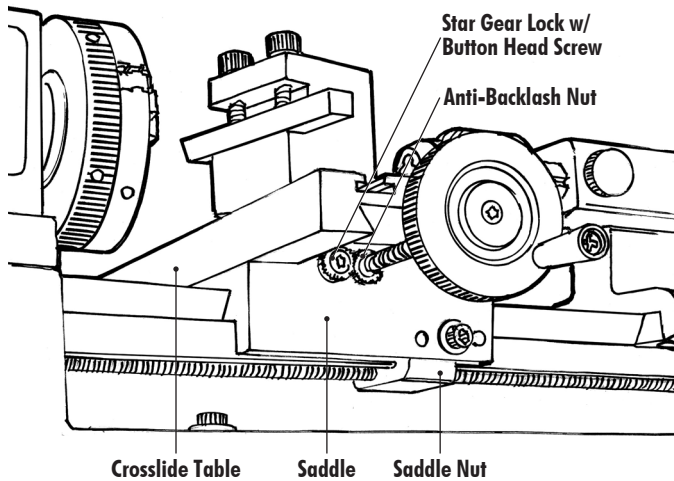




Video instructions can be found on YouTube.com at
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d2wIzuTBiRE>

Lathe Assembly and Backlash Adjustment



Introduction

Backlash adjustment was added to the lathe crossslide in 2013. Similar in design to the anti-backlash adjusters on the mill X- and Y-axis, the crossslide backlash can now be adjusted to a range of .001" to .003" (.03mm-.07mm).

Removing the Lathe from the Box

After removing the bubble pack that fills excess spaces, turn the lathe tailstock handwheel counter-clockwise to release pressure on the motor and accessory boxes packed between the headstock and tailstock. Remove the boxes and set them aside. Turn the box over and lift it off the lathe and cardboard. Remove the two screws that hold the lathe to the wooden shipping base.

Installation of the Crossslide Table on a New Lathe

The lathe crossslide table is located under the front cardboard flap in the lathe packaging. After removing the lathe from the box, retrieve it from under the flap and remove the protective foam material. The saddle gib has been installed and pre-adjusted at the factory. Remove the rubber bands that secure it in place during shipping.

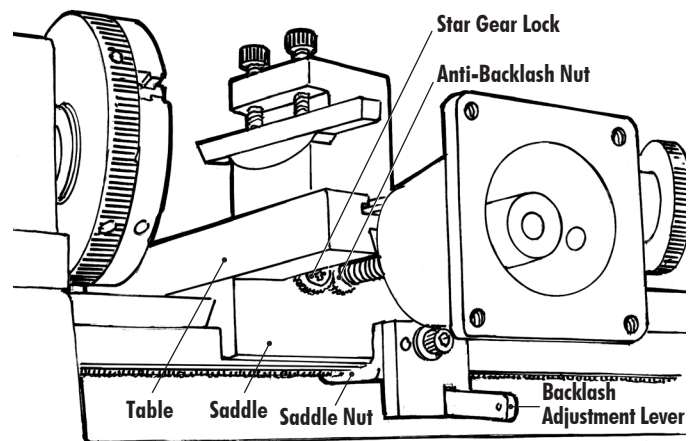
The star gear anti-backlash lock is already secured to the front of the saddle. Using the smallest hex key included in the parts box, loosen the button head screw that holds it in place. (Do not remove it, just break it loose so the star gear lock can turn freely.) The anti-backlash nut will already be factory installed on the crossslide leadscrew.

Align the dovetail on the bottom of the table with the top of the saddle and slip the table onto the dovetail until the leadscrew enters the hole in the front of the saddle.

While pushing the table toward the saddle, start turning the crossslide handwheel in a clockwise direction to start the leadscrew into the threads of the nut inside the saddle. Turn the handwheel until the rear of the crossslide is about even with the back of the saddle.

Adjusting Backlash

From underneath the table, thread the anti-backlash nut down the leadscrew until it is flush against the side of the saddle and the knurled teeth are engaged with the teeth of the star gear lock. Tighten the anti-backlash nut as tight as you can with your fingers or use one of the hex keys to



Note that on CNC lathes, backlash is also adjustable on the long leadscrew. This is optional on the manual lathe by adding the optional P/N 4417Z/4417M.

push gently on the teeth of the anti-backlash nut to tighten it. **DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN!** Finally, tighten the button head screw in the center of the star gear lock to secure the anti-backlash nut in place.

