



# Modern Automotive Technology Chapter 51

Engine Top End  
Service



*North Montco  
Technical Career Center*

# Learning Objectives

- Check for cylinder head damage.
- Describe how to correct worn valve guides, warped cylinder heads, damaged valve seats, and other troubles.
- Grind valve seats and valves.
- Assemble a cylinder head.
- Inspect, test, and service valve train assemblies.
- Adjust engine valves.
- Describe safety practices that must be followed while performing engine top end service.

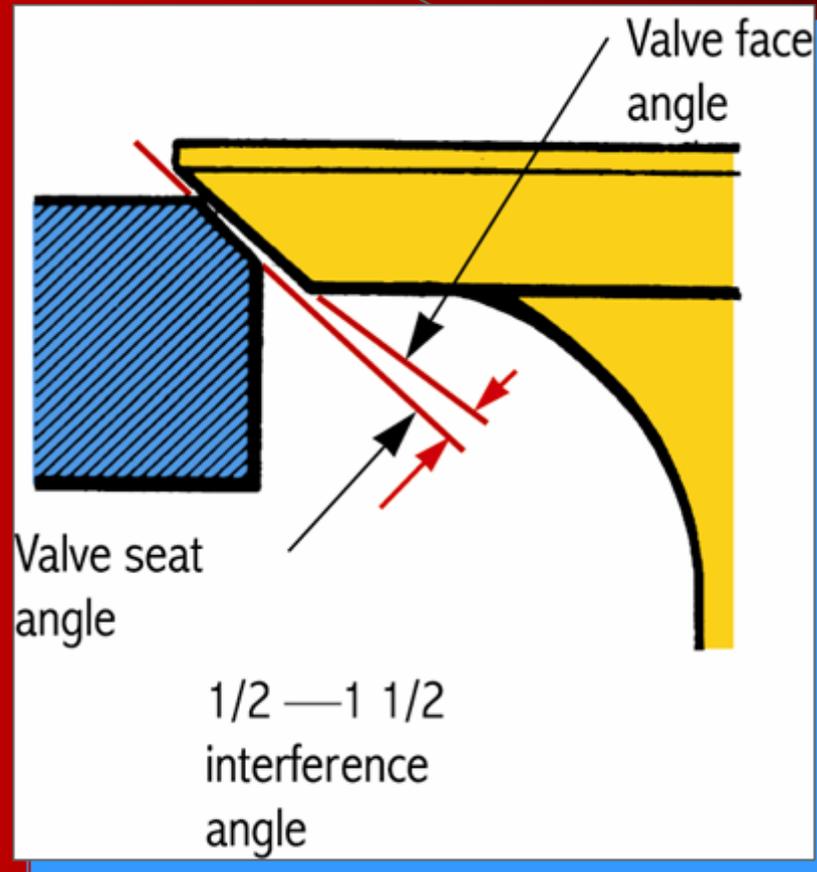


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1. Interference Angle is set on the valve grind machine.
2. Valve Train Noise (either a Tapping or clattering noise) is caused by the rockers striking the valve stems.



