Click to prove you're human

Chosen Solution Samantha Frost You get the diagram from the tech sheets which should have been somewhere on the back of your machine. Your diagram does not list the color code but shows that your lid lock connects to J6 on your control unit PCB. You will need apply the jumper to whatever colored wiring attaches to J6 contact 1 and 3 (most likely red and white but I'd hate to guess and have you damage your machine or getting zapped) Here is a spare tech sheet for you just in case you lost yours. W10240504 1.9K Views Updated: June 15th, 2021 Whirlpool washing machines are fully decked out with tons of safety amenities, and that includes small details like lid locks. A lid lock is a mechanism that prevents you from opening up the door on the washer's top when the machine is running. This prevents people from getting injured, but there will be moments where you will want to bypass that lid lock for one reason or another. But how?To bypass a lid lock on a whirlpool washer, begin by unplugging your washer and let it cool down for 10 minutes. Next, open the top panel, and place a strong magnet between the lock switch and solenoid located under the panel. Replace the lid of the appliance and the lock should be bypassed. This all sounds like a crazy endeavor, and you might even be wondering why you need to know how to do this. However, if you have a serious problem with your washing machine, then you probably should know how to take a look at your top-loading machine in action. What Does A Lid Lock Do? A lid lock is a mechanism that, at the very least, prevents your machine from running in certain cycles while the lid is up. It's a safety feature that is meant to prevent children from reaching in the washing machine since certain cycles can be fairly dangerous to little hands and arms. They are most commonly used in top-loading washers.Unfortunately, if you need to see what's going on in your washer during a certain cycle, the lid lock can be more of an obstacle than a blessing. Do All New Washing Machines Have Locking Lids? Ever since 2015, legislation mandated that all washing machines need to have locking lids as a way to prevent injury in children and adults. If your washing machine was made after 2015, then yours has a lid lock. If your machine was made before 2015, then your machine might not have one. Does A Lid Lock Prevent Opening Up The Lid During All Cycles? This depends from machine to machine. Some machines will have lid locks that are meant to keep the lid down during all phases of the cleaning cycles. Others don't. The most common cycles where the lid lock will be in action include: The Load Sensing Cycle. This won't cause you much harm, but if you leave your hand in there, it may throw off the sensor's ability to figure out the right load. As a result, most lid locks will act here. The Spin Cycles. This includes rinse spinning as well as serious washing cycles. If you reach your hand in during a spin cycle, you can easily end up in some serious pain. Hot Water Cycles. This is often presented as a way to prevent scalding. What Does A Washing Machine's Lid Lock Look Like? In order to be able to place your magnet correctly, you need to know what the lid lock looks like. The appearance of a lid lock will vary in size and color based on the machine brand and model. However, most have a boxy look that has a couple of slats that look like a part of a door lock.If you don't know what your lid lock looks like, search up your machine's model on Google plus "lid lock replacement." This will lead you to dozens of photos of what your specific model's lid lock will have. When Does It Make Sense To Bypass A Lid Lock? Personally, I enjoy the idea of looking into a top-loading washing machine while it's at work. It's neat. However, most people are not like me. If you believe that there's something going on with your spin cycle and you want to check it out, it makes sense to bypass your lid lock. However, there's a more common reason why people want to bypass the lock: forgetfulness.Think about it. How many times have you loaded up a washing machine, dumped in some fancy detergent, and set it to spin…only to realize you left that one comforter cover out in the open. If you've ever wanted to stop a machine so you can load it up with another item mid-wash, you understand why you might want to make the lid lock defunct. Is It Safe To Bypass Your Lid Lock? "Safety" is subjective again. If you have kids who would reach their hands into the machine while it's running, it's not safe. Parents with children who are too curious for their own goods need to keep the lid lock intact. On the other hand, if you have a home filled with responsible adults, it should be safe.Bypassing the lid lock is not going to cause your lid to go flying off the washing machine, if that's what you're worried about. It just means that lifting up the lid will be more doable during most of the phases of a wash. Can A Washing Machine Work Without A Lid Lock? While it might be tempting to remove the lid lock outright, you shouldn't do this. Most machines have backup measures that make a lid lock mandatory and will shut down your machine if it detects no lock in the area. This is different than detecting a bypassed lock, by design. In other words, you could "brick" your machine by removing the lid lock. Don't do it. How Do You Know If You Successfully Bypassed The Lid Lock? This is actually fairly easy to do. All you have to do is plug the machine back in and turn the machine on for a cycle. If you can successfully lift your lid off the washer, then you've bypassed the lid lock successfully. If not, you will need to open up the top of your washing machine again and readjust the placement of the magnet. Do Some Washing Machines Have Specialty Override Instructions? If you feel leery of having to open up the top of your machine to override the lid lock, you're not alone. It can be daunting, especially if you are not used to doing machine repairs on your own. Thankfully, washing machine designers have started to listen to the complaints that people have about the lid lock issue.It's possible that your machine has a unique override mechanism that doesn't involve pulling apart your machine. To find out if your machine has an override function that can be done with the push of a button, take a look at your owner's manual. The manual will have instructions that are both easy to follow and reliable. With most machine models, a flashing lid lock light means that your lid lock has not moved into the "lock" position for one reason or another. This can be due to you bypassing the lid lock manually, or just having a lid lock motor that can't be powered on. So if you want to lift up the lid while the machine is running, now would be the time.How long does your lid lock have to stay locked after your spin cycle is done?According to national regulations, a lid lock has to stay locked for 10 seconds after the spin cycle is done. This gives your clothes just enough time to drain. Regulators also believe that having a lid lock that stays locked for a short period of time afterward gives them leeway to ensure that the machine has actually stopped spinning.Is bypassing the lid lock dangerous for the machine?It depends. The "magnet technique" should be safe to use for most machines. However, anecdotal evidence suggests that using the magnets could potentially lead to electrical problems later on. To keep things on the safe side, the best thing you can do is to read your owner's manual to see if there are any specialized override instructions you can use instead. The official override (if there is one) will be the best choice for the sake of your washer. Published November 1st, 2020 7:42 AM Download Article Quick and easy ways to open up your washer while it's running Download Article Most newer Whirlpool washing machines come equipped with Lid Lock technology that prevents them from being opened while in use. This feature seems pretty handy—until it malfunctions and you need to look inside the washer while it's running. While there are a number of ways to unlock your machine under normal conditions, opening one that's on the fritz will require a magnet or some basic wire splicing skills. These kinds of renegade fixes may void your warranty, so keep that in mind if you do attempt them. Access the lid lock switch by unplugging your washer from the wall and turning off the water. Press a magnet against the lid lock mechanism for a quick, easy way to bypass the lid lock. Cut the 1st and 3rd wire (or 1st and 4th wire if there are 4 wires) that attach to the lid lock to permanently bypass it. 1 Turn off the washing machine and unplug it from the wall.