

Lathe9 Alignment Software for Lathes and Turning Centers

Powerful new Lathe9 alignment software simplifies lathe and turning center alignment, even on large lathes

Hamar Laser's new Lathe9 alignment software supports our L-700 Spindle Alignment system equipment to create a powerful tool for aligning lathes or other turning-type machines. This comprehensive and easy-to-use program displays real-time, 4-axis alignment data of the headstock to the tailstock. It also checks the straightness of the guideways and parallelism to the main spindle axis.

Applications include:

- Cylindrical Grinders
- Lathes
- Screw Machines
- Turning Centers
- Turret Lathes
- Multi-turn Machinees



Machine Geometry Measurement:

- Guideway straightness
- Guideway pitch and yaw
- Headstock spindle-axis parallelism to tailstock or turret guideways
- Headstock spindle-axis alignment to: tailstock or turret centers, or subspindle rotation axes

Program Features include:

■ Easy 6-Step Process

Lathe9 guides the user through the alignment with a 6-step process, designed to align a lathe in the most efficient way. First the setup data is entered. Then the guideways are checked for straightness and it is determined if the headstock spindle axis is parallel to the bed. If these geometries are out of spec, they need to be fixed first. Lathe9 then takes data for the headstock spindle alignment to the tailstock or turret and provides a live, 4-axis display of the alignment, along with shim value calculations to align them. Finally, a printed report details the alignment of all the lathe geometries. Results can be plotted, saved, and exported to an Excel spreadsheet for further analysis.

■ Project Headstock Spindle Axis Out to 100 Feet

By following our simple Step 2 procedure, the laser can be aligned exactly to the spindle axis of rotation, which can then be projected out to 100 feet (30 M) to measure guideway parallelism of even the largest lathe.

■ Easily Measure Lathe Headstock Spindle-Axis Parallelism to Guideways

Lathe9 records the straightness data of the main bed and automatically calculates the guideway straightness and parallelism of the spindle axis to the bed. It can even check parallelism of the saddle or turret guideways if they are separated from the tailstock guideways.

■ Live 4-axis Data Display

The alignment displays the update with each adjustment in four axes: V-center, H-center, V-angle and H-angle. This allows the user to quickly correct misalignment errors and requires no calculations.

■ Report Generation

Reports can be customized to show the results relative to the laser or the guideway best-fit line, comments may be added, and the report can be printed with a summary, a graph of the vertical and horizontal straightness, comments and a table showing the recorded data.



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Program Features

Lathe9 Alignment Software

Step 1: Set Up

Enter the headstock and tailstock dimensions, choose the number of points to be recorded and enter the alignment tolerances. The dimensions are used to calculate shims when aligning the headstock, tailstock and/or turrets. The alignment tolerances are automatically applied to the displays, results screen and graphs.

Step 2: Qualify Laser

Align the laser to the headstock spindle axis by following the NORMIN procedure, where one set of data is recorded with the spindle/laser in the NORMal position and a second set is recorded with the spindle/laser in INverted position. Display offsets are automatically applied so the user zeros out the laser's four axes of adjustment to make it parallel and coincident the spindle axis of rotation.

Step 3: Guideway Straightness and Spindle-Axis Parallelism

After qualifying the laser, straightness data is recorded for tailstock guideways, the turret (saddle) guideway or both, using the number of points selected in Step 1. Lathe9 records four axes of data (V-center, H-center, V-angle, H-angle) at each location along both sets of guideways. This is especially helpful where the tailstock and turret (saddle) ride on separate guideways. To take the data, the target is mounted in the tailstock or turret (saddle) and moved along the lathe bed to each point. Press the spacebar to record the values. When finished, click the **Results** button to view the alignment data.

Step 3: Alignment Data Results

After taking data, click the **Results** button to view alignment results for:

- Tailstock guideway straightness
- Turret (saddle) guideway straightness
- Headstock spindle-axis parallelism to the tailstock guideways and/or turret guideways and the parallelism between the two sets of guideways.