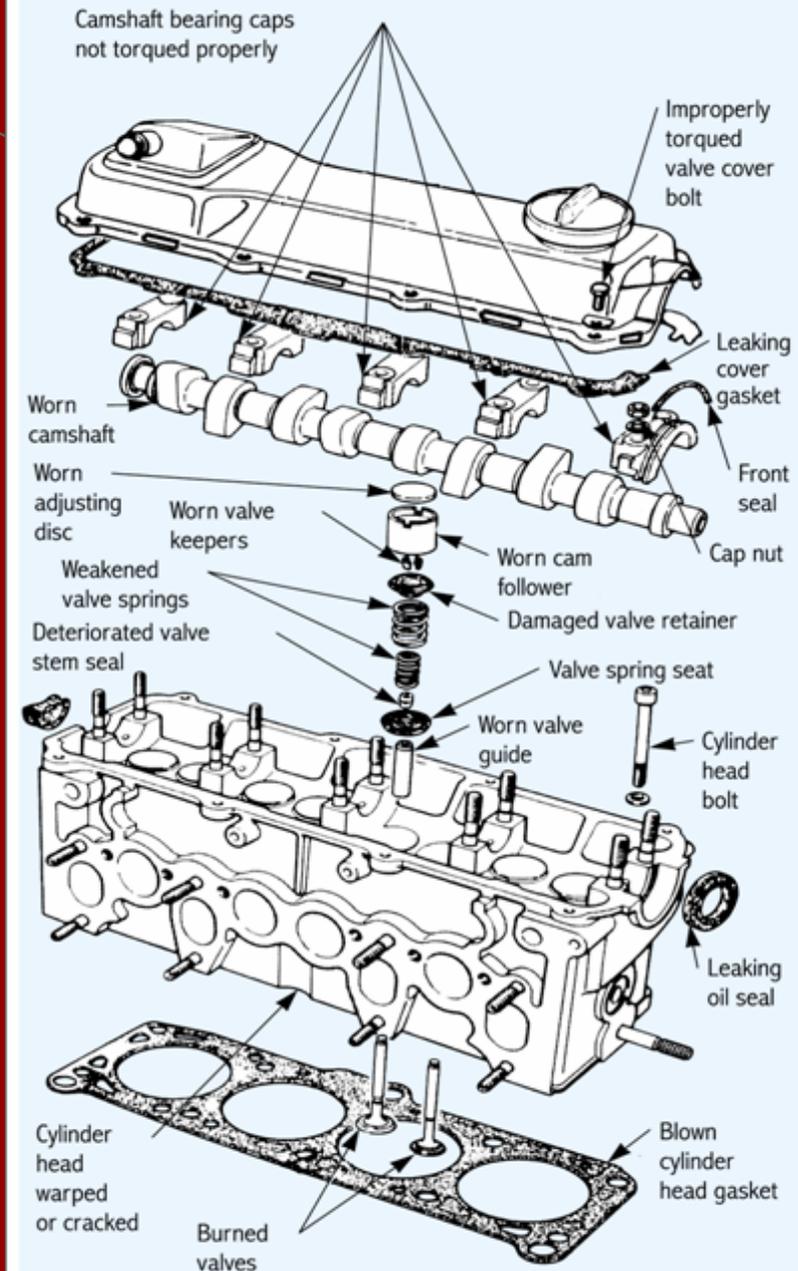
# Interference Angle



Valve is ground one degree less than the valve seat to aid seating and sealing



# Top End Assembly



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3. Magnafluxing is the process used to find cracks in cast iron parts.

