Self-centering chucks are designed to have all the jaws move in unison. The jaws are driven by a spiral scroll when the knurled ring is turned. Self-centering chucks will never duplicate the accuracy that can be attained with jaws that are moved independently, but they will usually “get the job done,” saving a machinist much time and effort.

The main purpose of a 4-jaw self-centering chuck is to hold square stock. It can also be useful in holding thin wall round tubing that will collapse easily. Round stock that is held in this chuck must be perfectly round and cannot be at all elliptical or one of the jaws will not grip. The same is true for square stock; it must be very square and not at all rectangular to achieve a proper grip with all four jaws.

### Jaw Opening Ranges

These chucks are designed so that the jaws can be removed and reversed to hold larger stock.

**The 2.5” 4-Jaw Chuck (P/N 1075)**

With jaws in normal position: 3/32” (2mm) to 1-3/16” (30 mm)

With jaws in reverse position: 5/16” (8mm) to 2-1/4” (56 mm)

**3.125” 4-Jaw Chucks (P/N 1076, 1076C, and 1078)**

With jaws in normal position: 3/32” (2mm) - 1-1/2” (38mm)

With jaws in reverse position: 5/16” (8mm) - 2-3/4” (70mm)

Sherline chucks have a .687” (17 mm) through hole with a 3/4”-16 thread for use on standard Sherline headstock spindles. (P/N 1078 has a 22 x1.5 mm thread for use on ER-16 collet spindles).

### Removing the Jaws

When seen from the front, turning the scroll clockwise backs the jaws out. Turn clockwise until all jaws can be removed. The jaws can be identified by the location of the teeth as noted in Figures 1 and 2.

### Reversing the Jaws

When reversing the jaws, jaws 4 and 2 will go back into the same slots from which they were removed. Jaws 3 and 1 will exchange positions. The order of installation to reverse the jaws is 4-3-2-1 in slots D-A-B-C. (See Fig. 1.) To install the jaws in the reversed position, turn the scroll counter-clockwise (viewed from the top) until the outside tip of the spiral scroll thread is just ready to pass the slot for the first jaw to be inserted (jaw #4). Slide jaw 4 as far as possible into the slot. Turn the scroll until the jaw is engaged.

Due to close tolerances between the slot and jaw, the most difficult part of replacing the jaws is engaging the scroll thread and first tooth of each jaw without binding. Never use force when replacing the jaws, and if binding occurs, simply back up the scroll slightly and wiggle the jaw until it is free to move in the slot. Advance the scroll counterclockwise and engage jaw #3 next in the slot that previously held jaw #1 (the slot marked “A”). Continue to engage jaws 2 and finally jaw 1.

When reinstalling jaws in the normal position, the order of insertion reverts to 1-2-3-4 in slots A-B-C-D. (See Fig. 2.)
A set of replacement jaws is available as P/N 1177. Should repair become necessary, please return your chuck to the factory so that we may replace the jaws and check the alignment of the chuck before returning it to you. In the case of a damaged chuck body, replacement of the entire chuck is usually more economical than attempting repairs.

**ER-16 Chucks**

Introduced in early 2014, the P/N 1078 3.1" 4-jaw self-centering chuck is now offered with a 22 x 1.5 mm thread for use on the optional ER-16 spindle nose for the headstock. It is used in the same way as a standard chuck but now offers those who opt for the ER-16 collet option a way to use a Sherline chuck on their lathe.

**Lubrication and Maintenance**

Clean chips from the jaw slots with a brush and add lubrication to keep the chuck operating smoothly. To prevent rust, keep the surfaces of the chuck lightly oiled. If possible, store wrapped in the waxed paper it came in.

Thank you,
Sherline Products Inc.

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**CAUTION!**

- These chucks were not designed for use on high speed spindles operating at speeds above 3000 RPM.
- IMPORTANT! Do not turn the lathe spindle on unless the chuck jaws are tightened. Acceleration of the spindle can cause the scroll to open the chuck jaws if they are not tightened!