**Cleaning the Check Valve**

1. Remove the brew group from the espresso machine. The brew group is also known as the central unit or brew unit.

2. Remove the two Phillips head screws on the slanted plastic support that holds the rubber coffee outlet tube in place.

   It is located near the top of the brew group. The rubber outlet tube is black and resembles the end of a trumpet. The Phillips screws are located on either side of the “trumpet” end. The opposite end of the rubber tube has a 90 degree elbow bend on it and is attached the top of the brew unit.

3. Remove the rubber tube and slanted plastic support from the brew group. Once the support piece is loosened, the rubber tube should come right off. The elbow end is connected to a small nipple. Pull it straight off. (see below)

4. Remove the two Phillips head screws that are on the triangular plastic mount. The mount is located hear the elbow end of the rubber tube that you just removed.
5. Slowly remove the plastic mount from the brew group
   
   a. BE CAUTIOUS: attached to this piece is a spring with a plastic or check
      valve seat at the end. The valve seat can also be a small glass or plastic
      ball.

6. Clean all three pieces (valve seat, spring and mount) with warm water. Make sure
   that you also clean the entire brew unit by rinsing it in some warm water as well.
   Be careful not to lose any of the smaller pieces.

   a. This is also an ideal time to remove the upper filter screen and clean that
      as well.

7. After all components are clean, reinstall the valve seat and spring.

   a. If your spring has a small and large end, the larger end of the spring
      should face up. The smaller end of the spring should face down into the
      brew unit.

8. Reinstall the triangular plastic mount. There is a small nipple on the mount that
    should face down. Do not over tighten the screws.

9. Attach the rubber tube back onto the triangular plastic mount. The elbow end of
    the rubber tube slides over the small nipple on the triangular plastic mount.
10. Attach the slanted plastic mount back onto the brew group and tighten the 2 screws. Again, do not over tighten the screws.

11. Reinstall the brew group into your espresso machine.