4. A Valve Job involves the service of the cylinder head and valve train.



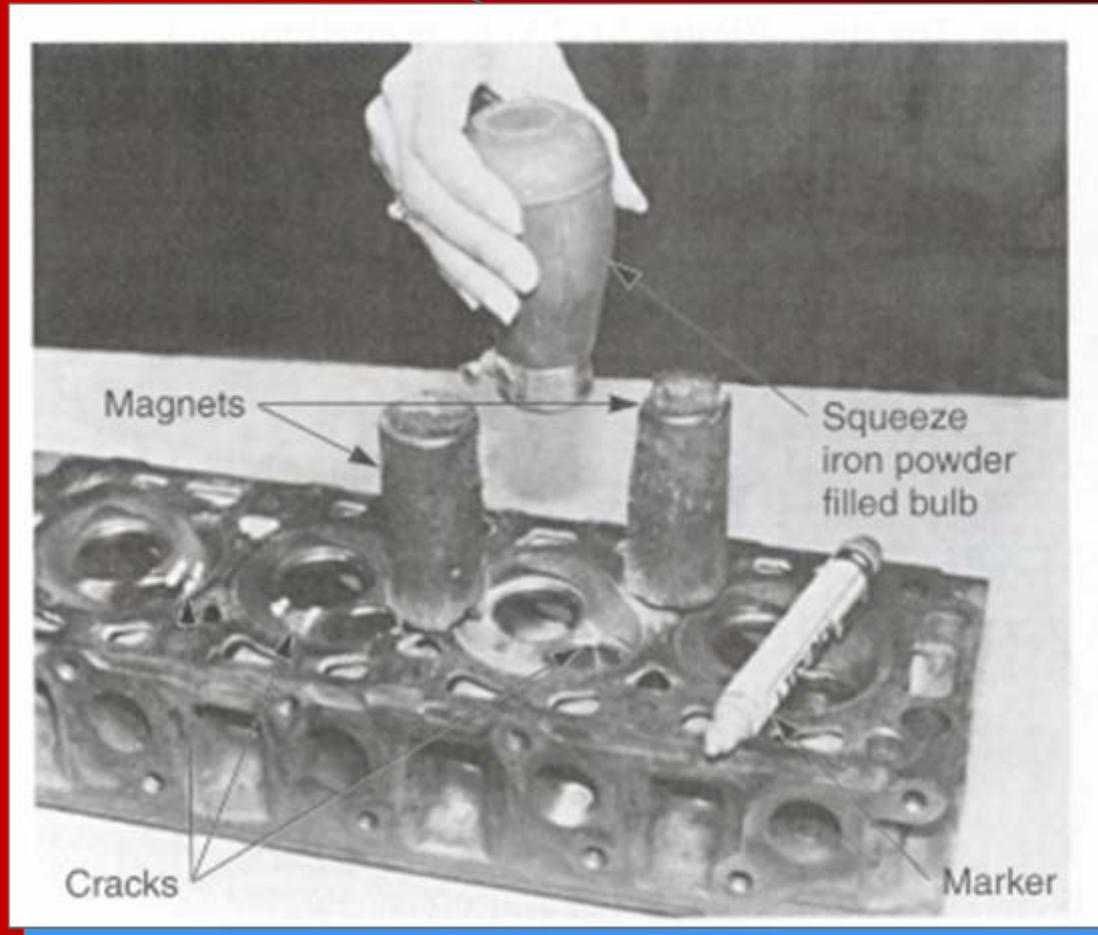
# Crack Detection



Dye penetrant is used on aluminum—dye penetrant is sprayed on the part, then developer is sprayed on, turning cracks red.



