

# Oneway 1224 Lathe

by Ron Hampton



Oneway 1224 Lathe

It is rare that I am as impressed with a piece of equipment as I have been with the Oneway 1224 lathe. I've been using the Oneway 1224 during the last 12 months while working on my fourth book, *Small and Miniature Turning: A Complete Guide*. It is an ideal lathe for doing small and miniature turnings because of its convenient size, ease of use, and

extreme accuracy. I had expected to like the lathe from the start because Oneway lathes are often referred to as the "Cadillac" of lathes. What I did not expect was that I would constantly compare it to my huge old lathe and that the older one would be found lacking!

## PACKAGE

The lathe package comes with a No. 2 MT Safe Driver, No. 2 MT Live Center (with cones), knock-out rod, metal stand with a shelf, 110V AC Variable Speed Inverter with Dynamic Braking, 3" faceplate, 11" stainless steel tool rest, leveling pads, spindle lock wrench, and a hand wheel.

The steel stand provides for ample storage space below the lathe. For added convenience, the variable speed controller can be placed at either the headstock or tailstock ends of the lathe. The 1224 will turn 12-1/2" over the bed and 24" between centers. The spindle sports a 1" x No. 8 RH thread with a No. 2MT in both the headstock and tailstock. It comes equipped with a 24 position-indexing wheel.

A Constant Torque 1hp variable speed motor that can be wired for either 110 or 220 volts powers the 1224. The power source is silent. In fact, it is so quiet that when I first started using it I got into the habit of glancing at the headstock just to see if it was actually running.

In addition to the electronic variable speed, the lathe has a 2-step pulley arrangement that allows a speed range of either 0 to 2000 RPM or 0 to 4000 RPM. The

electronic controller also has Forward and Reverse with two pre-programmed acceleration and deceleration settings. However, I wanted my new lathe to decelerate much faster than the pre-programmed factory setting. Reprogramming was not difficult because of the simple instructions that the folks at Oneway provided and I was able to accomplish the task with no problem. It sure is nice to have a lathe that does what I want it to!

## EASY TO USE

I got this lathe specifically to do small projects for the new book. However in the meantime, I continued to write articles for different turning magazines and started to use the machine for the larger turnings because all my tools were already set up on this lathe. Eventually I came to realize that I just plain liked the lathe with its high quality and ease of use.

Cursed with a bad back and knees, I do all my turning sitting down. I can sit on my barstool, remove the tailstock, and lower it to the floor with one hand. Moving the Oneway tailstock is easy work since it only weighs nine pounds. The 66-pound tailstock on my old behemoth required that I stand and use both arms and my full body to move it. There were days that neither me or my bad back wanted to move that old tailstock!

## DECISION

Whenever I am making a decision about buying a new piece of equipment, there are three questions I ask myself:

1. Will it do the job that I need it to do?
2. Will I enjoy having the equipment for a long period of time?
3. Is it a good value for the money?

My answers for all three questions on this purchase are a very enthusiastic **YES!** Everything about this lathe is first class.

## PROS AND CONS

**Pros:** This lathe (like all other Oneway products) is a superior piece of equipment in every way. The workmanship is excellent.

**Cons:** At \$1850.00, this is a very expensive lathe; but having the best usually comes at a price!