

TIP 80 — How to Distinguish between Standard Chucks and Coated Chucks

Some of our customers have been wondering how to tell the difference between our standard chucks and those that have the electroless Nickel-Teflon coating. Standard chucks have darker markings than the coated chucks (See Figure 1).



Figure 1—Examples: (Left) 1040 3-Jaw Chuck (3.1"), (Right) 1040C Electroless Nickel-Teflon Coated 3-Jaw Chuck (3.1").

Here, at Sherline Products, each of our chucks is laser engraved with a company mark, chuck size, and jaw location. During the laser marking process the laser removes a bit of the surface and darkens the material below (Figure 1, left). When chucks are sent out to receive the Nickel-Teflon finish the coating process changes the dark engraved markings to a noticeably lighter finish (Figure 1, right).

There is also a subtle change in the color of the chuck, but in the absence of being able to compare them side by side, the most evident way to tell whether you have a coated chuck, or not, is to check the color of the laser markings.