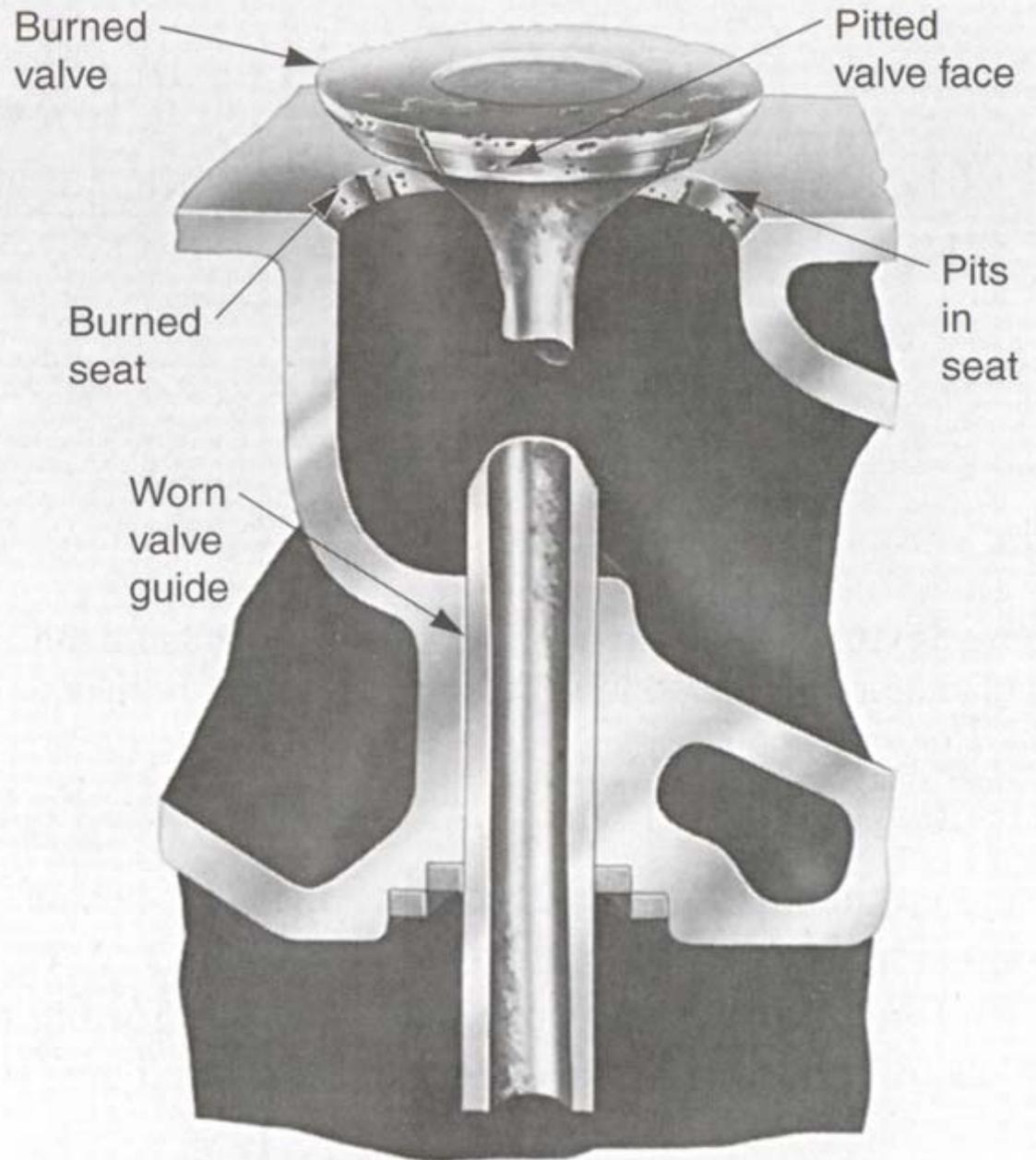
# Crack Detection



Magnafluxing is used on cast iron parts—uses magnetism and metal powder to highlight cracks



