

Vernier Height Gauges

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Measuring & Inspection

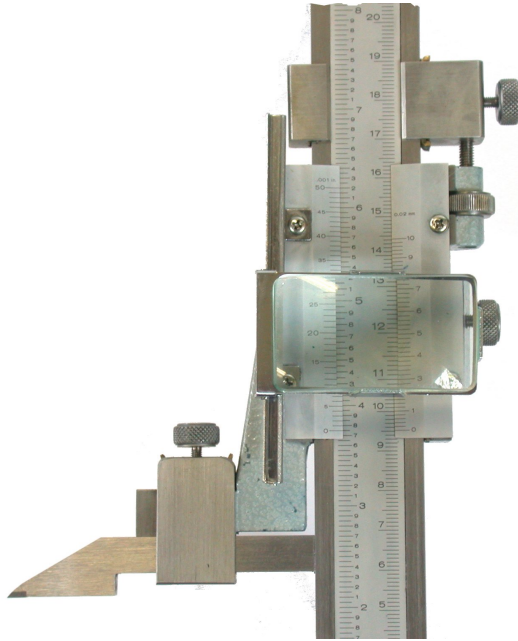


Photo: Photograph taken by Glenn McKechnie — CC BY-SA 2.0 — via Wikimedia Commons (VernierHeightGauge-CloseUp.jpg)

A vernier height gauge measures vertical heights and scribes accurate lines on workpieces standing on a surface plate. The scribe attachment transfers measurements from the gauge to the part, making it indispensable for marking out components before machining.

Key Features

- Measuring ranges from 300 to 600 mm typical
- Vernier or digital readouts
- Scriber with clamp for marking lines
- Hardened base rides on the surface plate
- Fine adjustment knob for setting

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Scribe layout lines at exact heights
- Measure part heights against a reference
- Set out hole centres for drilling
- Verify machined steps and shoulders

Safe Operation

1. Zero the gauge on the surface plate face
2. Set the scriber to the required dimension
3. Slide the base firmly against the plate
4. Scribe once with steady pressure along the line
5. Check the reading against the drawing

SAFETY NOTES

- The scribe is sharp - replace its cap when stored
- Keep the instrument on the plate, never on benches
- Do not drop it; the base carries the reference
- Keep fingers off the scribe point
- Store on a rack, not in a drawer of tools

Maintenance & Consumables

- Clean the base and column with a lint-free cloth
- Oil the column lightly and check the clamp
- Verify calibration against slip gauges
- Keep the scribe point sharp and replaced
- Store with the scribe retracted

Specification & Buying Notes

A digital height gauge is friendlier for students than vernier reading. Choose a range to suit the parts made and a hardened base that slides smoothly. Verify it comes with a scribe and clamp.