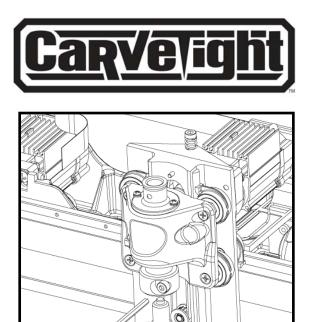
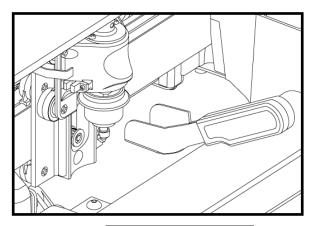
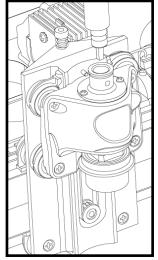
CarveWright Spindle Systems Manual









Manual Revision 1.10

This manual is revised regularly. Please visit us at www.carvewright.com to download the latest version of this manual.

CAUTION: Read and follow all Safety Rules and Operating Instructions before using this product.

Please keep the box and packaging foam from the CarveWright machine. This box will be used for shipping in the event that the unit needs servicing.

Owner Assistance Line: 713-473-6572 LHR Technologies, Inc <u>www.carvewright.com</u>

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
CARVEWRIGHT SPINDLE SYSTEMS	
CARVETIGHT SPINDLE SYSTEM	
QUICK RELEASE CHUCK (QC) SYSTEM	
QC Chuck Operation	
Cocking the Quick Release Chuck	6
Bit Assembly Installation for the QC	
Bit Assembly Removal for the QC	7
QC Care and Maintenance	
QC Chuck Troubleshooting	9
CUTTING BITS	
Bit Adapter Assembly for the QC	
Proper Bit Installation Into the QC Bit Adapter	
CarveWright Approved and Branded Bits	
GENERAL TIPS AND HELPFUL REMINDERS	

CarveWright Spindle Systems

The CarveWright[™] System, with its computer-controlled 3-D carving and general woodworking capabilities, is a revolutionary breakthrough in bench-top power tool design. Central to the performance and versatility of the CarveWright machine is the bit changing system. There are two different spindle systems available for the CarveWright; the patented Quick Release Chuck (or Quick Change) and the CarveTight[™] Spindle System. The following section provides the operational details of both systems. Pay close attention to the configuration of your machine before reading as the systems are very different.

CarveTight Spindle System

The CarveTight spindle system allows the user to switch between any CarveWright supplied 1/4" or 1/2" shank bit quickly and easily. The system consists of a 1/2" straight bore spindle shaft and an off-center friction paw that grabs the bit. The bits are inserted into the shaft and the paw is tightened with a 4mm Allen wrench.

Machines purchased with the CarveTight system come with a tapered 1/16" carbide carving bit and a straight 1/8" cutting bit, both pressed into a 1/2" OD straight bushing that can be inserted directly into the CarveTight spindle. All solid carbide bits will require these bushing which are pressed onto them at the factory.

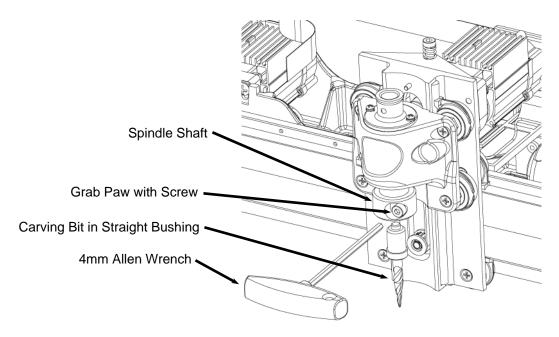


FIGURE 1: CARVETIGHT SPINDLE SYSTEM

As mentioned above, the CarveTight spindle accommodates both 1/4" and 1/2" shank bits. Steel shank decorative bits with a 1/2" shank diameter can be inserted directly into the bore of the spindle. Bits with a 1/4" steel shank will first need to be inserted into a split collet before being inserted into the spindle bore.