# Common Valve Problems

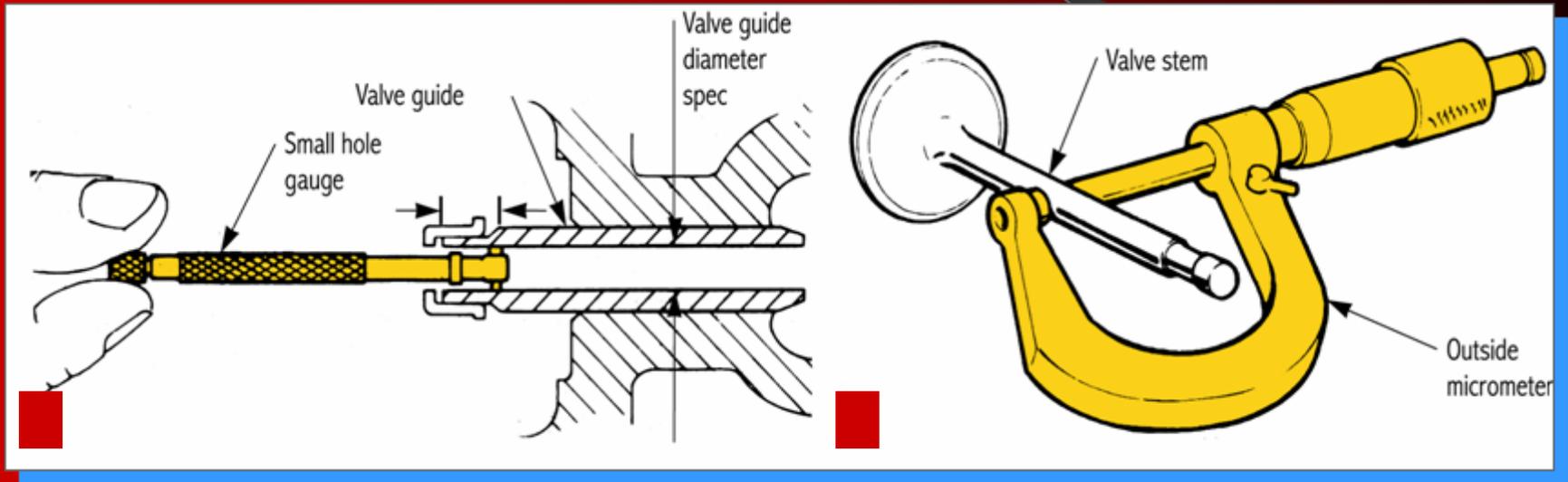


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5. Knurling a Valve Guide is a Machine shop operation used to press indentations in the guide to reduce its inside diameter.
6. Valve Seat Runout occurs when the seat is not centered around the valve guide.



