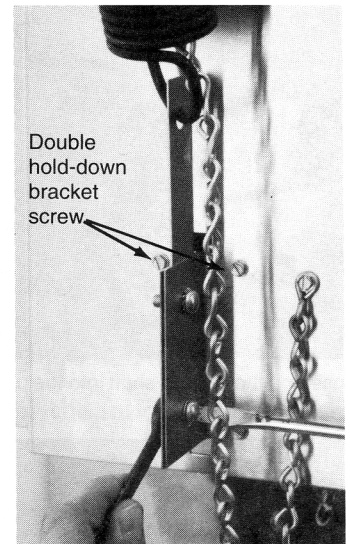


**12** □ Have someone hold the lid in the open position while you attach the lower spring loop as follows:

**10-Sided Kilns:** Hook the spring spacer onto the lower spring loop using the large hole. Have someone lean the lid back. While they hold the lid, line up the two holes in the spring spacer with the holes in the double hold-down brackets at the bottom of the back support plate. Insert bolts. Tighten nuts securely. Close the lid.

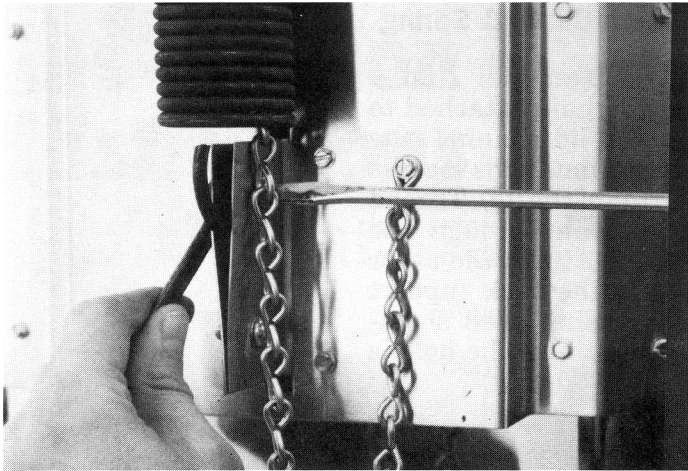


The spring spacer is used on 10-sided kilns.



Insert the spring spacer between the hold-down brackets.

**12-Sided Kilns:** Loosen the screws securing the double hold-down brackets, which are located at the bottom of the back support plate. (See photo, next page.) Have someone lean the lid back. While they hold the lid, pull the lower spring loop downward and between the double hold-down brackets. The opening in the spring loop *must* face outward. Insert a bolt in the upper hole and hand-tighten the nut. Insert the other bolt and nut. Tighten both nuts securely. Tighten the screws securing the double hold-down brackets. Close the lid.

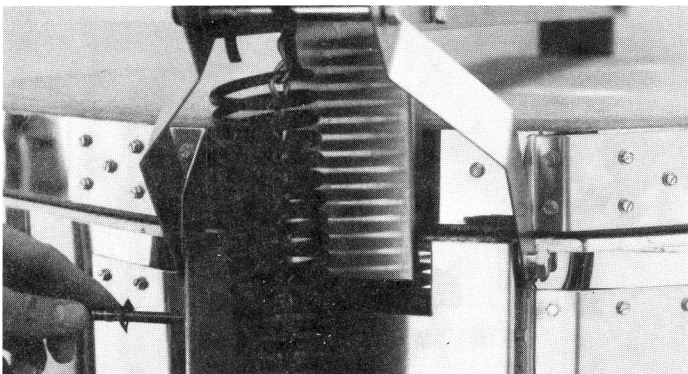


**12-sided Kilns:** Loosen the double hold-down bracket screws to make room for the spring loop. The opening in the spring loop must face outward.

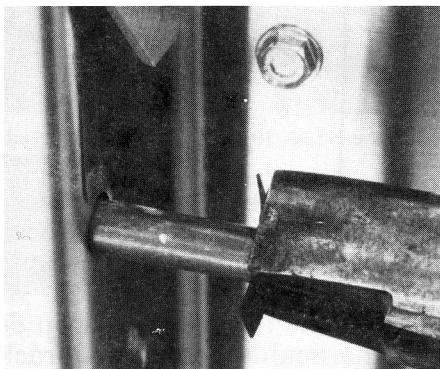
### Install Lid Stop Shaft & Lid Handles

**13** □ Insert the lid stop shaft through the 1/4" holes near the top of the back support plate. Slide a spring lock onto each end of the lid stop shaft.

*To install a spring lock, grasp gently with pliers. The curve of the spring lock should face inward (see photo). Do not squeeze hard, or you will ruin the spring lock. Slide the spring lock onto the shaft.*

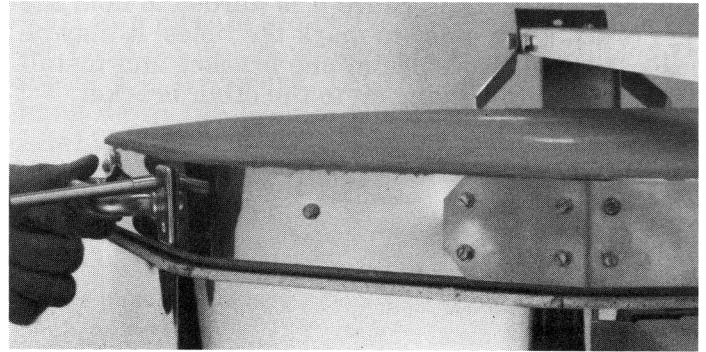


Inserting the lid stop shaft into the pre-drilled holes.



Installing the spring lock on the lid stop shaft.

**14** □ Install a lid handle on each side of the lid. Starting from the front center LiteLid handle, skip a lid side, then install a handle. Repeat for the other side of the lid. (One of the handles is the original handle removed from your lid in Step 1.)



Install a lid handle on each side of the lid.




## Operating the LiteLid

- **CAUTION:** Keep unattended children away. The lid spring can severely pinch fingers.
- Do not open lid until kiln has cooled to room temperature.

To prolong the life of your lid, please follow these guidelines:

- 1** Begin raising the lid using the center lid handle. When the lid feels weightless, hold a side lid handle with your other hand to guide the lid the rest of the way.
- 2** Do not let go of the lid handle until the lid reaches its fully opened position. Otherwise the lid could slam into the fully opened position, damaging the lid.
- 3** Do not let the lid drop. It is fragile and must be lowered gently.
- 4** Stay clear of the lid when raising or lowering. This is to prevent injury should the lid drop.

  
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