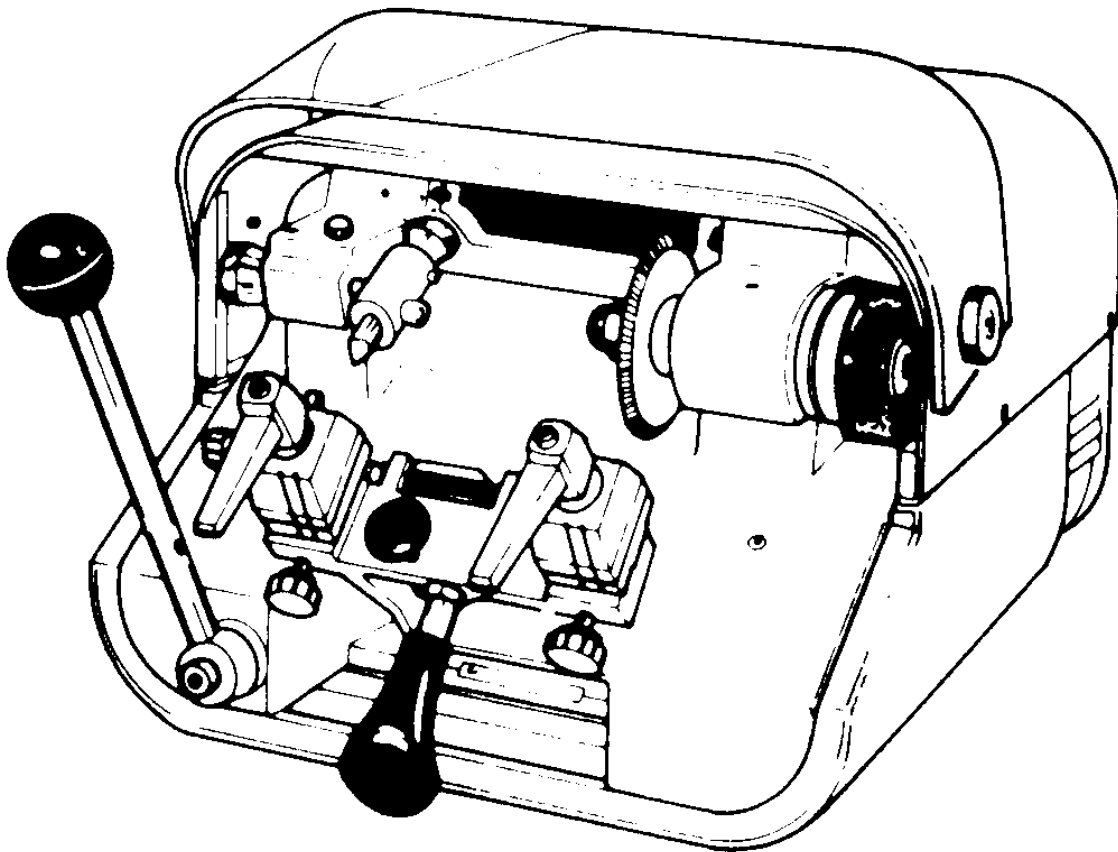


# KD50C

## INSTRUCTION MANUAL

**IMPORTANT!** Read these instructions before you use your new KD50A Key Machine.



**ILCO UNICAN**

USA: 400 Jeffreys Rd., P. O. Box 2627, Rocky Mount, NC 27802-2627 • Tel: (919) 446-3321 • FAX: (919) 446-4702  
EXPORT: 7301 Decarie Blvd., Montreal, Que. H49 2G7 • Tel: (514) 735-5411 • FAX: (514) 273-3521

125308

This manual is registered and applies specifically to the machine which carries this serial number. It properly identifies your model and assures you will receive correct parts, if and when you require replacement parts. Retain this manual in a safe place. It's the only one of its kind. If ownership of this machine is transferred, this

service manual should accompany the machine.

When seeking service information about this machine, refer to the Model No. (which is KD50C), your registration number (see below) and the part number desired (see pages 4 to 9). Note that most parts are interchangeable with the previous model (KD50).

**CONTENTS**

Warranty.....2  
 Introduction (to the KD50A .....3  
 Operating Parts (Illustrated) .....4  
 Operating Parts Identification (Names and Part Numbers).....5  
 Exploded View Parts List (Names and Part Numbers) .....6-7  
 Exploded View of Parts .....8-9  
 The Cutting Operation, Proper Key Cutting Techniques .....10  
 Adjusting for proper depth of cut .....11  
 Adjusting for proper lateral distance (spacing) .....11-12  
 Aligning keys with shoulders .....13  
 Aligning keys without shoulder (Ford and Best) .....13  
 Aligning narrow blade cylinder keys .....14  
 Aligning double sided cylinder keys .....14  
 Aligning carriage to prevent vise jaw damage .....15  
 Replacements (cutter, belt, key guide cylinder, spacing, depth).....16

**ONE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY**

ILCO UNICAN warrants to the original buyer of any new model KD50A machine that it will repair or replace, at its option, any part of any machine which proves, to the reasonable satisfaction of ILCO UNICAN, to have defects arising from the faulty manufacture of the machine or from defective material or components, during a period of one (1) year from the date of shipment of the machine by ILCO UNICAN, provided that the machine is returned by prepaid transport to ILCO UNICAN or to its authorized representative before the expiry of the warranty period together with a detailed description of the alleged defect(s). ILCO UNICAN may, at its discretion, elect to refund the purchase price allocable to the part affected, or to issue a credit if the price therefore remains unpaid.

ILCO UNICAN sells precision-made machines. The buyer assumes all risks, and ILCO UNICAN shall not be liable for any reason, if the machine has been subjected to improper installation, improper use, improper or inadequate maintenance, negligence, if any unauthorized modification or alteration is made to the machine, or in case of accident. For greater certainty, any machine not operated in accordance with ILCO UNICAN's printed instructions or operated beyond its rated capacity shall not be covered by this or any other warranty.

Any and all warranties made by ILCO UNICAN on any machine, product, or component thereof shall be effective only if and for so long as the buyer complies with all payment obligations pursuant to the buyer's accepted and acknowledged order. Failure to meet such payment obligations shall void all warranties and not extend the period of time for which such machine, product of component thereof is warranted irrespective of whether or not payment is eventually made.

These warranties are in lieu of and not in addition to any other warranty of condition, expressed or implied, including without limitation merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose or latent defects. The buyer releases ILCO UNICAN from any liability for any reason other than a breach of its warranties hereunder.

The liability of ILCO UNICAN shall in no case, including negligence, exceed the purchase price of the defective machine, nor shall ILCO UNICAN be liable for any personal injuries, property damage or consequential damages.