Check the amount of backlash by turning the handwheel in one direction and stopping at an even mark on the handwheel. Then turn the handwheel the other direction and note how many marks are moved before you can feel friction on the handwheel. If the handwheel is very hard to turn, or there is less than .001" (.02mm) of movement, loosen the star gear lock and then loosen the backlash nut a small amount. Retighten the star gear lock screw. Adjust until you get to the range of .001" to .003" (.03mm-.07mm) of movement. A more accurate way to check the backlash is by using a dial indicator on the front or back surface of the table to see exactly when the table starts to move when changing directions.

NOTE: When adjusting or replacing the gib, loosen the gib-lock locking screw, do not attempt to remove the locking screw. The end thread can be damaged by the action of tightening it against the gib lock pin. This will result in a bad end thread on the screw. If you only loosen this screw, there will be no damage to the screw threads in the saddle. However, if you remove the locking screw entirely, the damaged end thread on the screw WILL damage the threads in the saddle.

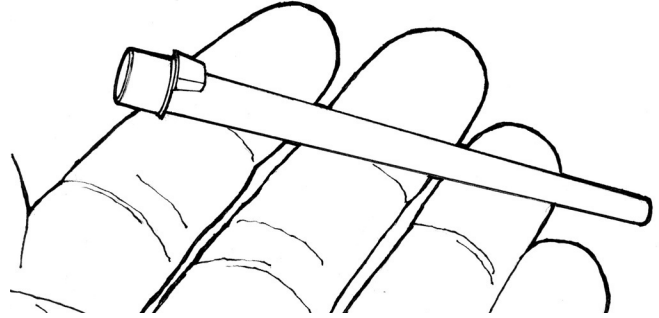


Using the Sherline Gib Removal Tool

Gib Removal Tool

When removing a tapered plastic gib for adjustment or replacement, first release the set screw or socket head screw that secures the gib lock. (The gib lock looks like a bent wire that goes through a hole in one end of the gib.) Then use a mallet to tap on this plastic tool to drive the gib out of the dovetail from the back end. Do not use a metal tool like a screwdriver. This can damage the gib and/or the metal ways of your machine. Pulling on it with pliers can also damage the gib if it is to be re-used. If this tool is not available, use a length of wooden dowel or other non-metal material to drive the gib out from between the dovetails if it cannot be easily removed by hand.

Please refer to the [Gib Replacement instructions](#) for a detailed explanation on how to install and adjust, or replace your gib. P/N 4098 (Lathe crossslide, Mill X- and Y-axis), P/N 4099 (Lathe saddle, Mill Z-axis).



A gib removal tool is included with each Sherline lathe or mill. The tool is made from a sprue produced in the gib molding process. It is the same material as the gib and will not harm the gib or the machine's metal parts.

VIDEO INSTRUCTIONS AVAILABLE

For Gib installation and setup, please visit our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FkoxaUCpvn8>

Removing Rust Preventive Coatings

Removing Factory Applied Rust Preventives

To prevent rust between manufacturing and the time you receive your machine, raw steel parts are coated at the factory with Corfilm® or an equivalent rust preventive. It is a little sticky and may have a light brownish color that looks like surface rust. It's not rust and is easily removed with a brush or cloth and some kerosene or odorless paint thinner. Once the coating is removed, the steel surfaces should be protected by wiping on a thin coating of light machine oil, sewing machine oil or "3-in-1" oil. Each time you are done with a job and before the machine or accessory is put away for storage, steel parts should again be coated with a rust preventive or a thin application of light machine oil to keep surfaces from rusting. This is particularly important if you live in a humid climate.

Applying and Removing WD40®

If you apply WD40 or an equivalent rust preventive during storage, it should be removed by wiping down with kerosene or thinner before the machine is used again. Once the coating of WD40 is removed, the parts should re-coated with light machine oil before use. **WD40 is NOT recommended for use as a lubricant!**

PTFE (Teflon) Based Grease

Slides and leadscrews can be lubricated with a PTFE (Teflon) based grease for reduced friction. This clear, non-staining grease is applied to lubricated surfaces at the factory. It is available from Sherline in a 3-oz tube as P/N 7550 or it can be found at most auto or home supply stores under the "SuperLube" or other brand names.