[1] If you need to, scoot the appliance away from the wall just enough to expose the main power cord. Pull the cord free from the wall socket to disable the power to the washer.[2] Once you've unplugged your washer, lay the power cord flat against the side of the cabinet and tape it down to keep it from accidentally getting wet or becoming damaged while you work. If you decide to tinker with your washer without first unplugging it, you could be putting yourself at risk of electrical shock.[3] The lid lock mechanisms on some washers are heat-activated, which means overriding them is as simple as letting them cool off. Let the washer sit unplugged for about 10 minutes, then try lifting the lid. If it opens, you're all set. If it still won't budge, proceed to the next steps. 2 Shut off the water by turning the twin supply valves counterclockwise. These valves will either be located in a recessed nook on the wall behind the unit or under the utility sink, if your laundry room has one. When you find them, grip the rotating dials and twist them all the way to the left until you can't move them anymore. This will guarantee that there's no water flowing to the machine.[4] Sometimes, the supply valve dials will be color-coded red and blue to clearly indicate which one corresponds to hot and cold water.[5] It's not safe to make any sort of mechanical modifications to your washing machine without first cutting the water supply, even if it's unplugged. Advertisement 3 Open the washer's top panel by disengaging the hidden retention clips. You'll find one of these clips on either side of the upper part of the unit's front face. Slip a screwdriver blade under the edge of the housing on one side of the machine and push directly against the clip inside to release it. Repeat this process on the second clip, then raise the panel to get it out of your way.[6] On certain models, you may need to undo the hinge screws on the backside of the washer's upper control console in order to lift the top panel. 4 Identify the lid lock switch on the underside of the top panel. This is the electronic mechanism that actually controls the washer's locking function. On most models, it will be housed in a small box made of gray or black plastic. Chances are, this little widget is responsible for the issue you're experiencing. The lid lock switch assembly will still be connected to its wire harness, which is usually secured to the underside of the washer's top panel via a series of clips. To avoid making more work for yourself, leave both of these attachments as they are. Advertisement 1 Set a magnet on the site where the lid lock switch meets the washer cabinet. Just under the unit's housing at this spot there is a solenoid, which is a type of powerful electromagnet. Placing a separate magnet there will create a stable electromagnetic connection with the solenoid and "trick" the machine into thinking that the lid is closed when it's really open.[7] Any type of small magnet should do the trick. Just make sure you choose a thin one, like a refrigerator magnet, so you can close the lid completely. The lid lock technology on many older washing machines works by using a strong magnetic charge to keep the lid shut during the wash cycle. Use duct tape to tie down magnets that are poised precariously or won't rest flat on their own. 2 Replace the top panel, plug the washer in, and perform a test wash. Don't forget to turn the water supply back on beforehand. If your magnet is positioned properly, it will be possible for you to open and close the lid at will during regular use. This won't affect the machine's normal operations in the slightest.[8] This work-around may be useful if you want to be able to throw additional items in later on in the wash cycle without the machine cutting off every time. 3 Adjust the placement of the magnet if your washer is still stopping. Assuming the appliance continues to behave the way it normally does, you may have no choice but to open it back up and give it another shot. Try to line up your magnet with the exact spot on the top panel where the lid lock switch usually hovers. If that doesn't take care of things, hunt around for a stronger magnet. Double-check that the attractive side of your magnet is facing down. Otherwise, it may not generate a solid link with the solenoid. If you're having trouble finding a magnet strong enough to maintain a connection, just unscrew the one that's set into the edge of the washer lid. You can always put it back when you're done.[9] Advertisement 1 Remove the lid lock switch assembly. Use a 1⁄4 inch (0.64 cm) nut driver to loosen the 2 mounting screws holding the box in place on the bottom of the panel. Lower the assembly carefully and let it dangle freely from its wire harness at around chest level. That way, you'll have no difficulty accessing it with your tools.[10] Place the mounting screws in a shallow dish or similar container so you won't lose them. If they disappear, you won't be able to get the switch back in its proper place at the end of your project. 2 Pry the cover off of the assembly. These sorts of covers are almost always secured using retention clips. Simply pull up on the clips with the edge of your thumb to disengage them. Then, lift off the cover and set it aside.[11] In some cases, it may be necessary to take out a couple of small screws in order to remove the switch cover. 3 Examine your washer's tech sheet to determine which wires to cut. Scan the included wiring diagram until you find the wires labeled "lid switch" and "lock switch." The majority of washing machine lid lock switches are powered by 3 or 4 wires, each of which performs a different function. Hopefully, these will be color-coded. If not, the tech sheet will map out the arrangement of the wires on the control board.[12] Most washing machine models come with a thin booklet attached to the back or bottom interior portion of the cabinet. Inside this booklet (known as the "tech sheet") you'll find a diagram that lays out the exact configuration of your appliance's electrical wiring.[13] If your switch has 3 wires and the lid switch and lock switch are assigned to positions 1 and 3, cut the wires on either side of the middle wire. If your switch has 4 wires and the lid switch and lock switch are assigned to positions 1 and 4, cut the 1st and 4th wire. 4 Snip the wires corresponding to the lid lock mechanism and lid switch. Grab a pair of pliers or some sharp scissors and make a nice clean cut right through the center of each wire. Without an intact connection, the wires won't be able to channel the electrical current that causes the lid to remain locked.[14] Messing with your washing machine's wiring may cause it to stop working correctly, and it will definitely violate the terms of your warranty. Unless you're confident that you can do this right the first time, call a Whirlpool repair technician. 5 Strip about 1 inch (2.5 cm) of insulation from the end of each wire. Position the blades of your wire strippers at the appropriate spot along the first wire and clamp the handles together forcefully. Without letting go of the handles, drag the tool towards the loose end of the wire to slide off the insulated coating.[15] Stripping the wire just removes the excess material from the cut section, allowing you to work freely and efficiently. 6 Twist the ends of the two wires together and join them with a wire connector. Take each wire and gently roll the exposed strands between your thumb and forefinger to group them. Once the strands are neatly mingled, hold the two wires side-by-side and twist them together like a candy cane. Screw a plastic connector over the conjoined wire ends to secure them.[16] You can also use a strip of electrical tape if you don't happen to have any spare wire connectors on hand. Smoothing the strands on the ends of the wires before you twist them together will prevent them from sticking out awkwardly and ensure a clean connection. 