

# Digital Tachometers for Motor RPM Testing

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

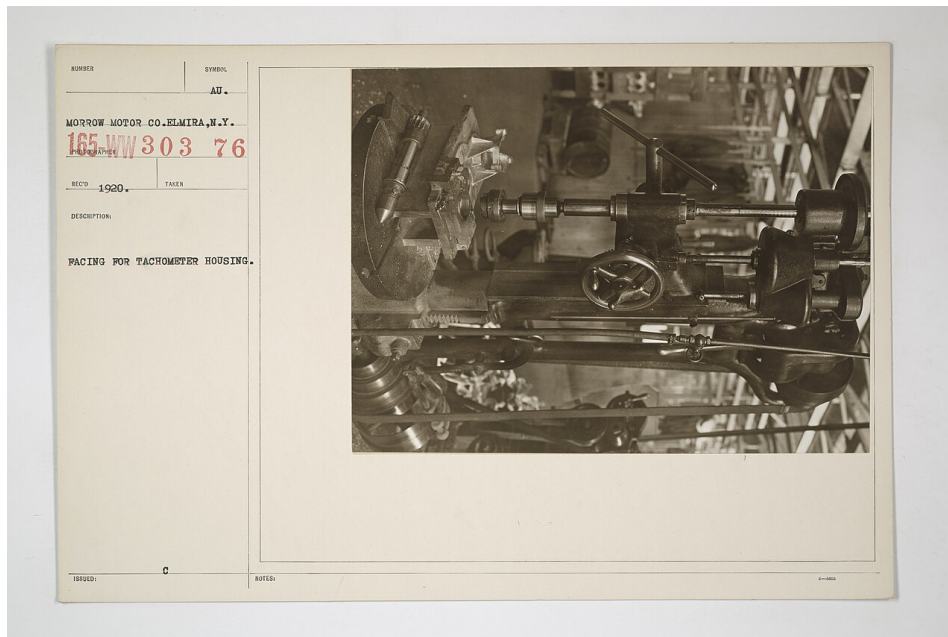


Photo: Unknown authorUnknown author or not provided — Public domain — via Wikimedia Commons  
(Motor\_Vehicles\_-\_Motor\_Trucks\_-\_Parts\_-\_Engines\_-\_Morrow\_&\_Hinkley\_Motor\_Cos\_-\_Facing\_for\_tachometer\_housing\_-\_NARA\_-\_45506271.jpg)

A digital tachometer measures how fast a shaft or wheel spins, as contact units with a rubber tip or non-contact optical units pointing at a reflective mark. Motor speed checks, fan balance and physics demos all use the reading.

## Key Features

- Ranges up to 99,999 rpm
- Contact and optical modes
- Reflective tape included
- MAX/MIN and hold functions
- Backlit displays

## Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Check motor and machine speeds
- Verify fan and impeller rpm
- Set lathe and drill speeds
- Compare gear ratios in practice

## Safe Operation

1. For optical mode, stick a reflective mark
2. Aim the light at the mark
3. Read the rpm on the display
4. Use contact mode with the rubber tip
5. Record the reading against spec

## SAFETY NOTES

- Keep the tachometer away from rotating guards
- Do not reach over spinning parts
- Stay clear of the driven machine
- Use the optical mode at safe distance
- Store with the batteries out

#### Maintenance & Consumables

---

- Clean the lens and tip
- Check the battery charge
- Verify against a known speed
- Keep the reflective tape stock
- Store in its case

#### Specification & Buying Notes

---

An optical/contact combo tachometer with a spare battery and tape covers engine and motor speed checks. Quality displays update fast; cheap units lag and flicker.