

Product Name: Connecting Rod Fixture

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BHJ Part#: **CRF-1B**

Kit Contents:

1x Connecting Rod Fixture

Recommended Accessories:

Rod Length Checking Kit, BHJ P/N: CRF-IND

Set-Up Standards, BHJ P/N: CRF-STD-XXXX (various lengths, per application)

Adjustable Pin-End Boring Head, BHJ P/N: CRF-ABH

Description

BHJ's Connecting Rod Fixtures provide a highly accurate method for boring the pin end of connecting rods for pin bushing installation. Rods are held securely while the pin end is bored using a common vertical-milling machine. The Fixtures provide a rigid, quick and repeatable method of holding the connecting rod during the pin boring operation. The three-point pneumatic clamping mechanism at the journal end, in conjunction with an adjustable two-sided mechanical clamp at the pin end, ensures the pin bore is machined absolutely parallel to the journal bore.

The CRF-1B is designed to accommodate automotive connecting rods with a center-to-center distance range from 5.500" to 7.750". The CRF-2 model incorporates a similar, yet much larger and more flexible design. The adjustable CRF-2 accommodates connecting rods with a center-to-center distance range of 3.00" to 14.00". Both Connecting Rod Fixtures require 100-psi minimum air pressure for operation.

Available options include application-specific Set-Up Standards, which enable accurate fixture set-up at the correct center-to-center distance, as well as a Rod Length Checking Kit, which incorporates a dial indicator and mounting bracket, to allow either Fixture to double as a rod length gauge to make comparative measurements using a qualified connecting rod or the Set-Up Standards. BHJ's adjustable Connecting Rod Pin-End Boring Head is also available separately for accurate boring of the pin-end of connecting rods on typical milling machines. For more information on options, visit http://www.bhjproducts.com.

Fixture Set-Up & Use

- 1. Clamp the fixture to the mill table. The 5/8" slot in the bottom of the base plate allows use of a key for alignment.
- 2. Dial in the outside edges of the 5/8" vertical dowels to establish the correct centerline.
- 3. Connect a 100psi air supply to the open port on the side of the air switch.

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Fixture Set-Up & Use (continued)

4. Install the set-up standard (if ordered) onto the fixture and move the sliding block back manually, until the clamping ball is contacting the set-up standard bore. Next, open the air switch to clamp the journal end of the standard. Move table <u>X-Axis only</u> and dial-in the 1/2" dowel on the pin-end of the standard. Adjust the pin-end adjusting clamps for Y-Axis position. Remove the standard once the fixture is dialed-in.

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- 5. Load a connecting rod onto the fixture after backing-out the pin-end clamps to provide adequate clearance. Again, move the sliding block back manually, until the ball is contacting the rod bore. Open the air switch to clamp the journal end of the rod.
- 6. After clamping the journal end, swing the rod back-and-forth between the pin-end clamps approximately 1/4". This process will allow the rod to seat properly between the ball and the two locating dowels. This adjustment ensures the rod is oriented perpendicular to the journal-end bore.
- 7. Adjust the pin-end of the rod from side to side, to obtain the desired pin-hole position in the rod forging.
- 8. The pin-end clamp blocks are adjustable and may be set to one of two positions, to compensate for various rod end widths. To adjust, remove the black clamp-block plate from the main base plate of the fixture and remove the mounting fasteners under each clamp block.
 - If using the Rod Length Gauge, remove the hex-shaped bracket extension from the mounting bracket & gauge if the clamp blocks are on the innermounting location and install the bracket extension to the bracket & gauge if the clamp blocks are on the outer-mounting location.
- 9. When loading consecutive rods, loosen one side of the pin-end clamps only to speed the pin-end aligning process described in step 6.

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