7 Reassemble the washer and try it out. Tuck the newly joined wires back into the switch casing, reinstall the removable cover, and press down on it until it clicks. Reposition the switch on the underside of the machine's top panel and tighten the mounting screws, then secure the top panel once again. Finally, plug the washer back in and start it up. If you've done everything correctly, you should be able to open the lid at any point during the machine's various cycles.[17] Unlike standard washing machines, lid lock models won't stop automatically when you open them after skirting the locking mechanism. For this reason, you'll need to be extremely careful not to get your limbs, clothing, hair, or jewelry too close to the spinning agitator while you have the lid open. Advertisement Ask a Question Advertisement Thanks Advertisement Thanks Advertisement Screwdriver or putty knife Duct tape (optional) Small magnet Screwdriver (optional) Screwdriver 1⁄4 inch (0.64 cm) nut driver Pliers or sharp scissors Wire strippers Wire connector or electrical tape Co-authored by: Appliance Repair Specialist This article was co-authored by Homer Flores and by wikiHow staff writer, Hannah Madden. Homer Flores is an Appliance Repair Specialist and Training Manager at PreFix, a home maintenance company out of Austin, Texas. With over 15 years of experience, Homer specializes in home improvement, remodeling, and construction. Homer's dedication to the PreFix mission of providing hassle-free one-stop-shop service for home care, in addition to their completion of the Capital Factory and Techstars Accelerators, has contributed to their growth of service to over 50 zip codes throughout the greater Austin area. This article has been viewed 429,263 times. Co-authors: 5 Updated: April 14, 2025 Views: 429,263 Categories: Washing Machines and Dryers Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 429,263 times. "Very easy to understand written article! Even for a European person like myself who has zero experience with this type of US washing machines. Thanks for your help!"..." more Share your story The purpose of the lid lock switch on Whirlpool washers is to ensure that the door doesn't open between the wash cycle. That can cause damage to the machine in the long run. Sometimes, the lid lock may malfunction and cause the wash cycle to stop working, even if everything is fine. This calls for a replacement for the component. In the meantime, however, you can temporarily bypass the lid lock and use your Whirlpool washing machine without it. Here are the tools that you will need. Flathead screwdriver Regular screwdriver Magnet Spare wires Wire cutter One can bypass a whirlpool washer lid lock (three wires) by jamming a piece of wire or magnet between the solenoid and the lock switch. To bypass the lid lock, one needs to interrupt the current flowing into the lid lock switch. The key is to jam either a wire or a magnet between the solenoid and lock switch to bypass the lid lock. Some of these locks are heat operated and can be bypassed by simply turning off the machine. If that doesn't work, follow these steps to bypass it manually. Firstly, you need to unplug the Whirlpool machine from the power supply. Keep the cable away from being in contact with water. Next, both water supplies need to be turned off. Rotate the supply valves counterclockwise to cut off the water. This ensures no water enters the machine while you're working on the lid lock. Before working on the lid lock, the top panel needs to be removed. You can find screws that hold the power board in place. These screws are on the back for some models, while others have them on the front. Undo them using a screwdriver. Then, use a flat-head screwdriver to pry open the washer panel and gently lift it. Make sure you don't disconnect the wires. Now, finally, you can get around to locating the lid switch. It is generally a small plastic box on the back of the washer. Grab the magnet and carefully jam it between the lid lock switch and the washing machine. Doing this creates a magnetic connection between the solenoid and the lock. Secure the magnet using tape to ensure it doesn't come off when the machine is operating. The solenoid itself is a magnet. Introducing an external magnet in the assembly tricks the machine. It makes it so that the machine thinks the door is locked when in reality, it isn't. This trickery lets you run the washer even with the door open. The lid lock switch can be bypassed by simply cutting off its wires. You can find the wiring layout in your model's user manual. The key is to remove the connection between the lid and the lock. Remove the insulation for about an inch off the wires. Then twist them and secure them together with electric tape. Now put back the top panel and run the machine. If either of these methods has worked successfully, you will be able to operate your Whirlpool washing machine with the door open. Bypassing the lid lock can become necessary if the lock switch starts malfunctioning on a Whirlpool washer. This can affect the everyday workings of the washer and might even reduce the shelf life of your device. The lid lock assembly is a safety measure put in by Whirlpool to stop the machine from running with an open washer door. Doing so can cause damage to the machine in the long run. However, the lid lock can sometimes become faulty and start malfunctioning. This can happen in the middle of the wash cycle, as well. As a result, the machine may stop its wash cycles prematurely or erratically. The ideal solution is to replace the lid lock switch then. However, until this replacement is complete, the lid lock can be bypassed as a temporary solution. This means you can use the machine even with the lid lock disengaged. NOTE – This is only a temporary solution and can cause long-term issues in the machine if applied repeatedly. The lid look on a Whirlpool washing machine can flash as an indicator when the lock cannot engage properly. It is to tell the user that something is preventing the locking mechanism from working the way it's supposed to. These are some of the reasons why the lid lock can flash. It can flash if the machine cannot power on the lock motor. The lid lock has not moved into the locking position, thus triggering the flashing. It can also flash if something blocks the lid from closing properly. The lid lock switch cannot move, i.e., it has become faulty. The locking mechanism has gone out of alignment. Here are the steps to test a lid switch in your Whirlpool washer. Turn off the washer and unplug it. Pry open the upper lip of the washer using a knife, releasing the clip springs. Lift the washer top to expose the lid switch. Undo the two-wire harness connected to the switch. Test the lid switch resistance using a multimeter. A properly working lid switch will read continuity. If this isn't the case, the switch is compromised and needs replacement. Here are the steps to bypass the Whirlpool washer lid lock. Cut off the electricity and water supply. Jam a magnet between the lock assembly and the solenoid. An alternative method is to cut the wires of the lid lock, twisting them around and covering them with some electric tape. Run a wash cycle to see if the bypassing has worked. My name is Rick Kinney and I am the founder of ExHandyman. I have worked as a handyman for many years, and fixing stuff is my greatest pleasure in life. Download Article Quick and easy ways to open up your washer while it's running Download Article Most newer Whirlpool washing machines come equipped with Lid Lock technology that prevents them from being opened while in use. This feature seems pretty handy—until it malfunctions and you need to look inside the washer while it's running. While there are a number of ways to unlock your machine under normal conditions, opening one that's on the fritz will require a magnet or some basic wire splicing skills. These kinds of renegade fixes may void your warranty, so keep that in mind if you do attempt them. Access the lid lock switch by unplugging your washer from the wall and turning off the water. Press a magnet against the lid lock mechanism for a quick, easy way to bypass the lid lock. Cut the 1st and 3rd wire (or 1st and 4th wire if there are 4 wires) that attach to the lid lock to permanently bypass it. 1 Turn off the washing machine and unplug it from the wall.