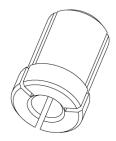


FIGURE 2: CARVETIGHT 1/4" SPLIT COLLET

Any bit that does not come with a pressed on bushing will require a rubber stop collar. These stop collars provide a roughly constant depth reference from use-to-use of the bit. When using a bit with a stop collar, make sure to insert it until the stop collar touches the bottom of the spindle (in the case if the 1/2" shank bit) or the bottom of the split collet (in the case if the 1/4" shank bit).

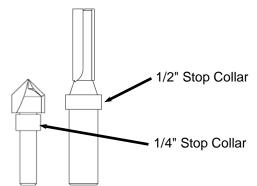


FIGURE 3: CARVETIGHT 1/4" SPLIT COLLET



WARNING: Never use the split collet with a solid carbide bit. The collet is not able to grab the hard carbide sufficiently to keep it from spinning in the collet or from pulling out of the collet. Using a collet with a carbide bit can lead to project, bit and machine damage that will not be covered under warranty.

Quick Release Chuck (QC) System

Some CarveWright machines utilize the quick release chuck system (QC) to make changing any-and-all CarveWright approved bits fast and easy. Using the patented bit adapter, the quick release chuck will accept both 1/4" and 1/2" shank bits with equal ease (please see the *Cutting Bit* section for more information on CarveWright approved bits). This means that executing complicated, multi-bit project designs is a snap; even when using widely varying bit sizes and profiles.

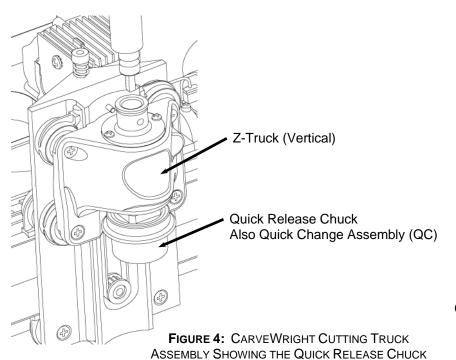


FIGURE 5: 1/16" TAPERED CARVING BIT AND 1/8" STRAIGHT CUTTING BIT ASSEMBLIES

Many of the service issues encountered with the CarveWright machine occur because of improper use and/or maintenance of the quick release chuck. The goal of this document is to provide all of the information necessary to keep the quick change in top operating condition. It is important to remember that the quick release chuck may need to be replaced from time to time over the life of the machine. The quick release chuck is warranted against manufacturing defect only and is not warranted against issues related to general wear and tear.

QC Chuck Operation

The quick release chuck operates very similar to the quick release fitting on an air hose. The three important parts of the mechanism are the chuck tapered body, the chuck spring loaded cap, and the tapered bit adapter (into which the bit is mounted). The matching tapers on the chuck body and bit adapter are precisely machined to fit together so that the bit runs vertical and true (Figure 6).

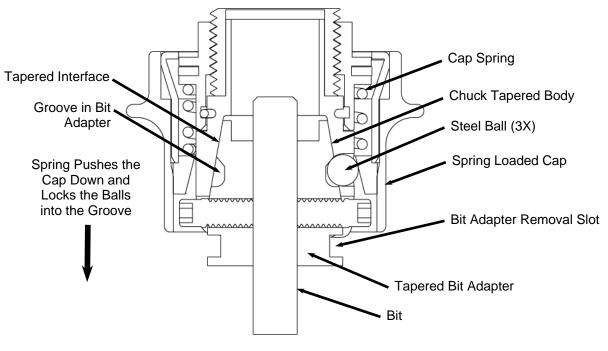


FIGURE 6: CROSS SECTION OF THE QUICK RELEASE CHUCK

There are three balls located in the chuck tapered body that fit into a groove on the bit adapter and provide the locking once the cap is forced down by the spring. Lifting up on the spring loaded cap allows the balls to retract into the tapered body and releases the bit assembly. The quick release chuck can be in two different positions: the cocked position and the bit lock position. In the cocked position, the quick change is ready to accept a bit assembly.

