

**Adding
Digital Readout
To a
Thickness Planer**



My planer:

A Grizzly 15" Model "G1021" purchased 1995



The thickness adjustment scale is small, hard to read and "non-adjustable".

I've always liked my Grizzly Planer, but I've had problems reading the thickness gauge from day one. I also found that it was not always accurate after changing the knives. Then, about 3 years ago, Grizzly ran the iGaging Digital Readout on special for about \$25.00 and I thought that might be the answer.

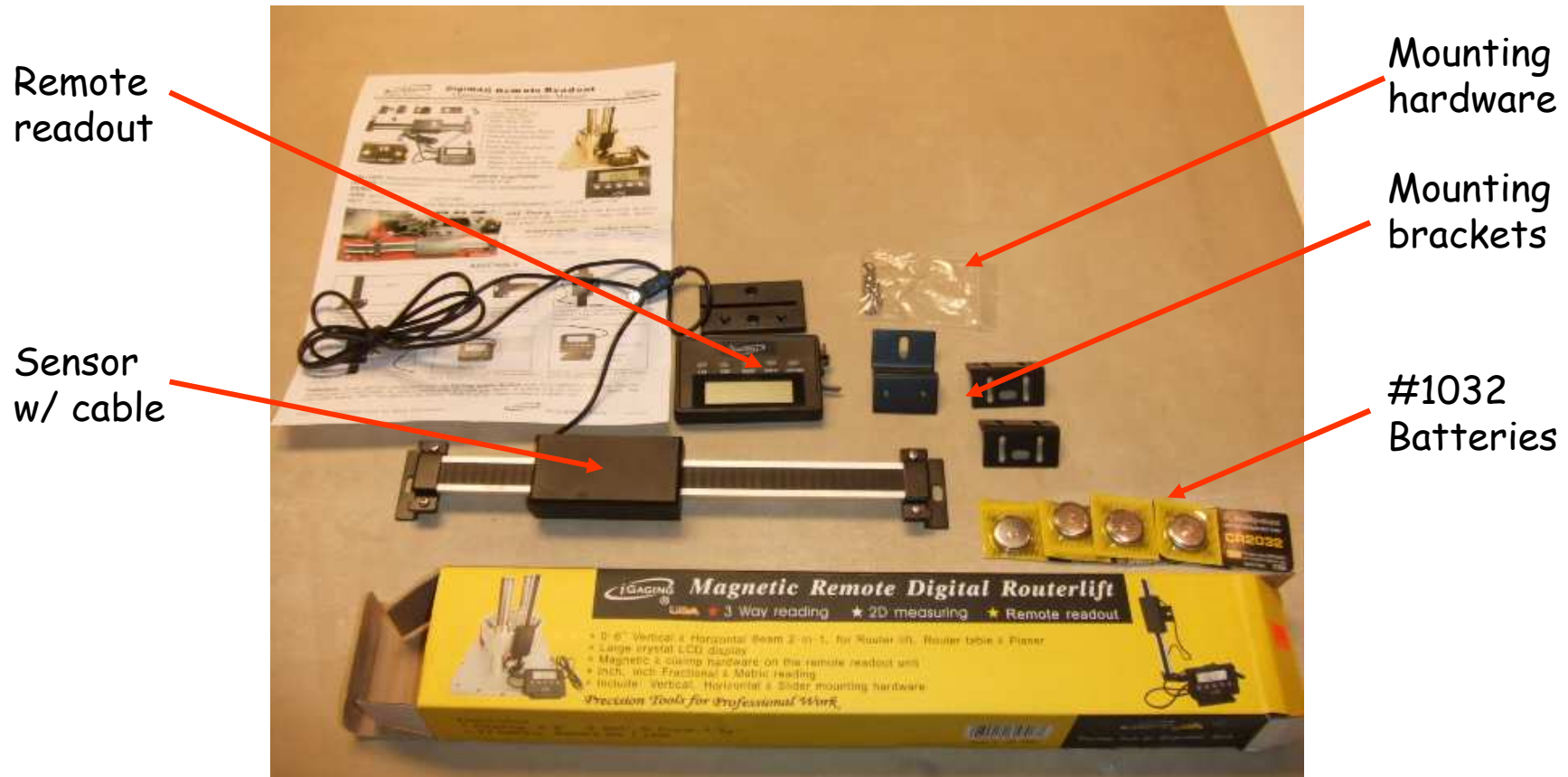
But, after I got the readout, I couldn't figure out how to mount or use it on my planer. The instructions were very "Skimpy" and I couldn't figure out how move the cutter head to "ZERO" so that I could set the readout to "ZERO". I also bought a Wixey digital readout thinking it might be easier to figure out - but it wasn't.

Well, after three years, I figured it out and it works GREAT!

This presentation shows mounting it on my G1021 15" planer, but the procedure should work on any planer.