[1] If you need to, scoot the appliance away from the wall just enough to expose the main power cord. Pull the cord free from the wall socket to disable the power to the washer.[2] Once you've unplugged your washer, lay the power cord flat against the side of the cabinet and tape it down to keep it from accidentally getting wet or becoming damaged while you work. If you decide to tinker with your washer without first unplugging it, you could be putting yourself at risk of electrical shock.[3] The lid lock mechanisms on some washers are heat-activated, which means overriding them is as simple as letting them cool off. 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Advertisement Ask a Question Advertisement Thanks Advertisement Thanks Advertisement Screwdriver or putty knife Duct tape (optional) Small magnet Screwdriver (optional) Screwdriver 1⁄4 inch (0.64 cm) nut driver Pliers or sharp scissors Wire strippers Wire connector or electrical tape Co-authored by: Appliance Repair Specialist This article was co-authored by Homer Flores and by wikiHow staff writer, Hannah Madden. Homer Flores is an Appliance Repair Specialist and Training Manager at PreFix, a home maintenance company out of Austin, Texas. With over 15 years of experience, Homer specializes in home improvement, remodeling, and construction. Homer's dedication to the PreFix mission of providing hassle-free one-stop-shop service for home care, in addition to their completion of the Capital Factory and Techstars Accelerators, has contributed to their growth of service to over 50 zip codes throughout the greater Austin area. This article has been viewed 429,263 times. Co-authors: 5 Updated: April 14, 2025 Views: 429,263 Categories: Washing Machines and Dryers Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 429,263 times. "Very easy to understand written article! Even for a European person like myself who has zero experience with this type of US washing machines. Thanks for your help!"..." more Share your story Chosen Solution Samantha Frost You get the diagram from the tech sheets which should have been somewhere on the back of your machine. Your diagram does not list the color code but shows that your lid lock connects to J6 on your control unit PCB. You will need apply the jumper to whatever colored wiring attaches to J6 contact 1 and 3 (most likely red and white but I'd hate to guess and have you damage your machine or getting zapped) Here is a spare tech sheet for you just in case you lost yours. W10240504 Home - Diy If you're attempting to troubleshoot your Whirlpool washer, you may need to operate the washer with the lid open. For safety reasons, the washer won't enter the spin cycle while the lid is open. To run the washer through a full cycle with the lid open, it's necessary to install a jumper wire in the lid-switch circuit. Once installed, the jumper will make the washer think that the lid is closed, allowing you to perform a complete diagnostic while the lid is open. Other than the obvious dangers of running a washing machine with the lid open, this is not a difficult process. Phillips-head screwdriver Insulated wire Any type of insulated wire with bare ends can be used as a jumper for the lid-switch harness. Stay clear of the washer tub when operating the machine with the lid open. The tub can begin spinning or agitating without warning, causing personal injury. Don't use a jumper as a substitute for a replacement switch. The lid switch is an important safety device, and you should replace it immediately if it's defective. Remove the two Phillips-head screws from the front corners of the control panel. Pull the control panel slightly forward, and then flip it up over the back of the washer. Let the control panel hang by its hinges. Locate the lid-switch connector on the top of the washer body,

under the control panel. It is the only connector that goes into the top of the washer body. Squeeze the locking tab on the harness and pull it out of the connector. Insert a jumper wire into the lid-switch connector that attaches to the control panel. The connector has two wires attached to it, one violet and one gray. Bridge these two wires by inserting the bare ends of a jumper wire into the connector. You can now operate the washer through a full cycle. Remove the jumper wire, and connect the lid-switch harness after completing the diagnostic of the washer. Flip the control panel forward, and push it slightly back to seat it against the rear panel of the washer. Install and tighten the two Phillips-head screws in the front corners of the control panel. If you're attempting to troubleshoot your Whirlpool washer, you may need to operate the washer with the lid open. For safety reasons, the washer won't enter the spin cycle while the lid is open. Let the control panel hang by its hinges. Locate the lid-switch connector on the top of the washer body, under the control panel. Chosen Solution Samantha Frost You get the diagram from the tech sheets which should have been somewhere on the back of your machine. Your diagram does not list the color code but shows that your lid lock connects to J6 on your control unit PCB. You will need apply the jumper to whatever colored wiring attaches to J6 contact 1 and 3 (most likely red and white but I'd hate to guess and have you damage your machine or getting zapped) Here is a spare tech sheet for you just in case you lost yours. W10240504 Are you tired of dealing with the frustration of a stuck lid lock on your Whirlpool washing machine? You're not alone! Many homeowners have struggled with this issue, wondering why their machine suddenly refuses to open or close properly. The good news is that bypassing the lid lock is a relatively simple process that you can do yourself with some basic tools and a bit of patience. In this article, we'll guide you through the steps to bypass the lid lock on your Whirlpool washing machine, saving you time, money, and a whole lot of stress.Understanding the Lid Lock MechanismBefore we dive into the solution, it's essential to understand how the lid lock mechanism works. The lid lock is a safety feature designed to prevent the washer lid from opening during the wash cycle. This feature is typically activated when the washer is in operation, and it's meant to ensure your safety and prevent accidents. However, sometimes this mechanism can malfunction, causing the lid to remain locked even after the cycle is complete.The lid lock consists of two main components: the lid switch and the lock assembly. The lid switch is a magnetic sensor that detects when the lid is closed, and it sends a signal to the control board to activate the lock assembly. The lock assembly is responsible for physically locking the lid in place. When the lid switch fails or becomes faulty, the lock assembly can become stuck, preventing the lid from opening.Reasons for a Stuck Lid LockThere are several reasons why your Whirlpool washing machine's lid lock might become stuck. Some common causes include:* Faulty lid switch* Clogged or dirty lid switch* Misaligned or damaged lid* Faulty control board* Power surges or electrical issues* Faulty or worn-out lock assemblyBypassing the Lid Lock: A Step-by-Step GuideNow that we've covered the basics, let's get started with the process of bypassing the lid lock on your Whirlpool washing machine.Tools and Materials NeededBefore you begin, make sure you have the following tools and materials:* A screwdriver (preferably a Torx screwdriver)* A wrench or pliers* A jumper wire or a paper clip* A small bucket or container to catch any water that may spill outStep 1: Turn Off the Power and Water SupplyThe first step is to turn off the power and water supply to the washing machine. Unplug the machine from the wall outlet, and turn off the water supply valves at the back of the machine. This will ensure your safety while you work on the machine.Step 2: Access the Lid SwitchLocate the lid switch, which is usually located at the top of the washing machine, near the lid. You may need to remove some screws or clips to access the switch. Use a screwdriver to remove the screws, and gently pull the switch