Visually, it can be verified that chuck is in the cocked position by looking at the bottom of the chuck. If the tapered body can be seen protruding from the cap then it is cocked. Also, insert a finger into the tapered body and feel for the balls. If they are loose and can be pushed into the tapered body then it is in the cocked position. If the balls are locked in position then the chuck is in the non-cocked position.

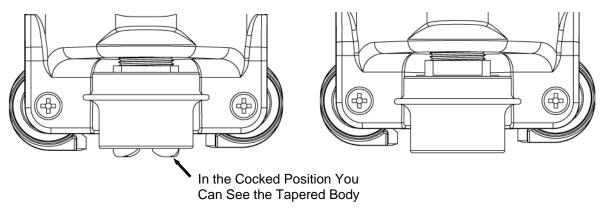


FIGURE 7: QUICK RELEASE CHUCK IN THE COCKED AND NON-COCKED POSITIONS

Cocking the Quick Release Chuck

The quick release chuck must be cocked in order to install a bit. To cock the chuck, place a thumb in the z-truck grip ridge and pull up on the chuck release flange with the middle and index fingers of the same hand. As the cap moves upward it will rotate slightly in the counter-clockwise direction relative to the tapered body. Release the flange once the top of travel is reached and it will remain in the up (or cocked) position.

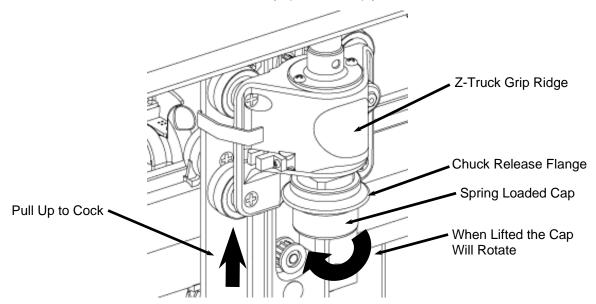


FIGURE 8: COCKING THE QUICK RELEASE CHUCK

If the cap does not stay in the cocked position repeat the above procedure applying more force to the cap. If you are unable to cock the chuck by pulling up on the flange as described, insert a finger into the tapered body from below too prevent the body from rotating. Then grab and twist the spring loaded cap in the counter-clockwise direction while lifting. This should free the cap and allow the cap to be cocked.

In the event that the above methods do not result in a cocked chuck, please refer to the *Chuck Troubleshooting* section of this document for possible resolutions.

Bit Assembly Installation for the QC

Once a carving function has been selected from the display menu, the CarveWright machine will move the cutting head to the center of the machine and prompt for the user to insert the required bit.



WARNING: Use caution to avoid being cut by the razor sharp carbide cutting edges of the router bits. When touching a bit make sure to only grab non-sharpened surfaces. If this is not possible please use a cloth or glove to grab the bit.

To insert a bit into an empty chuck: lift up on the front safety cover, move the z-truck to the center and top of its travel, and cock the quick release chuck. Without touching the z-truck or QC, press the bit assembly up until a slight snap is felt. Press down on the spring loaded cap to assure that the spring loaded cap is completely down and twist the spring loaded cap in the clockwise direction to assure that it is firmly seated

It is critically important that the bit assembly be properly assembled. Severe damage to the chuck, bit, project and even the machine can occur if the bit is not properly installed. Check the following to assure that the bit is properly installed before proceeding with a cut:

- Assure that a snap is heard when the bit is loaded into the cocked chuck
- Assure that no play can be felt at the tip of the bit once assembled into the chuck
- Assure that the bit is secure by pulling down on the bit

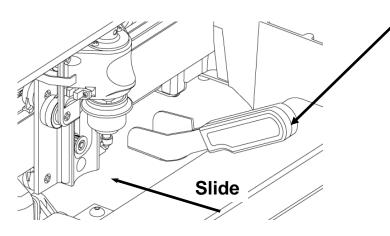
If any one of these three conditions is not met do **NOT** proceed with cutting. STOP, diagnose, and address problems until each condition is met. Please see the *Chuck Troubleshooting* section for a comprehensive discussion of how to diagnose and fix issues with the quick change chuck.