Use only genuine ILCO UNICAN replacement parts on this machine!

**Registration and Serial number is** \_\_\_\_\_

## Congratulations! You've purchased a superior key cutting machine.

The KD50A key machine you've just received will give you remarkably fast and accurate key cutting for many years to come ... and a profitable return on your investment. It will save you time and money.

The KD50A is superbly engineered and built with uncompromising quality for the professional who is really serious about speed, accuracy and profitability. This advanced machine incorporates design and operating features that let you cut keys faster, more precisely and more profitably than most machines on the market. You can now cut a key **accurately** within 5 seconds - that's faster than most automatics!

Technically, the machine you've just purchased is called a key duplicator; it transfers and duplicates cuts from your customer's key onto a key blank. It's designed to cut the **most popular** types of keys - the

standard house, car and padlock key (called cylinder keys by the trade).

Your new key machine is not like conventional key cutting machines which require tedious manual positioning and movement of the entire carriage. Instead, it features a lever design which moves the entire carriage with a quick, effortless motion. You merely position the lever and carriage to line up for the first cut, and move the lever laterally (sideways).

A special cobalt steel cutter mills away the blank quickly, assuring a cut that is accurate. To further speed and to simplify key cutting, the KD50A has extra wide reversible jaws. There's enough space between the jaws to cut even the long, large bow hotel keys. And the reversible jaws will hold Schlage wafer or double sided import car keys securely for trouble-free cutting.

## UNPACKING INSTRUCTIONS

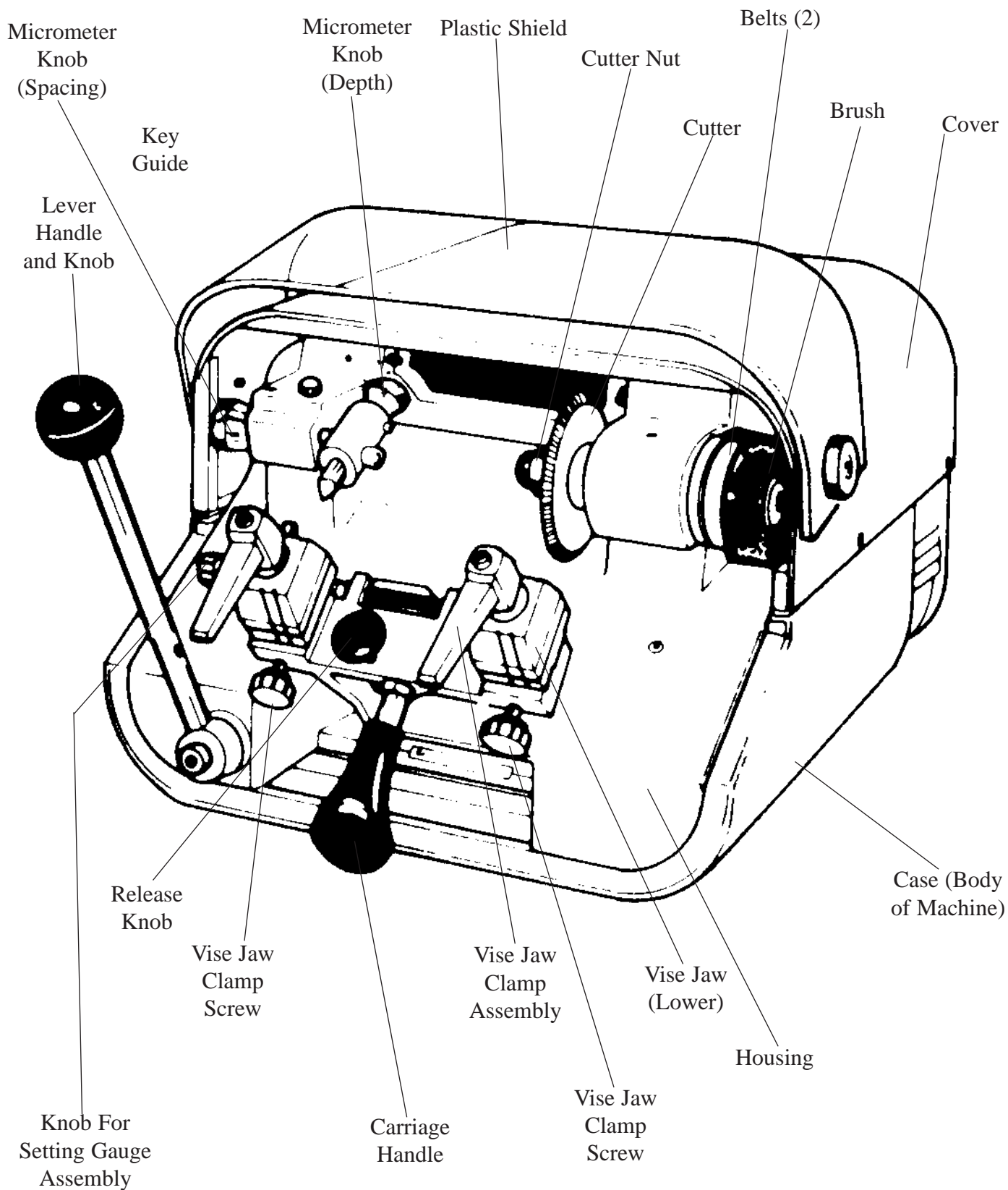
Your new KD50A key machine has been shipped to you in a sturdy, specially cushioned container to prevent the possibility of damage during handling and shipment.

Once the machine is removed from the carton, it should

be set up on a level workbench and wiped free of all rustproofing oil. The machine is adjusted at the factory and test keys have been cut on it, but it is recommended that you check the adjustments to make sure they have not slipped or shifted during transit (See Pages 16 "SPACING AND DEPTH ADJUSTMENT").

**CAUTION! DO NOT DESTROY OR DISCARD THIS VALUABLE SHIPPING CARTON. STORE IT CAREFULLY IN A SAFE PLACE. IN THE EVENT OF A PROBLEM WITH YOUR MACHINE, IT MUST BE RETURNED TO OUR SERVICE FACILITY IN ITS ORIGINAL PROTECTIVE CARTON.**

# OPERATING PARTS



NOTE: On/Off power switch (KD50A-15) is not shown, but is visible on the left side of the machine.

## OPERATING PARTS IDENTIFICATION

Refer to page 4.

