

Thinking about buying a Ring Master?

Then what model should I buy?

We get a lot of questions about this topic. The Ring Master is available in two (2) stand alone models as well as several models to fit various lathes. We also offer some modifications to fit lathes that are not listed by the manufacturer, so there are several choices to make.

- 1: What size of a project do you want to make as your largest diameter?
The two (2) stand alone models offer the largest diameter capabilities at 12”, while the lathe add-on units offer a somewhat less maximum diameter. So this could be one of the major determining factors in your choice of models.

- 2: How much do you use your lathe for other projects? The lathe, for most woodworkers tends to be the least used piece of power equipment they have in their shops. If this is the case, then taking the 3 to 5 minutes to set up your Ring Master on your lathe will not be a major issue. However, you must remember that taking a partially finished project off of the lathe in order to do another project can cause some real problems when it is time to remount the project to the lathe. So if you use your lathe quite a bit, a stand alone unit would probably be your best choice.

3. Why do I need variable speed? What speeds do I really need?
These questions are a little more complicated. A. You need to be able to get the speed of your machine down to about 600 RPM in order to work with solid surface materials, such as Corian®. (Corian® is a registered trade mark of Dupont Corporation) At higher speeds, this material can start to come apart as the thing rings separate from the stock, so be sure to have that lower speed available if you ever think you might want to work with these materials.
I like to use the slower speed when cutting large pieces of very hard woods or material as I feel that I get less heat build up, less tear out, better cuts and longer blade life at the lower speeds. On the other end of the spectrum, I have never found a way to make sanding fun, so the faster the glued up project turns, the easier it is to finish the project. Normal everyday cutting can be done at about 750 RPM, which is the speed of the #723 (Single Speed Model).

4. What is the speed range of the #724 (Variable speed unit) and don't I get the same speed variations on my lathe? The model #724 will vary the speed from 600 RPM to 1000 RPM, in an infinite, smooth transformation. Many lathes are set by using the pulley system, thus limiting the speeds you can run at.

5. Why is the variable speed so much more money and why can't I just add a variable speed to the motor to accomplish the same thing? First, the motor is a capacitor start motor and putting any type of variable speed control on the power line will cause the motor to burn up. The starting windings will attempt to kick in

when the voltage drops off, thus causing the motor to fry. The Model #724 VS Ring Master uses a variable pitch pulley system, which is not a cheap way to vary the speed, but it is one of the most efficient speed controls you can have as it maintains torque throughout its entire range. Also keep in mind that your Ring Master will last for many years so that the total cost per year is really quite low when figured over the life of the machine.

- 6 I noticed that your offer some additional packages, such as the Professional Pack and the Advanced pack. Why would I need one of these? The normal users do not need to purchase one of these packages to get started with the Ring Master. These were designed for exactly what they say, the advanced package is for those users who are quite confident that they will be doing a considerable amount of work with their Ring Master and consist of a number of useful items. The Professional Pack is exactly what it says – for use by those owners who want to use their Ring Master to manufacture items for resale and production time will be important.
7. What extra items do I really need to get started? I always recommend that new users purchase just two additional items to go along with what we already provide with the purchase of a Ring Master. Those two items would be a set of the plastic angle guides @ \$12.50 and a sharpening kit @ \$10.00. ~~(These two items are included in the package that comes with the model #723 and/or #724)~~
8. What do I need when the unit arrives to get started? Not too much other than some wood and glue. There are some items you will need, such as sand paper, a plug cutter (1/2" – preferably tapered) to fill the bottom hole, and a little patience. The video tapes that come with the unit, when purchased from The Wooden Post, will provide you with all the instructions you will need to make your first project an outstanding piece.
9. What is the most common complaint you get from new owners? There seems to be one item that invariably comes up and that is the telephone call I get from a new user that they have just finished their first bowl, and used some ratty old stock they had laying around the shop, most often pine, so they don't mess up their good stock. They then tell me how easy it was to complete their first project and then want to know how they can take this beautiful bowl, made from some ratty old piece of wood, and make it look good. The other thing is the number of comments I get agreeing with my statement that "use of the Ring Master can be extremely addictive."

Have more questions – then please feel free to call us on our toll free telephone

(888) 595-7126 and ask away.

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