A check mark or X displays if the data is in or out of tolerance, based on the tolerances entered in Step 1.

Step 3: Headstock Spindle-Axis Real-Time Alignment Screen

Click the **Move** button in Step 3 to open the Headstock Spindle-Axis Real Time Alignment Screen. In this screen, the headstock may be aligned to either the tailstock guideways or turret (saddle) guideways or an average of both. Shim values are calculated to align the headstock and a live angular display shows whether the alignment is in or out of tolerance.



Program Features

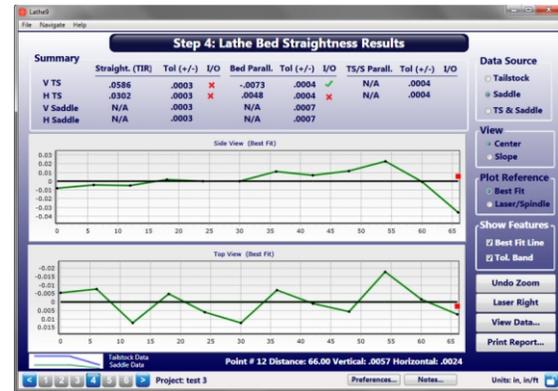
Lathe9 Alignment Software

Step 4: Lathe-Bed Straightness Results and Graph

After recording data in Step 3, Step 4 calculates:

- Straightness for each set of guideways
- The parallelism of the main spindle axis to the tailstock guideways and turret guideways
- The parallelism between both sets of guideways.

Results are displayed in the table and are compared against the tolerances defined in Step 1. Straightness is then plotted on a graph, showing whether the data is in or out of tolerance. The V and H angular (pitch and yaw) values at each location may also be plotted. The user may choose which set of data to plot and what reference to use: the laser or the least-squareness, best-fit line. Clicking a point on the graph displays the data for that point.



Step 5: Record Tailstock/Subspindle Axis Data

After the headstock spindle axis has been aligned to the lathe's guideways, Step 5 is used to take data for the alignment of either the tailstock or a subspindle to the headstock spindle axis of rotation. It takes about 3 minutes to record the data and on-screen instructions guide you through the procedure. Once the data is recorded, alignment results are calculated and compared against the tolerance and a graphical display illustrates the alignment. Display offsets are also automatically applied to the live, 4-axis display to show the alignment of the tailstock or subspindle to the main spindle.



Step 6: Tailstock/Turret Real-Time Alignment Screen

If the data recorded in Step 5 is out of tolerance, the misalignment can be fixed in the Step 6: Tailstock/Turret Alignment screen. Lathe9 automatically applies display offsets so the live, 4-axis display shows the actual alignment results. It also calculates the shims necessary to align the tailstock or turret. Live spindle graphics (vertical/side view and horizontal/top view) automatically update with each move, showing how the alignment is progressing. When the shim displays turn green, the alignment is complete.



Generating Reports



Lathe Alignment Report

Project Name: Lathe 1495-BR
Date Printed: 10/14/2017 at 9:11 AM

Report Issued By:

Company Name:
Address:
City, State, ZIP:
Email:

Machine Information:

Factory: Alpha 12
Machine: 4153
Notes: The machine appears to have been crashed.

Setup Information:

Spacing and Dimensions

Units:	in., in/f	Headstock A:	12.00
Number of Points:	10	Headstock B:	6.00
Starting Point:	1	Tailstock A:	10.00
Spacing Increment:	12.00	Tailstock B:	4.00

Tolerance Bands

Straightness: .0005
Tailstock Center: .0010
Tailstock Angular: .0005
Spindle Axis Parallelism: .0003
TS/Saddle Axis Parallelism: .0004

Target Information

Target Name: Karl's Target
Interface: R-353HR
Serial Number: 66788765
Calibration Date: 10/14/2016
Description: Kit no. 1 for cell 493

Units: in., in/f

Project: Lathe 1495-BR

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Laser Qualification

Orientation	V Center	H Center	V Slope	H Slope
Inverted Laser	-.0238	-.0039	.0044	.0071
Normal Laser	-.0238	-.0039	.0044	.0071
Mounting Offset	-.0238	-.0039	.0044	.0071