Part No.	Identification
KD50A-1A	Housing
KD50A-2A	Case (Body of Machine)
KD50A-4A	Cover
KD50A-8A	Belt (two)
KD50A-15	On/Off power switch (not shown)
KD50A-31	Lever Handle
KD50A-32	Knob
KD50A-51	Clamp Screw, vise jaw (two)
KD50A-53	Upper vise jaw (two)
KD50A-54	Lower vise jaw (two)
KD50A-58	Clamp Assembly, vise jaws (two)
KD50A-62	Carriage Handle
KD50A-68	Knob, setting gauge assembly
KD50A-72	Release knob
KD50A-86	Key Guide Assembly
KD50A-89	Key Guide
KD50A-96	Cutter Nut
KD50A-102B	Brush
KD501-104	Plastic Shield
KD501-150	Micrometer adjusting knob
CU50A	Cutter, 3,150" diameter, cobalt steel

# EXPLODED VIEW PARTS LIST

Refer to pages 8 and 9 for illustrations.

Part No.	Description	Part No.	Description
KD50C-1A	Housing	KD50-66	Spring, Setting Gauge
KD50C-2A	Case (Body of Machine)	KD50-67	Shaft, Setting Gauge
KD50C-3A	Back Plate	KD50-69	Sleeve, Setting Gauge
KD50C-4A	Upper Cover	KD50-72	Knob, Detent Release Shaft
KD50-7A	Motor Pulley	KD50-77	Spring, Detent Release
KD50-8A	Belt (for Italian Motor), two required	KD50A-81	Pawl
KD50-9A	Motor (110V 60Hz)	KD50-82	Pivoting Block Shaft
KD50-10	Power Cord and Plug	KD50A-83A	Spacer Sleeve
KD50-11	Bushing, Strain Relief	KD50-84	Carriage Shaft Detent Sleeve
KD50-12	Terminal	KD50-85	Spring, Pivoting Block
KD50-13	Grounding Stud	KD50-87	Mounting Cylinder
KD50A-15	On/Off Switch, Rocker Type	KD50-88	Barrel
KD50A-16	Power Cable	KD50A-89A	Cutter Guide
KD50-17	Light Socket	KD50-90	Adjusting Screw Bushing
KD50-18	Light Bulb	KD50-91A	Adjusting Screw (Diametral)
KD50-19	Socket Support Bracket	KD50-92A	Adjusting Screw (Lateral)
KD50-21	Momentary Switch - N. O.	KD50-95	Cutter Spindle
KD50C-23A	Carriage	KD50-96	Cutter (Acorn) Nut
KD50-25	Actuating Shaft	KD50-97	Cutter Washer
KD50-26	Drive Shaft	KD50-98	Bearing
KD50-29	Gear	KD50-99	Bearing Spacer, External
KD50-30	Washer (Brass)	KD50-99IN	Bearing Spacer, Internal
KD50-32	Knob	KD50-100	Pulley, Cutter Spindle
KD50-36	Brass Bearing Block	KD50-101	Spacer Washer, Brush
KD50-37	Brass Bearing Spacer	KD50A-102B	Brush, 3" Nylon
KD50-38	Angle Pin	KD50-103	Shoulder Screw, Brush
KD50-39	Carriage Spring	KD50-104	Plastic Shield
KD50-40	Cam Actuating Pin	KD50-105	Shield Knob
KD50-45	Mounting Block Switch	KD50-107	Foot
KD50-46	Cutter Starting Switch	KD50-108	Spacer, Foot
KD50-50	Jaw Post Retainer	KD50A-109A	Chip Pan
KD50-51	Clamp Screw (Jaw Post)	KD50-111	Service Bar
KD50A-52	Jaw Spring	KD50-112	Service Pin, 1.2mm
KD50-55	Vise Jaw Post	KD50-113	Service Pin, 1.7mm
KD50-58	Clamp Assembly	KD50-114	Hex Wrench Set (2, 2.5, 3, 4, 5, 6mm)
KD50-59	Thrust Washer	KD50-115	Open End Wrench
KD50-60	Key Head Rest	KD50-116	Bar (to secure cutter spindle)
KD50-61	Clamp Screw (Block)	KD50-120	Service Kit (not shown)
KD50-62	Carriage Handle	KD50-121	Box for Service Kit (not shown)
KD50-64	Finger, Setting Gauge	KD50-139	Grounding Label

# EXPLODED VIEW PARTS LIST

Refer to pages 8 and 9 for illustrations.

Part No.	Description	Part No.	Description
KD50-142A	Switch Operating Shaft	KD50C-328	Adjusting Plate Ring
KD50A-144	Carriage Stop	KD50C-329	Depth Knob Cam Pin
KD50A-145	Carriage Stop Screws	KD50C-330	Cam Pin
KD50A-147	Carriage Stop Adjusting Nut (N.S.)	KD50C-331	Shaft, Detent Release
KD50-150	Micrometer Knob	KD50C-332	Knob, Setting Gage
KD50-161	On/Off Switch Plate	KD50C-335	Motor Shelf
KD50C-166	Sutd, light socket	KD50C-348	Retaining collar*
KD50C-167	Nut, light socket stud	KD50C-349	Handle**
KD50C-290	Angle Plate	KD71-64	Carriage Stop Adjusting Screw
KD50C293	Switch Cam	KD50C-IM	Instruction Manual
KD50C-300	Washer, 14 x 1.5mm	KD100-14	Cam Pin Knob
KD50C-303	Antivibrating washer	KD50A-J	Vise Jaw Assembly (one unit)
KD50C-308	Transparent Light Guard	CU50A	Cutter (3.150" diameter, Cobalt Steel)
KD50C-312	Bushing		
KD50C-325	Gauge Cam		
KD50C-326	Cam Support		

NOTE: In Jan. '96 the KD50C-349 thread diameter was increased to .390"

\* For machines made prior to Jan. '96, replace KD50C-349 at same time.

\*\* For machines made prior to Jan '96, replace KD50C-348 at same time.

## OPERATING ACCESSORIES



### Service Bar KD50A-111

Used to adjust spacing and depth. Also serves as stop for shoulderless keys.



### Service Pins KD501-112 and KD501-113

Used as shims to raise narrow blade keys above surface of vise jaw.



### Metric Allen Wrench KD50A-114

Various size wrenches are used to loosen and retighten set screws on the machine.