Note:

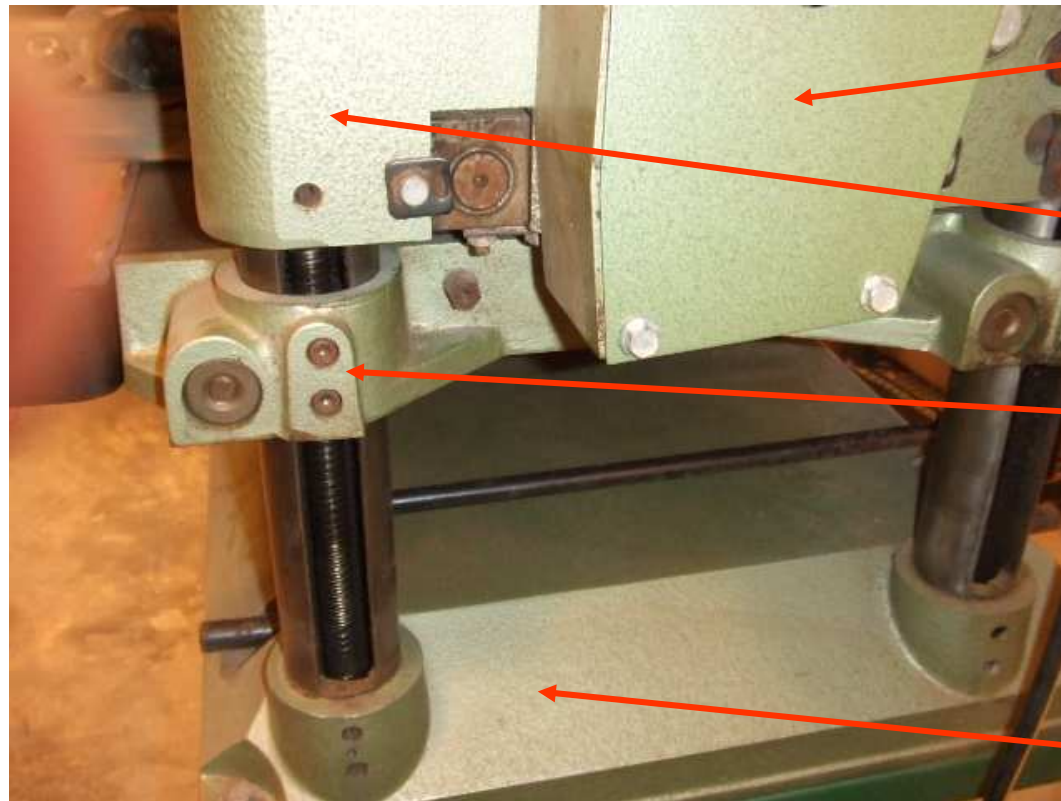
The biggest difference between the iGaging and the Wixey: the iGaging will remember the calibration after it's turned off. The Wixey loses it's calibration 6 minutes after power down.



iGaging 6" Magnetic Remote Digital Readout

Available from Amazon for \$35.95

Available from Grizzly for \$44.95



Belt guard

Upper Frame -
Stationary

Planer table - It
moves up and down

Lower Frame -
Stationary

This is on the back side of my planer, out of harm's way - a good place to mount the sensor.

It's important that the surfaces you choose be in approximately the same plane.



Close-up of the mounting locations.



The planer components are made of cast iron, so they're easy to drill and tap so you can mount the brackets with screws.