out of its socket.Step 3: Bypass the Lid SwitchTo bypass the lid switch, you'll need to create a temporary connection between the two wires that connect to the switch. You can do this by using a jumper wire or a paper clip. Connect one end of the wire or paper clip to the terminal on the lid switch, and the other end to the corresponding terminal on the control board. This will allow the machine to THINK the lid is closed, even though it's not.Step 4: Check the Lock AssemblyWith the lid switch bypassed, you can now check the lock assembly to see if it's stuck or faulty. Use a wrench or pliers to release the lock assembly, and then try to open the lid. If the lid still doesn't open, you may need to replace the lock assembly.Step 5: Test the MachineOnce you've bypassed the lid lock, test the machine to ensure it's working properly. Run a cycle to see if the lid opens and closes correctly. If the machine still doesn't work, you may need to consult a professional repair technician.Troubleshooting Tips and TricksIf you're still having trouble bypassing the lid lock on your Whirlpool washing machine, here are some additional tips and tricks to help you troubleshoot the issue:Check the Owner's ManualSometimes, the answer to your problem can be found in the owner's manual. Check the manual to see if there are any specific instructions for bypassing the lid lock on your particular model.Consult Online Forums and ResourcesThere are many online forums and resources available that can provide valuable insights and advice from other homeowners who have experienced similar issues.Contact a Professional Repair TechnicianIf you're not comfortable attempting to bypass the lid lock yourself, or if you're unsure about what you're doing, it's always best to contact a professional repair technician. They can diagnose the issue and provide a solution that's specific to your machine.ConclusionBypassing the lid lock on your Whirlpool washing machine is a relatively simple process that can save you time, money, and frustration. By following the steps outlined in this article, you should be able to bypass the lid lock and get your machine working again. Remember to always follow safety precautions when working with electrical appliances, and if you're unsure about any part of the process, don't hesitate to seek professional help. With a little patience and persistence, you can get your washing machine up and running in no time!FAQWhat is the lid lock on a Whirlpool washing machine?The lid lock on a Whirlpool washing machine is a safety feature designed to prevent the lid from opening during the wash cycle. This feature is intended to prevent accidents and injuries by keeping the lid securely closed while the machine is in operation. However, in some cases, the lid lock can malfunction or become stuck, preventing you from accessing the drum and continuing with your laundry tasks.It's essential to understand how the lid lock works and how to troubleshoot issues related to it. This knowledge will help you identify the problem and take the necessary steps to bypass the lid lock and get your washing machine up and running again.Why does the lid lock on my Whirlpool washing machine get stuck?There are several reasons why the lid lock on your Whirlpool washing machine may get stuck. One common cause is a faulty or worn-out lid lock switch, which can become stuck in the locked position. Another reason could be a buildup of lint, detergent, or debris in the lid lock mechanism, preventing it from functioning correctly. Additionally, issues with the washing machine's control board or wiring can also affect the lid lock's operation.To resolve the issue, you'll need to identify the root cause of the problem. Check the lid lock switch and mechanism for any signs of wear or damage. Clean out any debris or buildup that may be affecting the lid lock's operation. If the issue persists, you may need to check the control board and wiring to ensure they are functioning correctly.How do I bypass the lid lock on my Whirlpool washing machine?To bypass the lid lock on your Whirlpool washing machine, you'll need to locate the lid lock switch, usually found behind the washer's top panel or under the lid. You'll need to access the switch and manipulate it to open the lid. This may require using a screwdriver or other tool to release the switch and allow the lid to open.Keep in mind that bypassing the lid lock is a temporary solution and should only be done when necessary. It's essential to address the underlying cause of the issue to ensure your washing machine operates safely and efficiently. If you're unsure about how to bypass the lid lock or prefer not to attempt it yourself, it's recommended to consult a professional appliance repair technician.Is it safe to bypass the lid lock on my Whirlpool washing machine?Bypassing the lid lock on your Whirlpool washing machine can be safe if done correctly and with caution. However, it's essential to understand that the lid lock is a safety feature designed to prevent accidents and injuries. When you bypass the lid lock, you're overriding this safety feature, which can increase the risk of accidents.To minimize the risk, make sure you follow proper safety precautions when bypassing the lid lock. Ensure the washing machine is unplugged or switched off before attempting to access the lid lock switch. Additionally, be cautious when working with electrical components and avoid touching any wires or hot surfaces.Will bypassing the lid lock on my Whirlpool washing machine void the warranty?Bypassing the lid lock on your Whirlpool washing machine may void the warranty, depending on the specific circumstances and the terms of your warranty agreement. If you're still under warranty, it's recommended to contact the manufacturer or a authorized service technician to diagnose and repair the issue.Attempting to bypass the lid lock yourself may be considered tampering with the machine, which could void the warranty. However, if you're no longer under warranty, bypassing the lid lock may be a viable solution to get your washing machine up and running again.Can I fix the lid lock issue myself, or do I need a professional?While it's possible to fix the lid lock issue yourself, it's recommended to seek the assistance of a professional appliance repair technician if you're unsure or uncomfortable with DIY repairs. A technician can diagnose the issue accurately and provide a safe and effective solution to repair or replace the lid lock mechanism.If you do decide to attempt to fix the issue yourself, make sure you follow proper safety precautions and instructions. Incorrectly repairing the lid lock mechanism can lead to further damage, electrical shock, or even injury.How can I prevent the lid lock issue from happening again in the future?To prevent the lid lock issue from happening again in the future, it's essential to maintain your Whirlpool washing machine regularly. Check and clean the lid lock mechanism regularly to prevent buildup and debris from accumulating. Additionally, ensure you're using the correct detergent and following the manufacturer's guidelines for use.Regularly inspecting the lid lock switch and mechanism can help identify any potential issues before they become major problems. By taking proactive steps, you can reduce the likelihood of the lid lock getting stuck and ensure your washing machine operates efficiently and safely. Chosen Solution Samantha Frost You get the diagram from the tech sheets which should have been somewhere on the back of your machine. Your diagram does not list the color code but shows that your lid lock connects to J6 on your control unit PCB. You will need apply the jumper to whatever colored wiring attaches to J6 contact 1 and 3 (most likely red and white but I'd hate to guess and have you damage your machine or getting zapped) Here is a spare tech sheet for you just in case you lost yours. W10240504 Download Article Quick and easy ways to open up your washer while it's running Download Article Most newer Whirlpool washing machines come equipped with Lid Lock technology that prevents them from being opened while in use. This feature seems pretty handy—until it malfunctions and you need to look inside the washer while it's running. While there are a number of ways to unlock your machine under normal conditions, opening one that's on the fritz will require a magnet or some basic wire splicing skills. These kinds of renegade fixes may void your warranty, so keep that in mind if you do attempt them. Access the lid lock switch by unplugging your washer from the wall and turning off the water. Press a magnet against the lid lock mechanism for a quick, easy way to bypass the lid lock. Cut the 1st and 3rd wire (or 1st and 4th wire if there are 4 wires) that attach to the lid lock to permanently bypass it. 1 Turn off the washing machine and unplug it from the wall.