### Metric Wrench KD50A-115

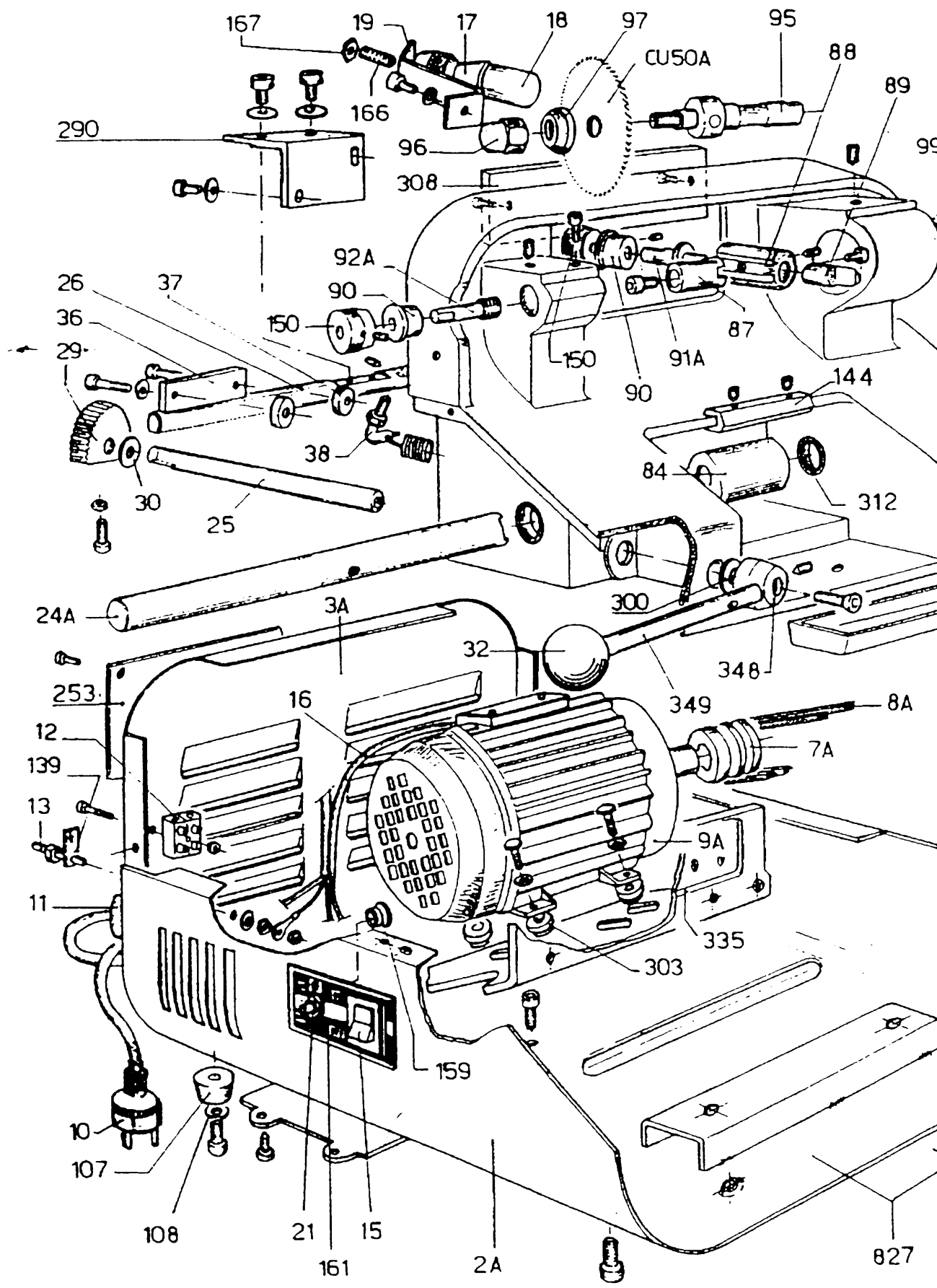
Used to loosen and retighten cutter nut and belt tension adjustment nut.

### Cutter Spindle Bar KD50A-116



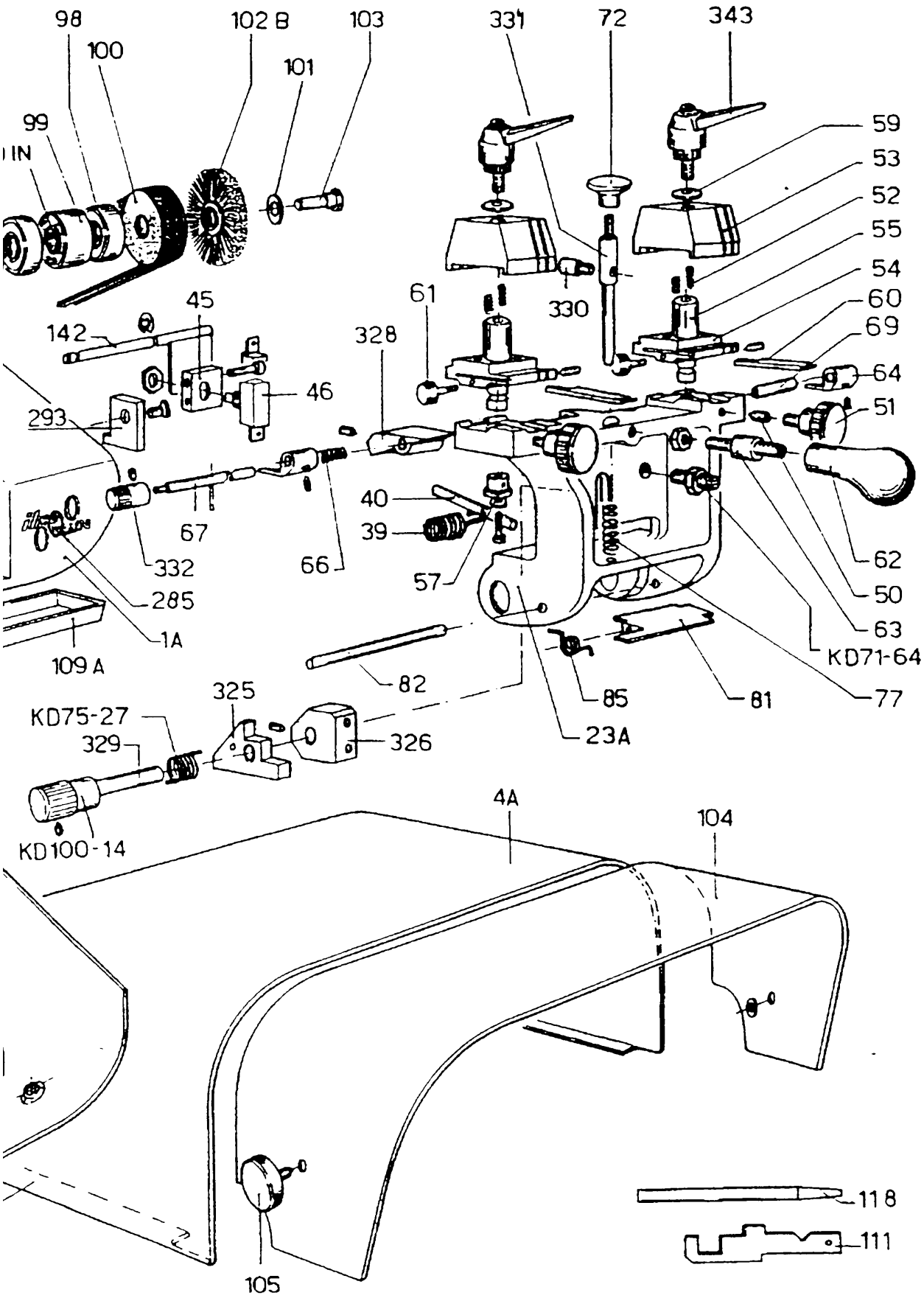
Used to hold cutter spindle rigid while removing cutter nut.