Bit Assembly Removal for the QC

The process for removing a bit assembly is almost identical to the one used to cock the chuck. To remove a bit assembly, place a thumb in the z-truck grip ridge and the middle and index fingers of the same hand under the chuck release flange on the spring loaded cap. Next place the middle and index fingers of the other hand around the shank of the bit. Pull up on the chuck release flange. As the cap moves upward it will rotate slightly in the counter-clockwise direction relative to the tapered body. The bit assembly should drop out once the cap has been raised sufficiently.



WARNING: Use caution to avoid being cut by the sharp cutting edges of the router bit. Use caution if the bit has recently been in use; it may be HOT and a glove will be required to handle it.



Bit Release Tool

Alternately, the supplied bit removal tool can be used to extract the router bit as shown in Figures 9 and 10. Slide the removal tool under the release flange and into the bit adapter removal slot (see Figure 6).

FIGURE 9: BIT REMOVAL TOOL INSERTION

Lift the handle in a gentle prying motion. The removal tool straddles the bit adapter to hold it and keep it from falling as the bit is released. The bit assembly will drop out onto the removal tool as it lifts the release flange. After removing a bit using the removal tool, the quick release chuck may be left un-cocked. To cock it, push the flange up on the chuck to prepare for insertion of another bit.

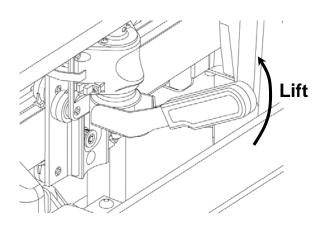


FIGURE 10: BIT RELEASE WITH TOOL

QC Care and Maintenance

The patented quick Release chuck is a precision machine mechanism. As with any tool, neglect of the quick release chuck will lead to many preventable problems. With proper care and maintenance the chuck will provide long, reliable service. Be sure to routinely service the chuck by doing the following:

WARNING: Always unplug machine before attempting any troubleshooting or maintenance on the machine.

- Check Chuck Tightness: Take time to check the tightness of the spindle assembly before each project. This includes both the tightness of the threaded interface of the chuck to the spindle shaft as well as the slop in the spindle due to bearing wear. Any slop in the spindle will be reflected in the quality of the cut and will increase force on the chuck and bit. To check, simply insert a finger into the tapered body of the chuck from below with no bit present and move the finger back and forth checking for looseness. If looseness is detected in the spindle please contact CarveWright support to diagnose the problem.
- **Remove Dust**: The CarveWright quick release chuck is designed to tolerate a considerable amount of dust. But to ensure proper operation it should be kept free of dust and debris as much as possible. Regularly blow out any dust from the recesses and the taper of the chuck. Always make sure to use low-pressure air (<80 psi) as high-pressure air can damage adjacent electronic components.

In some cases dust may be necessary to clean the chuck with a cleaning solution. We recommend that WD40 be used to clean the chuck. First lay out a rag or paper over the belt trays so as not to drip the WD40 onto the machine. Be sure to wear safety glasses as the WD40 can be an eye irritant. Use the straw nozzle to spray the WD40 up into the chuck. Work the chuck by actuating the spring loaded cap many times. If dust is limiting motion you will be able to feel it loosen as you work the cap. Spray again and continue to work the cap. Once the mechanism is working smoothly dry it with a rag and compressed air. WD40 is a degreaser so please lubricate the chuck as described below to prevent rust.