[1] If you need to, scoot the appliance away from the wall just enough to expose the main power cord. Pull the cord free from the wall socket to disable the power to the washer.[2] Once you've unplugged your washer, lay the power cord flat against the side of the cabinet and tape it down to keep it from accidentally getting wet or becoming damaged while you work. If you decide to tinker with your washer without first unplugging it, you could be putting yourself at risk of electrical shock.[3] The lid lock mechanisms on some washers are heat-activated, which means overriding them is as simple as letting them cool off. Let the washer sit unplugged for about 10 minutes, then try lifting the lid. If it opens, you're all set. If it still won't budge, proceed to the next steps. 2 Shut off the water by turning the twin supply valves counterclockwise. These valves will either be located in a recessed nook on the wall behind the unit or under the utility sink, if your laundry room has one. When you find them, grip the rotating dials and twist them all the way to the left until you can't move them anymore. This will guarantee that there's no water flowing to the machine.[4] Sometimes, the supply valve dials will be color-coded red and blue to clearly indicate which one corresponds to hot and cold water.[5] It's not safe to make any sort of mechanical modifications to your washing machine without first cutting the water supply, even if it's unplugged. Advertisement 3 Open the washer's top panel by disengaging the hidden retention clips. You'll find one of these clips on either side of the upper part of the unit's front face. Slip a screwdriver blade under the edge of the housing on one side of the machine and push directly against the clip inside to release it. Repeat this process on the second clip, then raise the panel to get it out of your way.[6] On certain models, you may need to undo the hinge screws on the backside of the washer's upper control console in order to lift the top panel. 4 Identify the lid lock switch on the underside of the top panel. This is the electronic mechanism that actually controls the washer's locking function. On most models, it will be housed in a small box made of gray or black plastic. Chances are, this little widget is responsible for the issue you're experiencing. The lid lock switch assembly will still be connected to its wire harness, which is usually secured to the underside of the washer's top panel via a series of clips. To avoid making more work for yourself, leave both of these attachments as they are. Advertisement 1 Set a magnet on the site where the lid lock switch meets the washer cabinet. Just under the unit's housing at this spot there is a solenoid, which is a type of powerful electromagnet. Placing a separate magnet there will create a stable electromagnetic connection with the solenoid and "trick" the machine into thinking that the lid is closed when it's really open.[7] Any type of small magnet should do the trick. Just make sure you choose a thin one, like a refrigerator magnet, so you can close the lid completely. The lid lock technology on many older washing machines works by using a strong magnetic charge to keep the lid shut during the wash cycle. Use duct tape to tie down magnets that are poised precariously or won't rest flat on their own. 2 Replace the top panel, plug the washer in, and perform a test wash. Don't forget to turn the water supply back on beforehand. If your magnet is positioned properly, it will be possible for you to open and close the lid at will during regular use. This won't affect the machine's normal operations in the slightest.[8] This work-around may be useful if you want to be able to throw additional items in later on in the wash cycle without the machine cutting off every time. 3 Adjust the placement of the magnet if your washer is still stopping. Assuming the appliance continues to behave the way it normally does, you may have no choice but to open it back up and give it another shot. Try to line up your magnet with the exact spot on the top panel where the lid lock switch usually hovers. If that doesn't take care of things, hunt around for a stronger magnet. Double-check that the attractive side of your magnet is facing down. Otherwise, it may not generate a solid link with the solenoid. If you're having trouble finding a magnet strong enough to maintain a connection, just unscrew the one that's set into the edge of the washer lid. You can always put it back when you're done.[9] Advertisement 1 Remove the lid lock switch assembly. Use a 1⁄4 inch (0.64 cm) nut driver to loosen the 2 mounting screws holding the box in place on the bottom of the panel. Lower the assembly carefully and let it dangle freely from its wire harness at around chest level. That way, you'll have no difficulty accessing it with your tools.[10] Place the mounting screws in a shallow dish or similar container so you won't lose them. If they disappear, you won't be able to get the switch back in its proper place at the end of your project. 2 Pry the cover off of the assembly. These sorts of covers are almost always secured using retention clips. Simply pull up on the clips with the edge of your thumb to disengage them. Then, lift off the cover and set it aside.[11] In some cases, it may be necessary to take out a couple of small screws in order to remove the switch cover. 3 Examine your washer's tech sheet to determine which wires to cut. Scan the included wiring diagram until you find the wires labeled "lid switch" and "lock switch." The majority of washing machine lid lock switches are powered by 3 or 4 wires, each of which performs a different function. Hopefully, these will be color-coded. If not, the tech sheet will map out the arrangement of the wires on the control board.[12] Most washing machine models come with a thin booklet attached to the back or bottom interior portion of the cabinet. Inside this booklet (known as the "tech sheet") you'll find a diagram that lays out the exact configuration of your appliance's electrical wiring.[13] If your switch has 3 wires and the lid switch and lock switch are assigned to positions 1 and 3, cut the wires on either side of the middle wire. If your switch has 4 wires and the lid switch and lock switch are assigned to positions 1 and 4, cut the 1st and 4th wire. 4 Snip the wires corresponding to the lid lock mechanism and lid switch. Grab a pair of pliers or some sharp scissors and make a nice clean cut right through the center of each wire. Without an intact connection, the wires won't be able to channel the electrical current that causes the lid to remain locked.[14] Messing with your washing machine's wiring may cause it to stop working correctly, and it will definitely violate the terms of your warranty. Unless you're confident that you can do this right the first time, call a Whirlpool repair technician. 5 Strip about 1 inch (2.5 cm) of insulation from the end of each wire. Position the blades of your wire strippers at the appropriate spot along the first wire and clamp the handles together forcefully. Without letting go of the handles, drag the tool towards the loose end of the wire to slide off the insulated coating.[15] Stripping the wire just removes the excess material from the cut section, allowing you to work freely and efficiently. 6 Twist the ends of the two wires together and join them with a wire connector. Take each wire and gently roll the exposed strands between your thumb and forefinger to group them. Once the strands are neatly mingled, hold the two wires side-by-side and twist them together like a candy cane. Screw a plastic connector over the conjoined wire ends to secure them.