# EXPLODED VIEW





# EXPLODED VIEW



# THE CUTTING OPERATION

## GENERAL OPERATING SEQUENCE

The KD50A has a constant power switch which must be turned on. However, the machine motor will not operate until activated by the carriage assembly.

After both key and blank are properly clamped and aligned, pull down on the carriage handle. Use thumb to depress carriage release knob - the key setting gauge will automatically spring away. Spring tension will raise the carriage, and the motor will automatically start.

Move the lever handle sideways so that the original key touches the key guide in an area between the shoulder and the first cut. Do not let the shoulders touch either the key guide or cutter wheel. Using the lever handle, slide the carriage left and then right to complete the cutting operation. Lower the carriage until it locks into the original position, which will automatically stop the motor and cutter. Remove the new key and deburr with the brush; do not overbrush or run key into belts.

## PROPER KEY CUTTING TECHNIQUES

Even though your KD50A key machine is designed to make key cutting fast, easy and accurate, operator skill is important. The actual mechanics of placing keys within the vise jaws are simple to learn, but there are some basics that must be followed. A properly adjusted key machine, used by someone who ignores good key cutting techniques, will **NOT** produce a good key. The way a person clamps a key into the vise jaws is critical to the accuracy of the duplicated key.

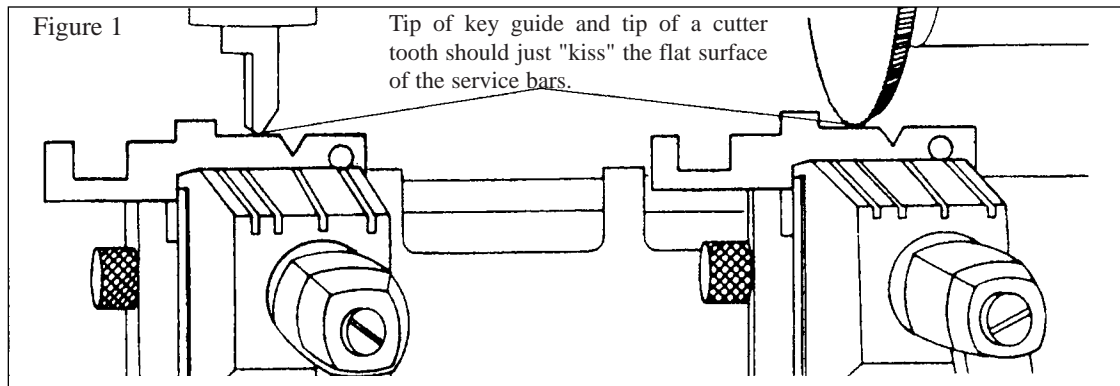
Remember - the real purpose of a duplicate key is simply to operate the lock for which it was intended. If your customers don't bring back the keys, you can assume the keys are cut correctly. If customers return the keys, you should re-examine your cutting techniques and adjustments of the machine.

Here are some important operating tips:

1. Vise jaws - clean them regularly so that no metal chips lie under the keys. **It is essential that both keys lie flat across the entire width of both vise jaws. Neither key should be tilted.**
2. Do NOT use pliers or other tools to tighten the vise jaws. Firm hand pressure is sufficient.

3. Keep the carriage shaft free of metal chips. A thin film of oil can be applied to it. The carriage should travel smoothly along its shaft.
4. NEVER touch the shoulder of a key to the side of the key guide. This will cause the shoulder of the key blank to touch the side of the cutting wheel. When this happens, some of the metal will be cut away from the shoulder of the key blank. If the resulting duplicated key is duplicated two, three, four times over, an error will accumulate and cause a non-operating key. Do not grind away the shoulder.
5. Don't run the cutter into the vise jaw; this will only dull the cutter, and reduce cutter efficiency.
6. Keep the cutter clean. Don't let any foreign objects or instruments blunt it. This cutter is a precise cutting tool and should be handled with care.
7. Lubricating of moving parts is important. Oil cups are provided to keep the cutter shaft bearings well lubricated. The carriage spindle should be lubricated with a thin film of oil.

## ADJUSTING FOR PROPER DEPTH OF CUT



Remove the wire plug from its electrical socket for safety. Clamp the two service bars into the vise jaws as shown in Figure 1, making certain that both bars rest flat against the bottom of the vise and that they are butting against the edge of each vise jaw. Lift the carriage toward the key guide and cutter until a flat portion of the left service bar rests against the key guide. (To lift the KD50A carriage, pull down and press the carriage release button between the vise jaws.)

Turn the cutter by hand. The machine is correctly adjusted if the cutter barely grazes the top of the right service bar. If the cutter is stopped from turning or turns freely without contacting the service bar, the cutting depth must be adjusted, as follows:

1. Loosen the Allen screw that holds the key guide .
2. Turn the cutting depth micrometer adjusting knob behind the guide, either left or right. This will move the key guide in or out. Do this until the cutter just grazes the top of the right service bar when the left service bar is resting against the key guide. Turn the cutter by hand; adjust to the high spot of the cutter.
3. Tighten the key guide Allen screw.

**NOTE:** This adjustment must be made if the cutter is replaced or whenever a test key fails to work, indicating that the cutter may have worn down somewhat, resulting in cuts that are too shallow.

