

CLUTCH ADJUSTMENT GAUGE - by Harry Van Eaton

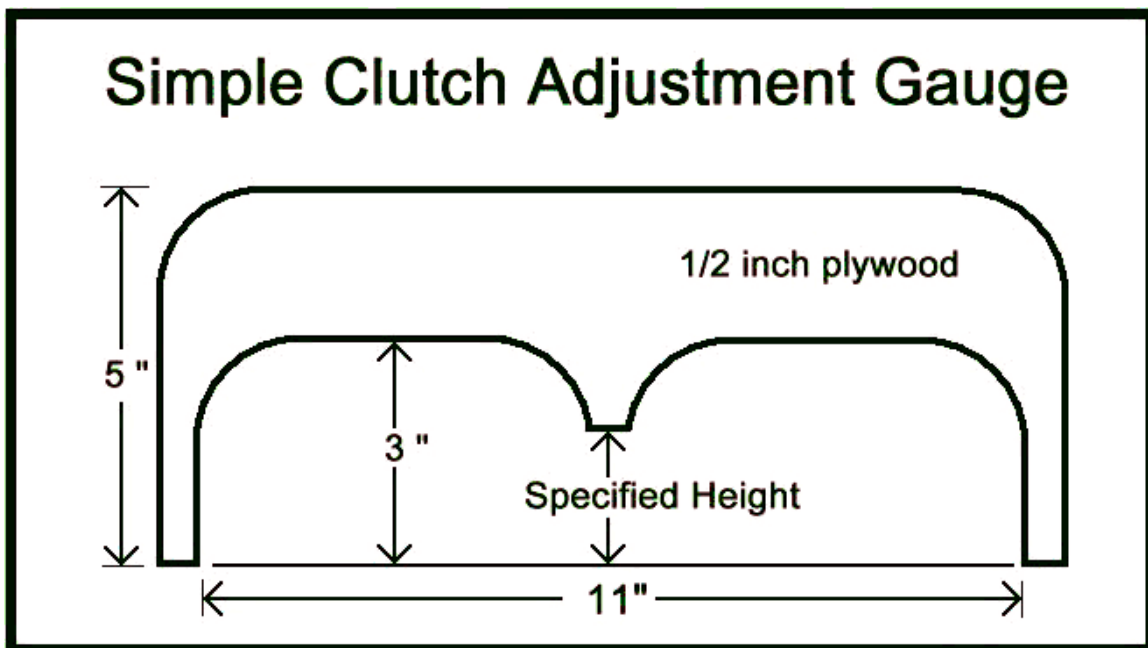
It's my first tractor so splitting the machine and replacing the clutch disc was also a first and I didn't want to do it twice. With the helpful advice of my mentor, an experienced MHF mechanic all went well. The flywheel was removed and the ring gear reversed, all was cleaned and re installed. An alignment tool made sure the disc was centered and the pressure plate bolted back in place.

The problem was getting exactly the right setting for the fingers on the pressure plate. If it was wrong the tractor would have to be opened for adjustment.

The manual for the TEA 20 called for 1 13/16 inch above the flywheel face for my Rockford clutch. You MUST check and double check to ensure you use the correct setting for your tractor.

To get it right the first time an adjustment gauge was required.

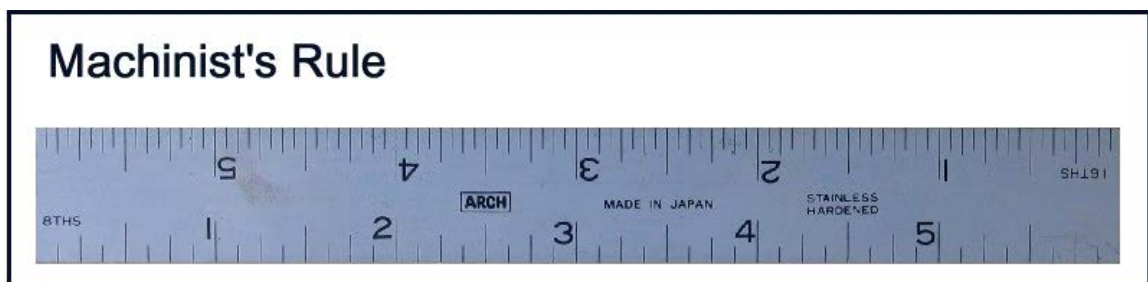
Version 1 can be made from a single piece of 1/2 inch plywood as shown in the drawing below.