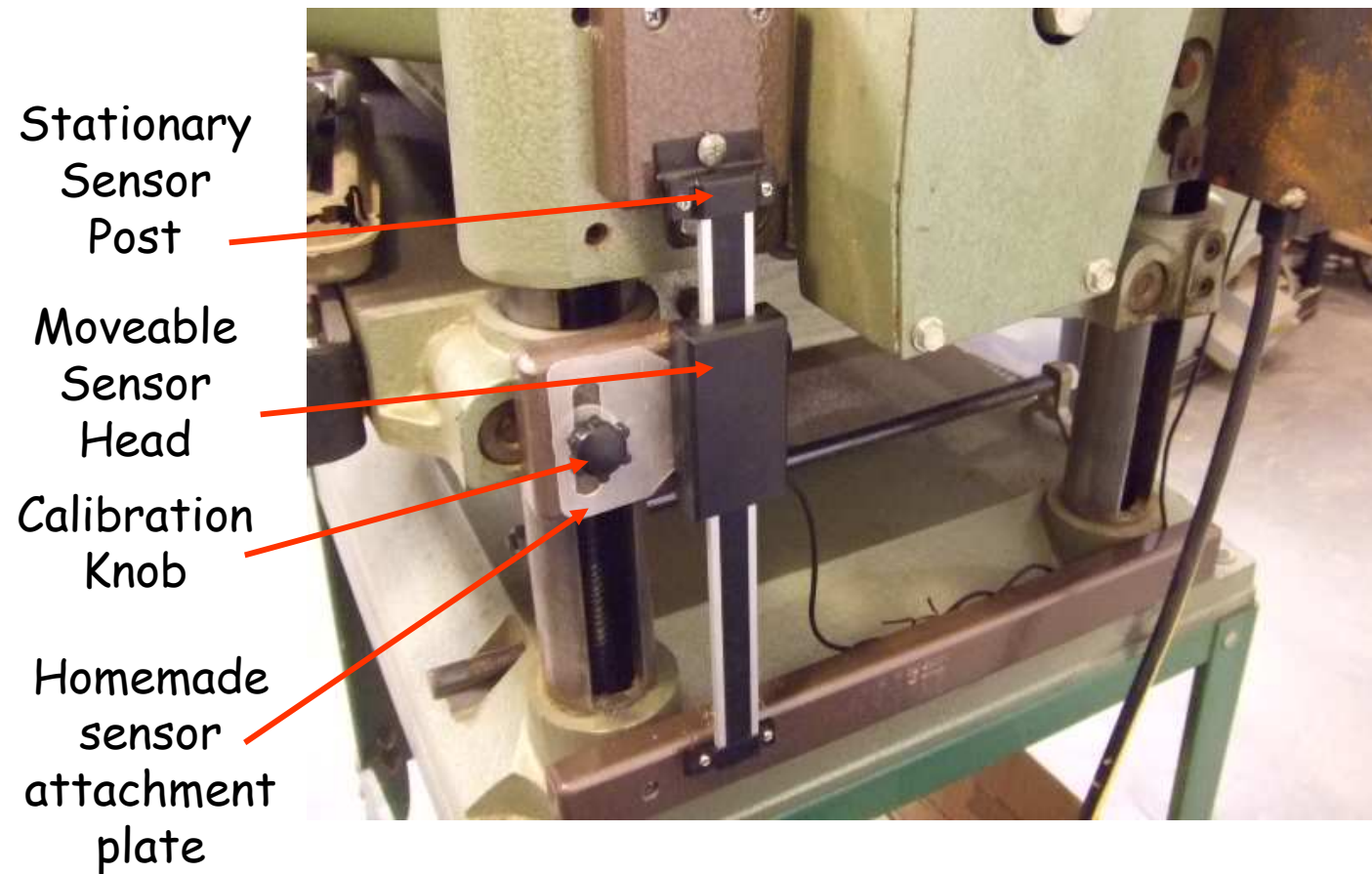
The mounting brackets for the stationary part of the sensor are in place. They are different thickness so they're in-line vertically with the moveable planer table.

Moveable
Planer
Table
Mount

$\frac{1}{4}$ " x 20
threaded
insert for the
calibration
knob



Add the mount to the moveable planer table to attach the moveable part of the sensor. Be sure it is in the same vertical plane as the stationary part of the sensor.



The sensor is mounted and ready to use. The attachment plate is homemade (not included in the kit). It attaches to the back of the moveable sensor and has an adjustment slot.



The unit takes two #1032 disc batteries (they include four in the package). The batteries are located in the readout head. The head uses magnets so you can mount it anywhere there's metal.

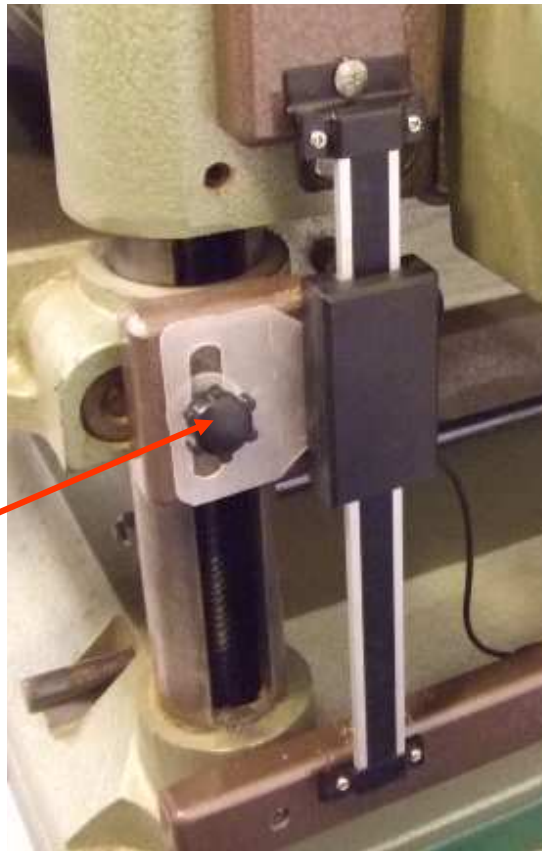


The readout can be set to show the readings in decimals or metric scales with fractions. The measurements can be set to absolute or relative.



Sensor Calibration:

Use the original planer scale to set the planer to a convenient measurement (like $\frac{3}{4}$ "), then plane a piece of hardwood and measure the thickness with a digital caliper.



Calibration
Knob



Sensor Calibration:

Then loosen the calibration knob and move the sensor so that the readout matches the caliper. The iGaging dual battery system will remember the calibration until the batteries need changing (about one year). The calibration should be checked anytime the planer knives are sharpened or changed.

On/Off
button



Thickness
adjustment
hand wheel

To Use:

Turn the display on by pressing the On/Off button. The sensor remembers the calibration and displays the current thickness setting. Move the hand wheel to the desired thickness and plane the wood. The unit will automatically power down after several minutes of non-use.