## ADJUSTING FOR PROPER LATERAL DISTANCE (SPACING)

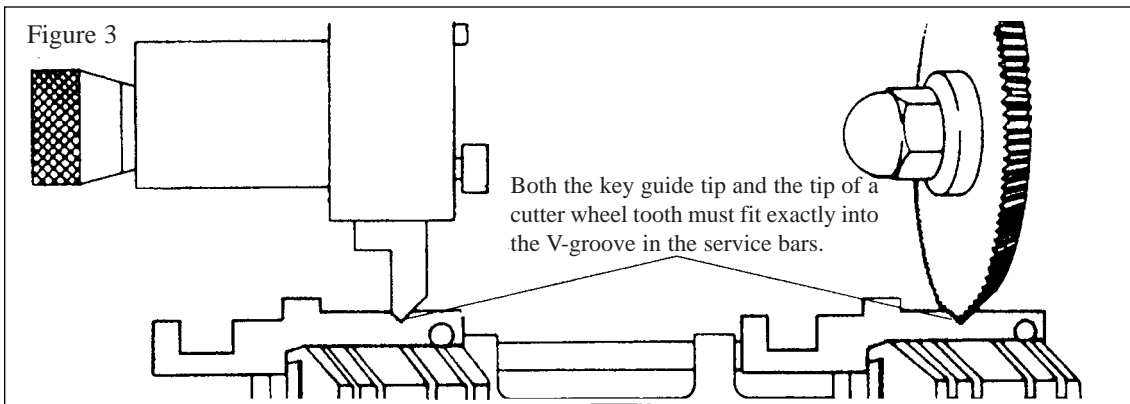
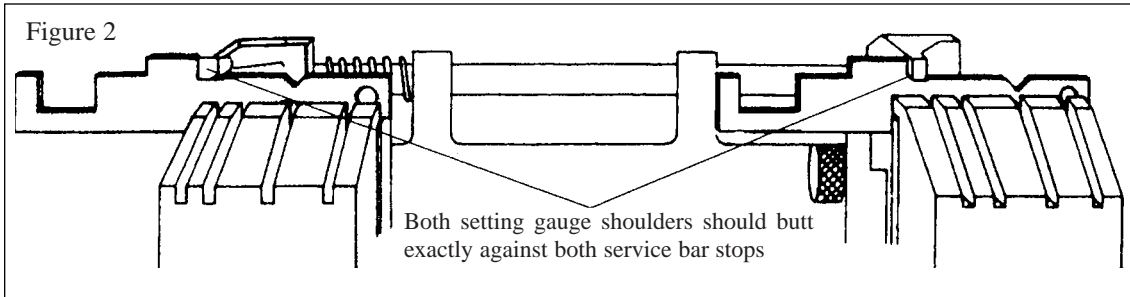
Key cutting accuracy also depends upon the spacing of the key and blank key to be the same as the distance between the key guide and cutter. To assure that the lateral distance adjustment is correct, refer to

Figures 2 and 3 and proceed as follows:

1. Insert the service bars into the vise jaws making sure that each service bar is butting against the edge of each vise jaw. This is critical!

# ADJUSTMENTS

## SPACING ADJUSTMENT (Continued):



2. Rotate the key setting gauge up and make certain that both setting gauge shoulders rest exactly against the service bar stops as shown in Figure 2.

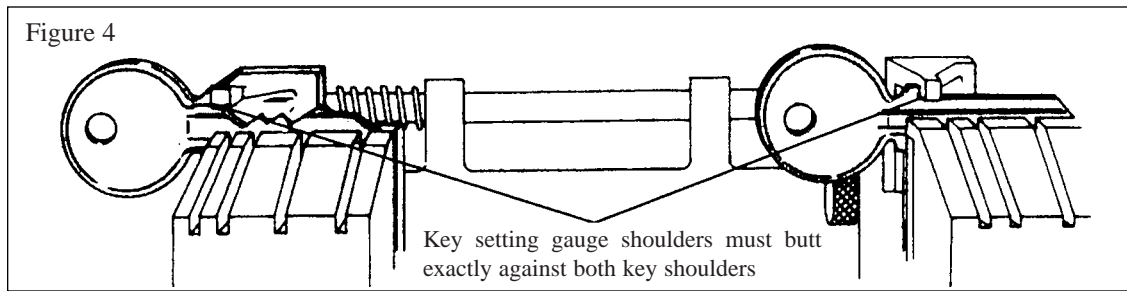
If there is a discrepancy, loosen the right setting gauge Allen screw and adjust so that both gauge shoulders rest exactly against both service bar stops.

3. Lift the carriage to the key guide and cutter. Insert key guide and cutter into the V shaped grooves in the service bars as shown in Figure 3. Both the key guide and the tip of a cutter wheel tooth must fit **exactly** into their V grooves or the setting will not be

accurate (make certain that you do not seat the space between two cutter teeth into the V groove).

4. If the guide and cutter do not seat exactly into each of the V grooves, the distance between the cutter and guide must be altered. Loosen the Allen screw in the key guide assembly and turn the micrometer adjusting knob fore or aft. This action will shift the position of the key guide assembly to the left or right. Continue until the key guide and the cutter both drop into the V notches of the service bars.

## ALIGNING KEYS WITH SHOULDERS

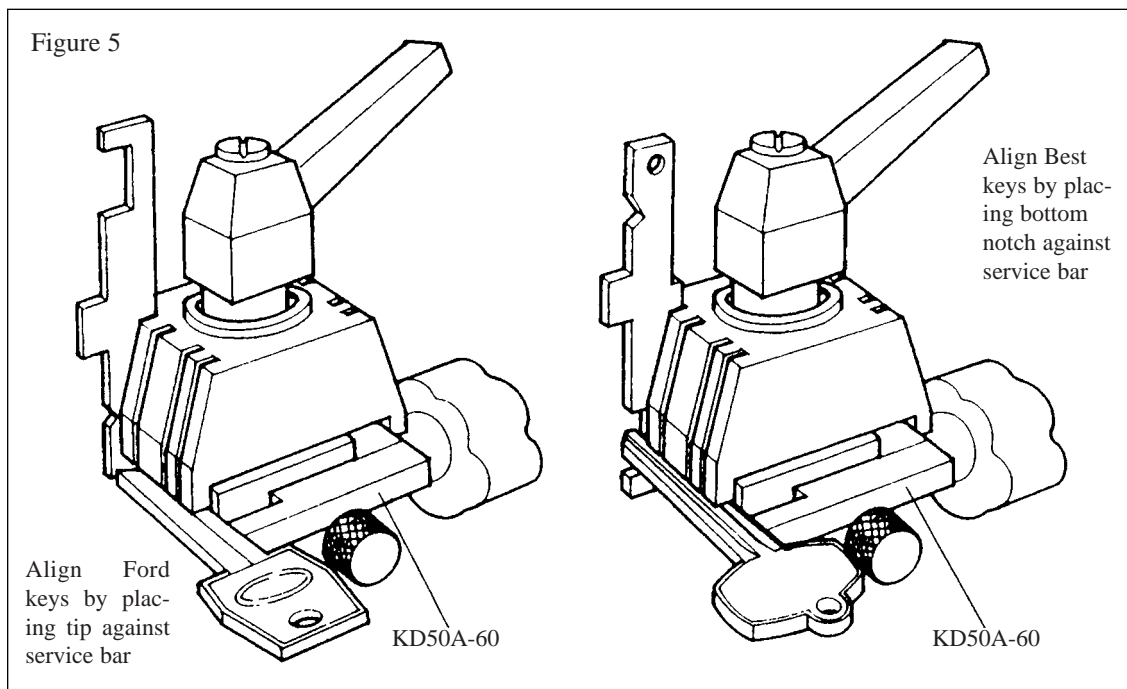


Insert the pattern key, left to right, into the left vise. Rotate the key setting gauge upward and set its left shoulder against the shoulder of the pattern key. Be sure the key is lying flat along the bottom of the vise. Secure the key by turning the clamp assembly clockwise.