Dust can also become attached and compacted on the mating tapered surfaces because it tend to stick to the light oil needed to keep it lubricated and rust free. Keep these surfaces free of dust by cleaning them regularly.

- **Remove Pitch:** Pitch buildup can become a problem if left unchecked. Periodically remove pitch from bits, bit adapters and the internal surface of the tapered body using mineral spirits.
- Lubricate: It is very important that the quick release chuck is always kept properly lubricated. Keeping a thin film of oil on the chuck and bit adapters helps to deter rust, provide lubrication, and transfer heat between the bit adapter and the chuck assembly during heavy use. Periodically clean out dust from the chuck. Once cleaned, re-lubricate the chuck with a multi-purpose light oil (like 3-IN-ONE oil) on a rag. Wipe the parts down with a rag to avoid over-lubricating the chuck, as this will only attract dust and could result in staining the workpiece.
- **Prevent Rust:** The patented quick release chuck's operation can be affected by rust. Rust on any of the chuck parts or bit adapters will cause the chuck to perform poorly and eventually fail. Specifically, any rust on the surface of the mating tapers will prevent the bit adapter from sitting in the tapered body correctly. In the best case, this will cause the bit to be loose in the taper affecting cut quality and at the worst cause the bit to be thrown out of the chuck during operation. In the event that rust does appear on any of the quick release parts or bit adapters it must be removed and the parts re-lubricated. Any part with rust that penetrates deeper than the surface will need to be replaced. Do not leave bit and adapter assembled in the quick release chuck when not in use. The adapter can rust to the quick release chuck if left installed for an extended period of time.
- **Inspect Parts for Damage:** Check surface of bit adapters and surfaces for chuck for damage. Damage to mating tapered surfaces will prevent the bit adapter from sitting in the tapered body correctly. Any damaged parts must be replaced before use.
- Check Bit and for Looseness in the Bit Adapter: Always check that the bits are secure in the bit adapter. Loose bits will sometimes show themselves by poor cut quality and lines in the raster cuts. These lines are simply height difference caused by the bit slipping up and down in the bit adapter.
- Accessories and Parts Source: Available accessories, approved cutting bits, and user-replaceable parts can be obtained through the CarveWright website.

QC Chuck Troubleshooting

This section addresses many of the common issues that can be encountered with the quick release chuck. If the solutions presented to do solve the issue please contact CarveWright support at 713-473-6572. **Remember to always unplug machine before attempting any troubleshooting or maintenance on the machine.**

- Unable to Cock the Chuck: In most cases a chuck that is difficult to cock is clogged with dust. This dust prevents the spring loaded cap for lifting and/or rotating entirely. In order to cock the chuck the cap must lift entirely to the top of its travel. Clean the chuck in the manner described in the *Care and Maintenance* section.
- **Bit Assembly is Stuck:** If unable to remove the bit assembly from the quick release chuck use the bit removal tool in the manner described in *Bit Assembly Removal* section. This too can be caused by dust preventing the spring loaded cap for properly lifting and rotating.
- **Cut Quality is Poor:** Poor cut quality is seen as unusually rough carving or raster carving that contain many lines in it. Something loose or misaligned in the spindle/chuck system will be the cause. There are several items to check that would cause this poor quality:
 - Bit loose in the adapter
 - Bit assembly not snapped into the tapered body correctly
 - Chuck not tightened onto the spindle
 - Worn spindle bearings
 - Chipped or damaged bit cutting surfaces (including burning)
 - Dirty bit cutting surfaces (pitch, dust, etc)
 - Damage to the tapered body because of the bit being spun out during operation
 - Dust on the tapered mating surface
 - Rust on the tapered interface surfaces
 - Bent screws on the bit adapter
 - Dimples on the bit adapter body
 - Distorted bit adapter



Do not leave bit and adapter assembled in the quick release chuck when not in use. The adapter can rust to the quick release chuck if left installed for an extended period of time.