Lathe Bed Straightness & Headstock Spindle Axis Parallelism

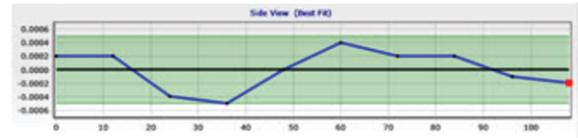
Summary

	Straight(TIR)	Tol (+/-)	I/O	Bed Parall.	Tol (+/-)	I/O	TS/S Parall.	Tol (+/-)	I/O
V TS	.0009	.0005	✓	.0000	.0004	✓	.0000	.0004	✓
H TS	.0000	.0005	✓	.0000	.0004	✓	.0000	.0004	✓
V Saddle	.0018	.0005	✗	.0000	.0004	✓			
H Saddle	.0007	.0005	✓	.0000	.0004	✓			

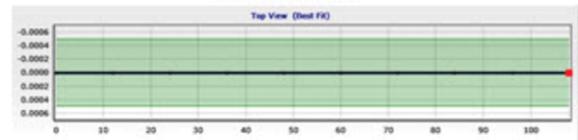
Lathe Bed Straightness Plots

Data Source: Tailstock Plot Reference: Best Fit View: Center

Side View Flatness



Top View Straightness

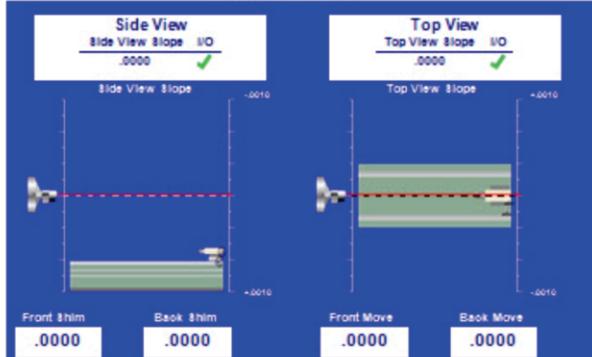


Units: in., in/f

Project: Lathe 1495-BR

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Saddle Parallelism



Lathe Bed Data

Point	Distance	Tailstock VC	Tailstock HC	Tailstock VS	Tailstock HS	Saddle VC	Saddle HC	Saddle VS	Saddle HS
1	0	-.0300	-.0329	-.0543	.0071	-.0081	-.0073	.0265	-.0032
2	12.00	-.0300	-.0329	-.0543	.0071	-.0036	-.0050	.0294	-.0079
3	24.00	-.0306	-.0329	-.0543	.0072	-.0030	-.0062	.0197	-.0116
4	36.00	-.0306	-.0329	-.0543	.0072	-.0048	-.0079	.0107	-.0133
5	48.00	-.0301	-.0329	-.0543	.0071	-.0044	-.0079	.0088	-.0139
6	60.00	-.0307	-.0329	-.0544	.0071	-.0032	-.0063	.0207	-.0121
7	72.00	-.0305	-.0329	-.0544	.0071	-.0034	-.0061	.0247	-.0108
8	84.00	-.0305	-.0329	-.0544	.0071	-.0033	-.0076	.0238	-.0077
9	96.00	-.0300	-.0329	-.0543	.0071	-.0034	-.0076	.0240	-.0020
10	108.00	-.0301	-.0329	-.0543	.0071	-.0034	-.0079	.0241	-.0032

Units: in., in/f

Project: Lathe 1495-BR

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Tailstock/Subspindle Axis Data

Laser Position	V Center	H Center	V Slope	H Slope
Laser Inverted/Target Normal	-.0016	-.0046	.0033	.0144
Laser Normal/Target Inverted	.0002	.0032	.0003	-.0066
Laser Normal/Target Normal	-.0005	-.0040	.0044	.0067
Mounting Offset	.0004	-.0001	.0029	-.0048

Tailstock/Subspindle Alignment Results