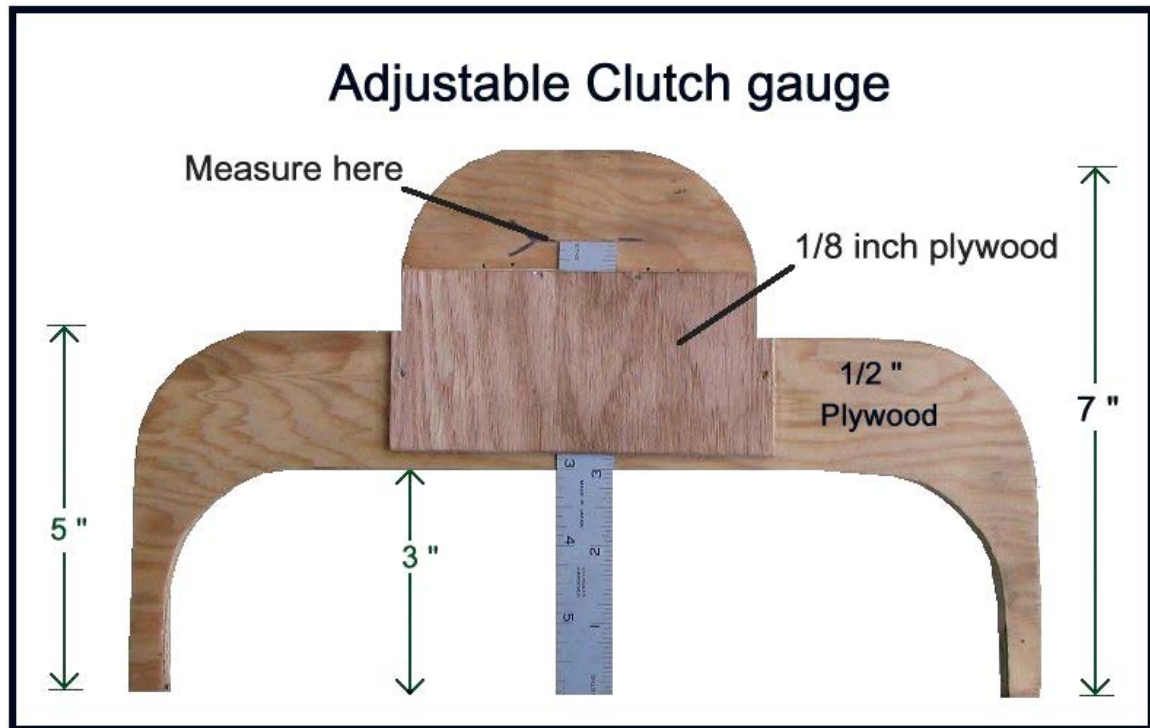
This gauge is more than adequate for one tractor provided the "specified height" is accurate.

Version 2, an adjustable gauge is more flexible if it is going to be used on a number of tractors with different setting or as in my case where it can be used for other precise settings. I have found it ideal for setting table saw blade and router table height etc.

The key to the adjustable gauge is a 6 "machinist's rule which has scales that start at the end of the ruler, not an 1/8 of an inch from the end as with common rulers. Only rules that read from edge to edge will give direct measurement.



The rule will replace the measurement tab in the center of the gauge.



A thin groove is in 1/8 "plywood with a utility knife and chisel to snugly fit the rule. The rule must be movable but be tight enough to securely hold its position.

Once the gauge is complete and the ruler is securely in place, zero the gauge by setting the gauge perfectly vertical on a flat surface. Push the rule all the way down and mark the top of the ruler,. This is the measuring mark and is exaggerated in the above picture for these instructions. The scale on the left of the rule gives the height of the rule above the surface.

To set clutch fingers, set the gauge ends firmly on the surface of the flywheel and position the ruler or center tab over the fingers and adjust to the correct height. Have a cup of coffee and measure it again, you want this to be right.

If you have any questions or need more information, email me at cii@post.com.

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