Cutting Bits

The CarveWright comes equipped with two bits mounted in bit adapters. These are the 1/16" tip diameter carving bit and a 1/8" cut-off bit. Additional bits and bit adapters, made to the CarveWright specifications, are available through the CarveWright web site.



WARNING: Piloted bits can NOT be used in the machine machine even if the pilot bearings have been removed..



WARNING: Use only CarveWright branded bits with the machine. The machine is calibrated to work with bits within certain specifications, and if these specifications are not met the results can be undesirable. It is possible to overstress the machine with nonstandard bits, which could be both damaging to the machine and hazardous.

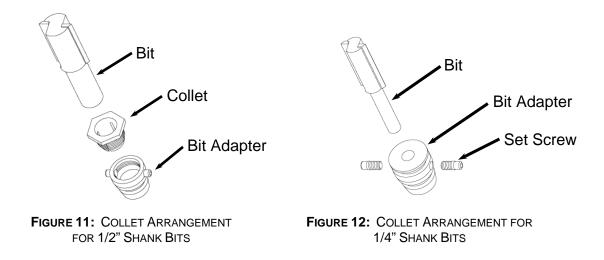
Bit Adapter Assembly for the QC

The CarveWright utilizes a patented quick release chuck system to make changing bits fast and easy. To use this system the bits must first be installed into the bit adapters. **The 1/4" bit adapters are single use only.** They are not to be removed from one bit to use on another since the setscrews are required to be permanently thread cemented. Swapping adapters will lead to stripped setscrews and loose bits. In the case that you are assembling a bit into a new adapter, first make sure that the bit is spaced properly in the adapter. Please see Figure 13 and 14 for proper spacing.

For 1/2" **shank bits,** insert threaded bit adapter into the chuck assembly and then insert bit into threaded collet (See Figure 11) and tighten the collet with a wrench. Position the bit in the adapter as shown in Figure 12. Verify that the collet is also securely tightened.

For 1/4" **steel shank bits:** Remove the two setscrews from the adapter body and de-grease both the setscrews and threaded holes. This can be done using rubbing alcohol or a product such as WD40. Thoroughly dry the parts. Apply a drop of permanent thread cement on each setscrew to prevent them from loosening and start the treads. Insert the bit into the bit adapter and tighten the setscrews with supplied Allen wrench (See Figure 12). Position the bit in the adapter as shown in Figure 13 and *always make sure the setscrews are tight*.

For 1/4" carbide shank bits: Carbide bits include the 1/16" carving and 1/8" cutting bits and can be identified by the two small flats on the bit shank. Remove the two setscrews from the adapter body and de-grease both the setscrews and threaded holes. This can be done using rubbing alcohol or a product such as WD40. Thoroughly dry the parts. Apply a drop of permanent thread cement on each setscrew to prevent them from loosening and start the treads. Insert the bit into the bit adapter and position the bit so that the setscrews align to the flats. Tighten setscrews with supplied Allen wrench and *always make sure the setscrews are tight*.



For 1/16" carbide shank bits with a 1/4" pressed-on steel sleeve:

Remove the two setscrews from the adapter body and de-grease both the setscrews and threaded holes. This can be done using rubbing alcohol or a product such as WD40. Thoroughly dry the parts. Apply a drop of permanent thread cement on each setscrew to prevent them from loosening and start the treads. Insert the bit into the bit adapter and tighten the setscrews with supplied Allen wrench (See Figure 12). Position the bit in the adapter so that the set screws land in the middle of the 1/4" pressed-on sleeve.

There are several important things to verify when using the 1/16" cutting bit because of its small diameter. Disregarding any of these items will usually result in a broken bit.