[16] You can also use a strip of electrical tape if you don't happen to have any spare wire connectors on hand. Smoothing the strands on the ends of the wires before you twist them together will prevent them from sticking out awkwardly and ensure a clean connection. 7 Reassemble the washer and try it out. Tuck the newly joined wires back into the switch casing, reinstall the removable cover, and press down on it until it clicks. Reposition the switch on the underside of the machine's top panel and tighten the mounting screws, then secure the top panel once again. Finally, plug the washer back in and start it up. If you've done everything correctly, you should be able to open the lid at any point during the machine's various cycles.[17] Unlike standard washing machines, lid lock models won't stop automatically when you open them after skirting the locking mechanism. For this reason, you'll need to be extremely careful not to get your limbs, clothing, hair, or jewelry too close to the spinning agitator while you have the lid open. Advertisement Ask a Question Advertisement Thanks Advertisement Thanks Advertisement Screwdriver or putty knife Duct tape (optional) Small magnet Screwdriver (optional) Screwdriver 1⁄4 inch (0.64 cm) nut driver Pliers or sharp scissors Wire strippers Wire connector or electrical tape Co-authored by: Appliance Repair Specialist This article was co-authored by Homer Flores and by wikiHow staff writer, Hannah Madden. Homer Flores is an Appliance Repair Specialist and Training Manager at PreFix, a home maintenance company out of Austin, Texas. With over 15 years of experience, Homer specializes in home improvement, remodeling, and construction. Homer's dedication to the PreFix mission of providing hassle-free one-stop-shop service for home care, in addition to their completion of the Capital Factory and Techstars Accelerators, has contributed to their growth of service to over 50 zip codes throughout the greater Austin area. This article has been viewed 429,263 times. Co-authors: 5 Updated: April 14, 2025 Views: 429,263 Categories: Washing Machines and Dryers Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 429,263 times. "Very easy to understand written article! Even for a European person like myself who has zero experience with this type of US washing machines. Thanks for your help!"..." more Share your story The most recent Whirlpool washer models from 2015 have a few safety mechanisms, and one of them is the lid lock. A lid lock is a safety mechanism that stops the washer from running when the washer door is open. Often, the lid lock switch may malfunction in the middle of laundry, causing your washer to stop working. When this happens, you may need to bypass the lid lock as you wait for the lid lock switch replacement. We do not recommend using your washer without the lid lock. But, the easiest way to bypass the lid lock on a Whirlpool washer is by accessing the lid lock switch in the top panel and interrupting current flow into the lid lock switch by placing a magnet or wire between the lock switch and solenoid to disengage the mechanism. Some lid lock mechanisms on washers use heat to activate. It means that you can bypass the lid lock by simply allowing the unit to cool down. Switch off the power and disconnect it from the socket. Let it sit and cool for about 10-15 minutes. Then try lifting the lid open; if the washer's lid is still locked, you will have to follow the steps below to bypass the lid lock on a Whirlpool washer successfully. ScrewdriverSmall magnetElectrical tapeWire connectorsPliersWire strippers Turn off the washer and unplug from the power socket to prevent electrocution, and place the plug away from any water contact.Switch off the water supply by turning the twin supply valves counterclockwise. Though the unit is off, cutting off the water supply guarantees that no water will flow into the washer while working on it.Locate the screws that secure the horizontal tab or power board to the washer. Some models have screws at the back, while others have them at the front.Unscrew the fasteners with a screwdriver and pry a flat-head screwdriver under the panel's edge to disconnect the retention clips and allow you to lift the washer top panel. Lift the panel gently not to disconnect the wires.Locate the lock lid switch on the underside towards the back of the washer. The lock lid switch usually comes in a small plastic box that could be clear, black, or gray in most models.Place a magnet where the lock lid switch connects to the unit to create a magnetic connection between the lid lock and the solenoid. The solenoid is a type of powerful electromagnet; placing the magnet there will create a magnetic connection with the solenoid and deceive the washer's computer into thinking the door is locked when it is open. It will also allow you to run the washer with the lid open. You can secure the magnet in place with duct tape to prevent it from moving when the washer vibrates.Alternatively, you can cut the wires of the lid lock switch. Refer to your unit's tech manual and look for a diagram with wires labeled lock switch and lid switch. The lid lock switches are usually three or four wires depending on the model.Cut the lid and lock wires with a pair of pliers to remove the electric connection between the lid and lock system.Splice about an inch of the wire insulation with wire strippers and twist the wires together. Then secure the wires with a wire connector or electrical tape.Reassemble the top panel, plug in the washer and turn on the water supply. If the bypass is successful, you would be able to open and close the lid while the washer is running. You will also notice the lid locker light flash when running the washer with a disengaged lid lock switch. Keep in mind that disrupting the washer's wiring may cause your washer to stop working altogether. A washer will only work without the lid lock if you bypass the lid lock switch. However, we do not recommend using your washer without the lid lock. The lid lock switch is a safety mechanism that won't allow you to run the washer with the lid open. This mechanism prevents objects from falling into the washer while running or prevents injury when a child places their hands inside the washer. Sometimes bypassing the lid lock switch will not work long term because some washer models have backup measures that will switch off the washer if the absence of the lid lock switch is detected. Check this too: Amana Washer TroubleshootingWhen the Whirlpool washer lid lock is flashing, there is usually a problem with the washer, but the problem may not necessarily be a broken lid lock. A failed lid lock switch will cause a few issues for your washer, such as; The washer will stop working.The agitator won't move.The drum doesn't move.The unit will not drain water from the tub.The washer will not dry the clothes properly after a complete spin cycle. So this is how to know if a damaged lid lock switch is the one causing your washer problems: Disconnect the washer from the power source.Open the top panel to reveal the lid lock.Clean the lid lock switch with a cotton swab and white vinegar. If there is dirt stuck on the lid lock, it will not work efficiently.Switch on the washer and test if the problem is still there. If the problem persists, turn off the washer again.Use a multitester to see if there is a current flowing through the lid lock switch. Place the multitester on each terminal on the lid lock switch, and it should read infinity. Press the lid lock button, and if the multitester does not read zero, you need to replace the lid lock switch. Check this too: How to Fix a Squeaky Dryer Using the steps explained above, you can now bypass your Whirlpool washer's lid lock and open and close your lid freely. It is important to note that we do not recommend using a washer without a lid lock. Besides violating your warranty, you should either replace your faulty lid lock switch or get a technician to diagnose and fix the issue with your washer. 