

Tensioning Sawmills - Count Turns Method

The “Count Turns” method self-calibrates and it does so without the need for tools. It is the only method we now recommend.

How the Count Turn Method Works:

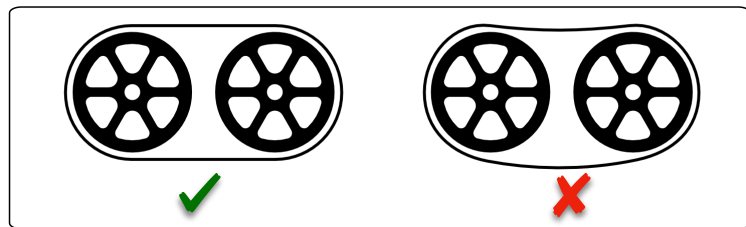
The pitch of the threaded tension rod is 3mm so for every 1 turn of the handle it pulls the rod 3mm further into the handle, applying tension on the Belleville washer stack and the blade. To reach the desired range of 5.5-7mm of total stack compression use 2.5-3 turns of the tension handle pulling the rod a total of 7.5-9mm. The other 2mm is used up by the rubber belts on the band wheels compressing and the blade stretch as it's tensioned.

RECOMMENDED BLADE
TENSION:
2- $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3
FULL TURNS FROM SNUG

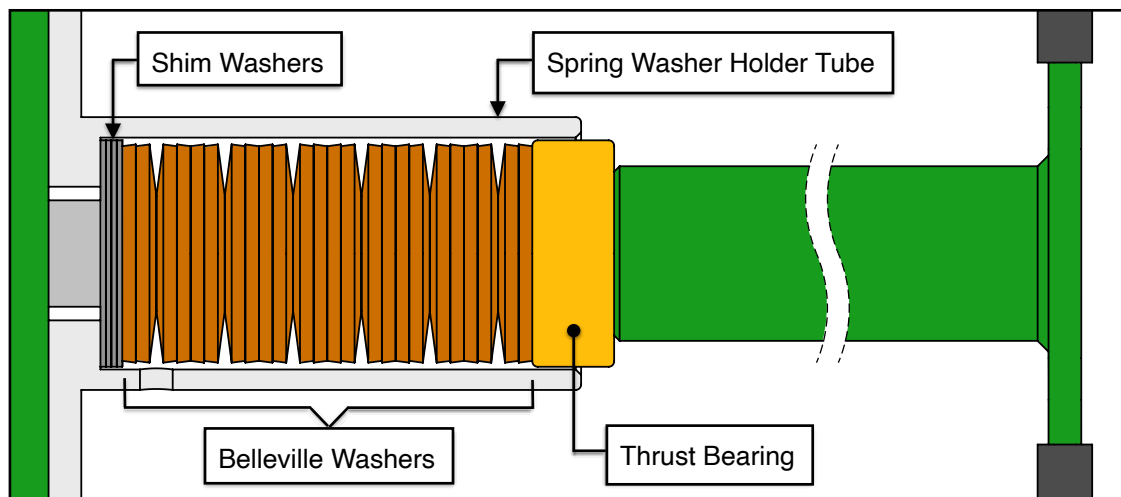
When to Start Counting Tension Turns:

Start when the tension handle is “snug”. Snug on the tension handle is a result of these 2 conditions being met:

1. The blade slack has been taken out and is no longer drooping between the band wheels.



2. The thrust bearing the tension handle spins against has become pinched between the handle and the washers and is **just starting to give resistance** on the effort used to turn it.



Therefore, “snug” is the first feel of resistance as the loose handle spins in. From this point on every turn made will be compressing the washer stack towards the desired compression total of 5.5-7mm. This will give optimal blade, belt, and bearing life going forward.