- Make sure that the 1/16" bit is selected in the software. If it is not explicitly selected in the software, then the machine will assume that it needs the 1/8" cutting bit and take too large of a cut.
- Make sure that the project is kept under rollers at all times. If the project comes out from underneath the rollers there may be enough shift in the board to break the bit.
- Make sure that the bit is inserted correctly and that there is no movement in the end of the bit. Any wobble in the end of the bit will cause large loading on the bit.
- Make sure that the quick change is tight and does not have any play in it. Wobble in the quick change will translate to wobble in the bit.

Proper Bit Installation Into the QC Bit Adapter

1/2" Adapter Style – Assemble the bit so that the face of the adapter is 1/8" from the bottom of the cutting surface.

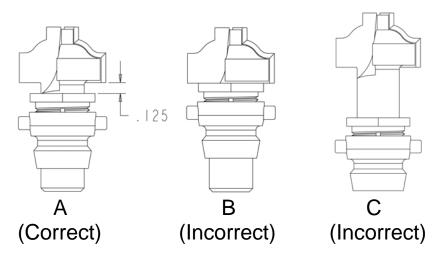


FIGURE 13: CORRECT BIT ASSEMBLY IS SHOWN IN EXAMPLE A. THE BIT IS TOO LOW IN EXAMPLE B AND TWO HIGH IN EXAMPLE C.

1/4" Adapter Style – Like the 1/2" style, assemble the bit so that the face of the adapter is 1/8" from the bottom of the cutting surface. The only exception to this is the 1/4" Ball Nose bit (BBN25) and solid carbide bits. This BBN25 bit must be assembled as shown in Figure 14.

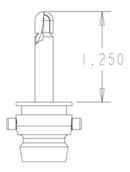


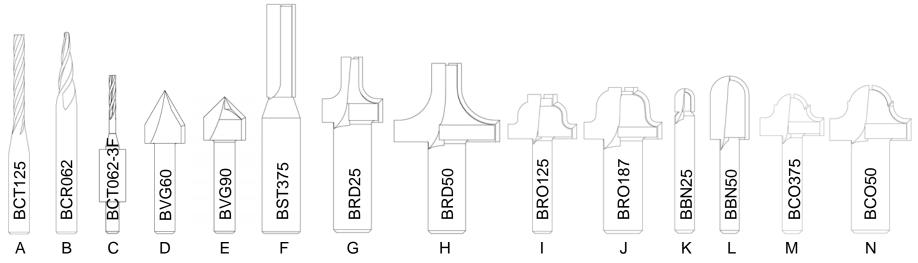
FIGURE 14: CORRECT BIT ASSEMBLY POSITION FOR 1/4" BALL NOSE BIT



WARNING: Failure to correctly install the bit in the adapter can result in injury, damage to the machine, or damage to the workpiece. This is especially true if the permanent thread cement on the 1/4" adapter setscrews is omitted.



WARNING: Check to see that each adapter is free from damage or surface defect (including rust, nicks, excess dry thread cement, etc). Adapters that have surface defects will not fit properly into the quick change and can be dislodged from the machine during operation.



CarveWright Approved and Branded Bits

#	Bit Name	Shank	LHR P/N
Α	1/8" Straight Cutting	1/4"	BCT125
В	1/16" Tapered Carving	1/4"	BCR062
С	1/16" Straight Cutting	1/4"	BCT062-3F
D	60° V-Groove	1/4"	BVG60
Е	90° V-Groove	1/4"	BVG90
F	3/8" Straight - Jointing	1/2"	BST375
G	1/4" Round-Over	1/2"	BRD25
Η	1/2" Round-Over	1/2"	BRD50
	1/8" Roman Ogee	1/4"	BRO125
J	3/16" Roman Ogee	1/2"	BRO187
Κ	1/4" Ball Nose	1/4"	BBN25
L	1/2" Ball Nose	1/4"	BBN50
Μ	3/8" Classical Ogee	1/4"	BCO375
Ν	1/2" Classical Ogee	1/2"	BCO50

FIGURE 15: APPROVED ROUTER BITS

WARNING: NEVER CUT DEEPER THAN THE LENGTH OF THE SHARPENED CUTTING SURFACE OF YOUR BIT. The maximum cut depth as stated in this Manual is 1" for the straight 1/8" cutting bit. The maximum carving depth for the 1/16" tapered carving bit is 3/4" because that is the length of the sharpened flutes. This max depth rule applies to all bits; you cannot carve deeper than the length of the sharpened cutting surface. If you program the project to go deeper than 3/4" with the carving bit you will most likely damage your machine or bits since the stress on the machine increases exponentially when the bit is not cutting.