Insert the key blank in the same manner, into the right vise, and secure. Make sure that the key setting gauge is exactly against **both** key shoulders. The key and key blank now are spaced the correct distance apart and are

ready for cutting. See Figure 4.

## ALIGNING KEYS WITHOUT SHOULDER (FORD AND BEST)

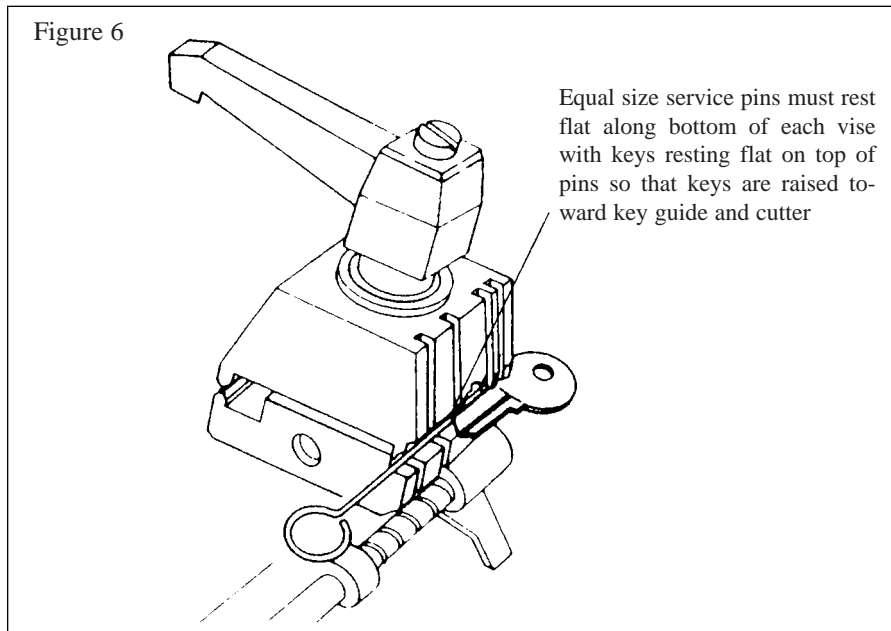


On keys without shoulders, the key setting gauge cannot be used. It is necessary to use the service bar to correctly position the key and the blank. The vise jaws have a series of slots and any slot can be

used for the service bar. Also note the key head rest (KD50A-60), which prevents the key from tilting as the vise jaw is tightened. The key head rest can be moved to properly support the key. See Figure 5.

# HOW TO ALIGN KEYS

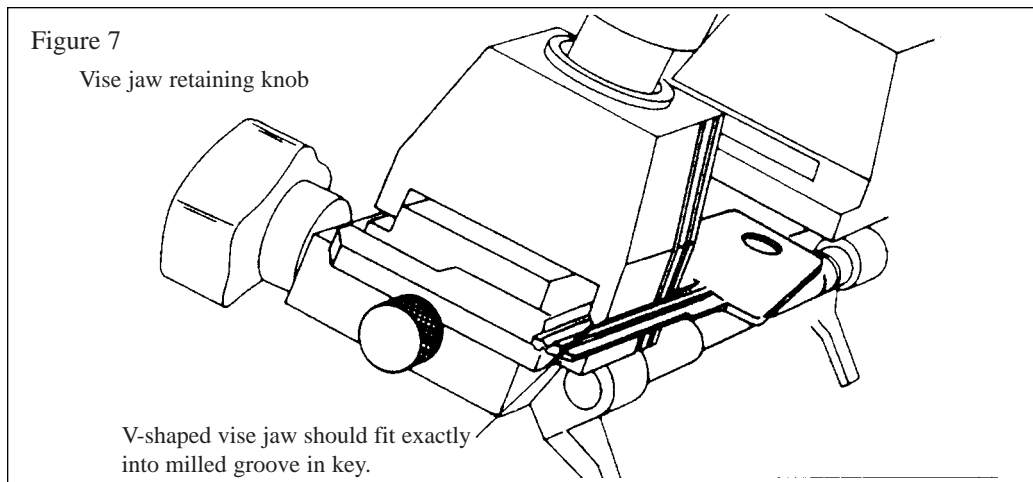
## ALIGNING NARROW BLADE CYLINDER KEYS



Some keys have a very narrow blade and therefore sit deep in the vise jaws with only part of the cuts showing above the vise. This makes it necessary to use the service pins to raise the key for proper cutting.

Insert an equal size pin under each key and blank on the bottom of the vise jaws. This will raise both the key and blank to allow the correct depth of cut to be made. See Figure 6. Do not cut into vise jaw!

## ALIGNING DOUBLE SIDED CYLINDER KEYS



Before cutting this style of key, examine the key to see if there is a milled groove on either side. If so, then reverse the vise jaw and clamp the key using the V jaws. The

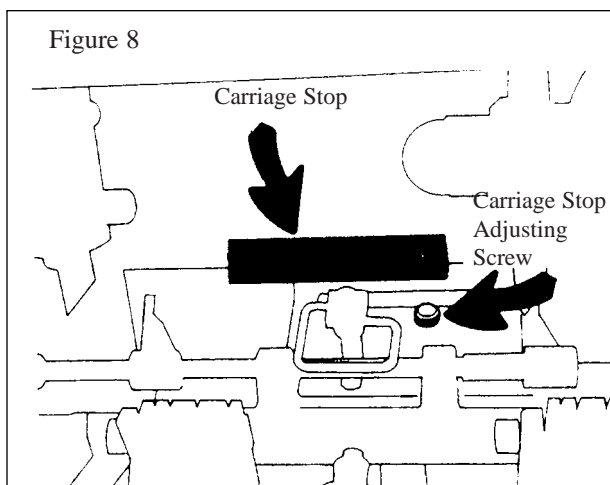
key will be held securely when only the top or bottom V jaw fits into a milled groove. When there is no V groove on either side of the key, then use the flat vise jaw.

## ALIGNING DOUBLE SIDED CYLINDER KEYS (Continued):

If the cuts are not the same on both sides of the key, make the shallow cuts first so that, when you turn the key over to cut the second side, there will be enough metal to grip the key securely during the actual cutting. To reverse the vise jaw, loosen the retaining

screws at the base of the vise jaws. Raise, rotate and reseat both vise jaws and then retighten their retaining screws. Note the V shape of the jaws. Insert the key between the jaws, with a milling groove resting in the point of the V. This will hold the blank securely. Align for spacing and proceed cut.