8.9K Views Updated: February 24th, 2022 The lid lock function on your washing machine is important, but sometimes you simply need to override it. There are several ways to bypass this function, including magnets or cutting wires, but it varies based on the brand. Follow along as we explore the few simple ways that you can override the lid lock feature on your washing machine. For decades, washing machines have been a common household appliance and over the years they have received a number of upgrades. If you weren't already aware, many modern washers have a lid lock feature. Not to be confused with the lid switch feature, which prevents the washing machine from operating when the lid opens, the lid lock does exactly as it sounds. It locks the washer's lid into place during cycles.The lid lock function primarily exists as a safety function and can come in handy. However, when the lid lock malfunctions and your washing machine refuses to start, you may need a way to get around it. Opening a washing machine that has a faulty lid lock will require either the use of a magnet or some basic wire splicing. However, keep in mind that these actions may void your warranty, and you'll be attempting them at your own risk. Why Do Washing Machines Lid Lock? The main reasons for a lid lock function on washing machines, both front and top loading, has to do with safety. Put simply, the lock is what prevents the lid from being opened during certain cycles of washing including the load sensing cycle and the spin cycle. The ladder of which can cause serious bodily harm if someone were to open the washer and reach in.Washers can spin anywhere from 800 to 1600 rotations per minute (rpm). This measurement indicates how many times the basin spins in a complete circle per minute. The speed of a washing machine's spin cycle is incredibly fast and can most certainly cause broken bones. This fact is why it is absolutely critical to have a lid lock function on your washing machine.This feature is especially useful for households with children. It is just another way to protect your children from the dangers that exist inside the home. During the load sensing cycle, the tub is filled with an adequate amount of water based on how much laundry is inside the machine. The lid locks during this cycle in order to ensure that no disruption occurs while the water is being filled. How to Bypass Lid Lock on Whirlpool Washer The first step in bypassing the lid lock function on a washing machine, the Whirlpool brand included, is to turn off the washing machine and disconnect it from the power source. Do not proceed until you've confirmed that the appliance is completely unplugged from the socket.Some of the lid lock mechanisms on washers are activated by heat, meaning bypassing them can be as easy as letting them cool down. Allow your Whirlpool washing machine to sit unplugged for at least 10 minutes. Then, attempt to lift the lid. If it will raise, then you're all set! If the lid lock is still engaged, proceed with the steps outlined below. Step One: Turn off the Water With your washing machine unplugged from the wall, you'll now want to shut off the water source. Even if your washer is unplugged, it is never safe to make any mechanical modifications to the unit until the water supply is cut. To do this, locate the twin supply valves either under the utility sink or in a recessed nook on the wall behind the appliance.Once you find them, turn the rotating dials counterclockwise until they won't move anymore. This will guarantee that no more water is flowing to the machine. Step Two: Access the Lid Lock Switch First, open the top panel of the washer by disengaging the retention clips. These clips are hidden on either side of the upper section of the appliance's front face. Pry a screwdriver under the edge of the housing on one side and push against the clip inside to release. Continue this same process for the second clip, allowing you to raise the panel.With the top panel out of the way, locate the lid lock switch on the underside. This switch is the electronic component that controls the locking feature. In most models, it will be found inside of a small box that is made of either black or gray plastic. Step Three: Bypassing the Lid Lock with a Magnet Underneath the washer's housing, where the lid lock switch meets the cabinet, is a solenoid. A solenoid is a powerful electromagnet, which is keeping the lid locked. To release it, you need to create a stable electromagnetic connection that will "trick" it into opening.Place a small magnet between the lid lock switch and where it fits into the unit. This action should release the switch, allowing you to raise your Whirlpool washer's lid. Consider taping the magnet in place to be able to open and close your washing machine during regular use.Quick Tip: If the small magnet is not creating a solid link with the solenoid, make sure that you're placing it in the exact spot where the lid lock switch hovers. Otherwise, you may need a stronger magnet. For this, you can unscrew the magnet that is placed on the edge of the washer lid. Step Four: Perform Test Wash After you've successfully overridden the lid lock function, replace the top panel. Then, plug the washer back into the wall, turn the water supply back on, and perform a test wash. Use this test wash to evaluate whether or not your little workaround works while the wash cycle is occurring. This bypass will not affect the washer's normal processes in the slightest, permitting you to place additional items into the wash without the unit cutting off each time. How to Bypass Lid Lock on Washing Machine by Cutting Wires If you're unsuccessful with the magnet method, you can bypass your washer's lid lock function by cutting the wires connected to the lid lock switch itself. Make sure that your washing machine is turned off, the water supply is disconnected, and you've gained access to the lid lock switch. Then, proceed with the following steps: Remove the lid lock switch housing by loosening the mounting screws holding it in place. Carefully lower the assembly and allow it to dangle freely in its harness. Lift the cover off of the assembly. Most of these types of covers are fastened with retention clips. In this case, you can pry open the cover by pulling up on the clips to disengage them. Then, take off the cover and set aside. Refer to your washing machine's tech sheet to discover which wires need to be cut. The tech sheet should contain a wiring diagram that indicates which wires are labeled "lock switch" and "lid switch." Most washer's lid lock switches are powered by three or four wires. These are the ones you'll be cutting. Cut the wires that relate to the lid switch and lid lock component. Using sharp scissors or a pair of pliers, snip right through the center of each corresponding wire. Without an established connection, the wires will not be able to provide the electrical current that keeps the lid locked. Strip insulation from the end of each wire. You'll want to remove about 1 inch of insulated coating from the end of the wires using wire strippers. This removes excess material, allowing you to work more efficiently. Attach a wire connector. Twist the ends of the wires together and join them using a plastic wire connector. Alternatively, you can use a strip of electrical tape if you don't have a wire connector readily available. Reassemble the washer and test it out. Tuck the wires back into the assembly, plug the washer back in, turn the water back on, and start it up. You should now be able to freely open and close the lid at any point during the machine's various cycles. It's important to note that modifying your machine's wiring may cause it to stop functioning properly, and will most certainly violent your warranty. Proceed with caution or consider hiring a certified repair technician. Depending on your particular model, most GE top-loading washers will lock while they are running. If you need to bypass the lid lock and open the lid, simply press the Start/Pause button. No matter which cycle it is on, the washer will stop and allow you to raise the lid. Once you're done, close the lid and push the Start/Pause button to continue the wash cycle.Why is my Amana washer not spinning?If your Amana washing machine isn't spinning or you have standing water in the tub, verify that the drain hose is installed correctly. This is generally the case if the "spin" light is also on, as it turns on after 10 minutes of the drain pump being on with no change in water level. Related Guides Published February 27th, 2021 8:00 PM