When doing cutouts make sure that you load the specified bit and always keep the project under rollers. Loading a 1/16" cutting bit into the machine when it is expecting a 1/8" bit will result in a broken bit.

General Tips and Helpful Reminders

USE ONLY QUALITY TOOLS. Be sure cutters are sharp and not damaged. Use only approved cutting bits.

WHEN CARVING IN PLASTIC, there are several issues to keep in mind.



Carving plastics can be very hard on the machine if the proper material is not used of if the chips are not regularly removed from the machine.

- Only Polycarbonate or Cast Acrylic plastics are approved for use in this machine. Most other common plastics melt during cutting and will damage the machine if used.
- The maximum cut depth for plastics is 0.1 inches per pass.
- If possible remove any thin protective plastic from the surface to avoid wrapping it around the spinning bit.

WARNING: CUT ONLY WOOD, PLASTIC, OR WOOD-LIKE MATERIALS. Do not cut metal, glass, stone, tile or any other hard materials.

WARNING: WHENEVER USING THE 1/8" CUTTING BIT, it is strongly recommended that the *Stay Under Rollers* option be set to Yes. It is likely that the 1/8" cutting bit will be broken during operations near either end of the workpiece or undesirable stair stepping can occur.

WARNING: NEVER CUT DEEPER THAN THE LENGTH OF THE SHARPENED CUTTING SURFACE OF THE BIT. The maximum cut depth as stated in this Manual is 1" for the straight 1/8" cutting bit. The maximum carving depth for the 1/16" tapered carving bit is 3/4" because that is the length of the sharpened flutes. This max depth rule applies to all bits; you cannot carve deeper than the length of the sharpened cutting surface. If you program the project to go deeper than 3/4" with the carving bit you will most likely damage your machine or bits since the stress on the machine increases exponentially when the bit is not cutting.

▲ DO NOT USE THE 1/4" BIT ADAPTERS MORE THAN ONCE. The CarveWright utilizes a patented quick release chuck system to make changing bits fast and easy. To use this system the bits must first be installed into the bit adapters. The 1/4" bit adapters are single use only. They are not to be removed from one bit to use on another since the setscrews are required to be permanently thread cemented. Swapping adapters will lead to stripped setscrews and loose bits. In the case that you are assembling a bit into a new adapter, first make sure that the bit is spaced properly in the adapter.

Congratulations on the purchase of your



Remember These Great Resources for More Information...

• The CarveWright Website (<u>www.carvewright.com</u>) (User's Forum, Customer Gallery, Tutorials & so much more)

• Software Tutorials (Step-by-step instructions on how to use the basic software functions)

• The CarveWright Corner

(Free Monthly Newsletter with customer spotlight, product news & contests)

• Tips & Tricks

(Free Monthly Newsletter with expert advice from power users)

The Pattern Post

(Free Monthly Newsletter featuring new patterns and pattern vendors)

- CarveWright Training Classes (Check website for next available training class date & location)
- CarveWright Tradeshows (Check website to see when we are in a city near you)

Add These Must Have Accessories...

- Full Bit Set Project of the Month VALUE!
- Scanning Probe Patterns from The Pattern Depot
- Centerline Text Visit Website for New Products

For more information on these Accessories visit <u>www.carvewright.com</u>

For Sales, Technical or Software Support Call 713-473-6572

Or email http://www.carvewright.com/cms/contact-us