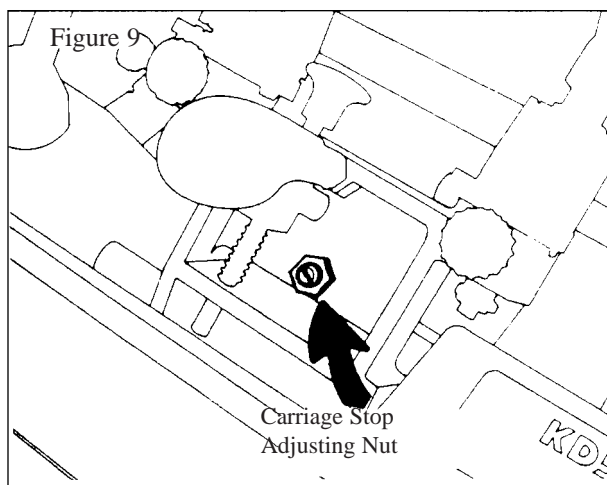
## ALIGNING CARRIAGE TO PREVENT VISE JAW DAMAGE



This machine is equipped with a carriage stop that prevents the carriage from moving all the way up to the cutter. When properly adjusted, it stops the cutter from grinding into the vise jaw. Such a condition could occur when reaching the tip of the cut key, and the carriage lever continues to move the carriage.

The carriage stop (Part No. KD50A-144) is a U-shaped channel secured to the housing by set screws. It's positioned to span the travel of the carriage during the cutting cycle; normally, this position does not change. In addition, there's a carriage stop adjusting screw that is installed in the carriage; this screw controls the distance between the cutter and the vise jaw. See Figure 8.

The carriage stop adjusting screw is set at the factory



to create a clearance of .005" between the cutter and the vise jaw. This distance is NOT critical and can be set without measuring instruments. Just loosen the lock nut and turn the screw in or out so the cutter does not touch the vise jaw. The machine should be off. When an ordinary business card can slide between the cutter and vise jaw, the adjustment is correct and the accuracy of key cutting will not be affected. CAUTION! Do not make this clearance too wide. Key cutting could be effected on some keys having deep cuts.

It's a good idea to check the clearance on a regular basis, especially when a large quantity of keys are cut. If the cutter is allowed to strike the vise jaw, the edges of the cutter will be dulled immediately, causing a reduction in the life of the cutter.

# REPLACEMENTS

## CUTTER, BELT OR KEY GUIDE CYLINDER

If the belts stretch, they will slip when the motor is in motion, thus reducing the power supplied to the cutter. This will be evident to the operator, since the cutter will slow down. A belt nut adjustment (See Figure 10) will give proper tension to the belt until it must be replaced. To reach the belt adjustment nut, open the top cover of the machine. Replace cover after adjustment is made.

There's no prescribed length of time that a cutter should last since this depends upon the usage to which it's subjected. Factors such as the length of time to cut a key, sound, appearance, and "feel", are some of the clues that will indicate when a cutter needs replacement. You should keep an extra cutter and key guide cylinder on hand for immediate replacement when needed.

To replace the cutter, just unscrew the cutter nut (note the left hand thread!) using the holding bar supplied to prevent the cutter spindle from turning (See Figure 11). Install the new one against the spindle shoulder. Replace washer and nut; tighten the nut securely.

One word about the key guide cylinder. This could become worn with heavy usage and should be replaced. Slight wear on the key guide cylinder can be compensated for by making a radial (tilting) adjustment.

## SPACING AND DEPTH ADJUSTMENT

The practice of cutting duplicate keys requires that both the pattern key and the key blank be placed in the same relative position in the vise jaws. There are two alignments that are critical - spacing and depth. The key setting gauge controls the spacing; that is, it contacts the shoulder on both keys and sets them properly within the vise jaws. Do NOT attempt to bend or to alter the shape or position of the fingers of the key setting gauge. If the fingers are bent out of shape, they will not set the keys in proper relation to each other; this will cause an error in the spacings of the notches in the key.

The depth adjustment is controlled by the key guide. With two identical key blanks clamped into the vises, and with the left key resting against the key guide, the

Figure 10

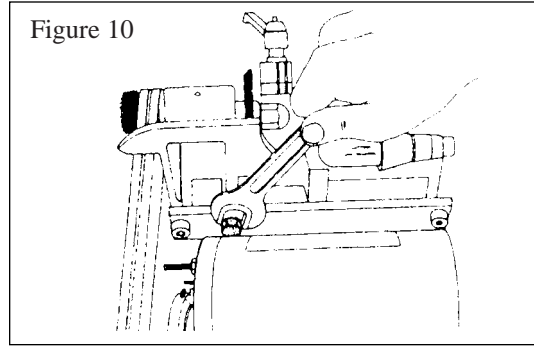
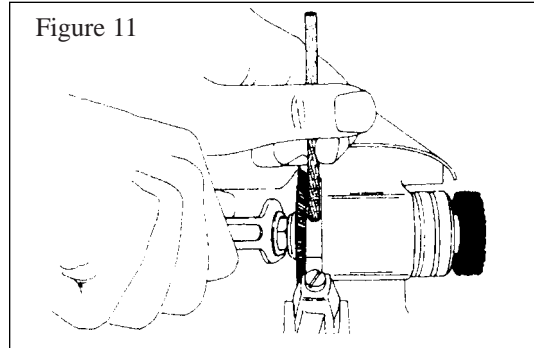


Figure 11



Loosen the Allen screw at the top of the key guide cylinder, then tilt the cylinder so that an unused portion of the cylinder edge makes contact with the V in the service bar (or cuts in the key). Retighten the Allen screw. Beyond that adjustment, a new cylinder is required. To replace the key guide cylinder, loosen the Allen screw on the right side of the cylinder and turn the rear micrometer until the cylinder drops out. Insert new cylinder, turn micrometer until tip of cylinder is properly adjusted for depth and retighten Allen screw.

right key should just barely "kiss" the cutting wheel edge. If not, loosen the key guide Allen screw and adjust the rear micrometer knob, in or out as needed.

For best continually accurate key cutting, it's advisable to keep a "test" lock in your key cutting area. Every month or so, depending upon the quantity of keys you cut, make a duplicate of the original key for your test lock. Try the duplicate in the lock and look for any binding or hard turning of the key. If it works smoothly, your machine is maintaining its adjustment. If it binds, you should recheck your key cutting techniques and adjustments. We recommend that a high quality locking device, such as a Master pin tumbler padlock or a Schlage pin tumbler lockset, be used as the test lock.