# Measuring Valve Guide



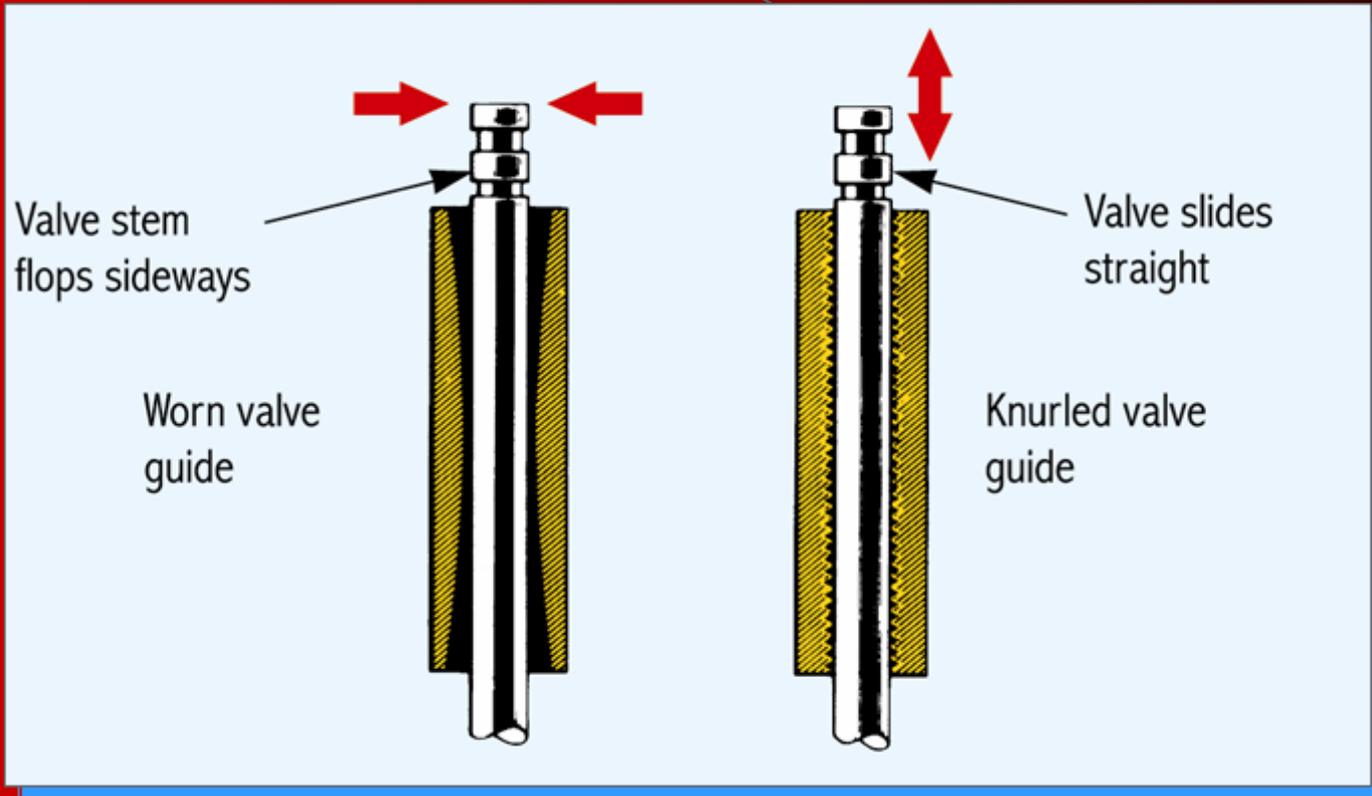
# Valve Stem Clearance



Dial indicator can be used to  
measure clearance



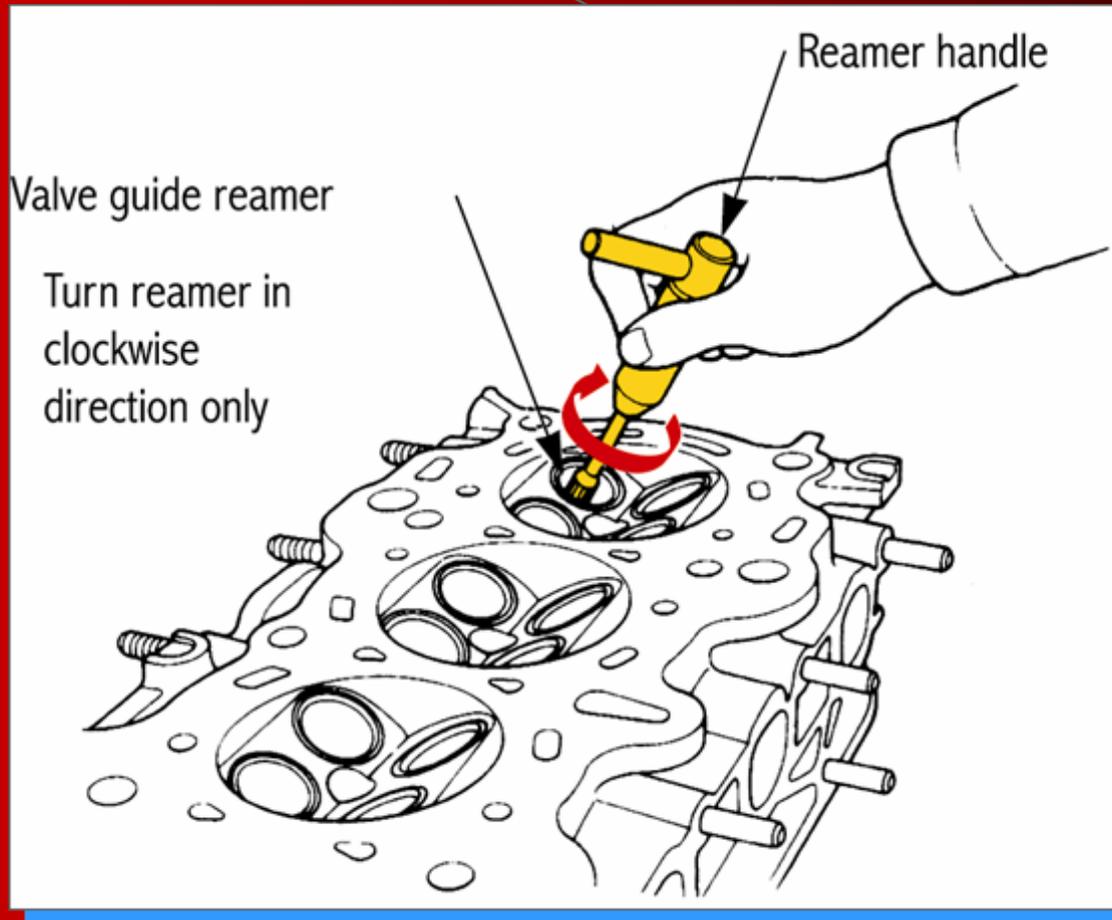
# Knurling a Valve Guide



Reduces guide inside diameter to restore proper stem-to-guide clearance



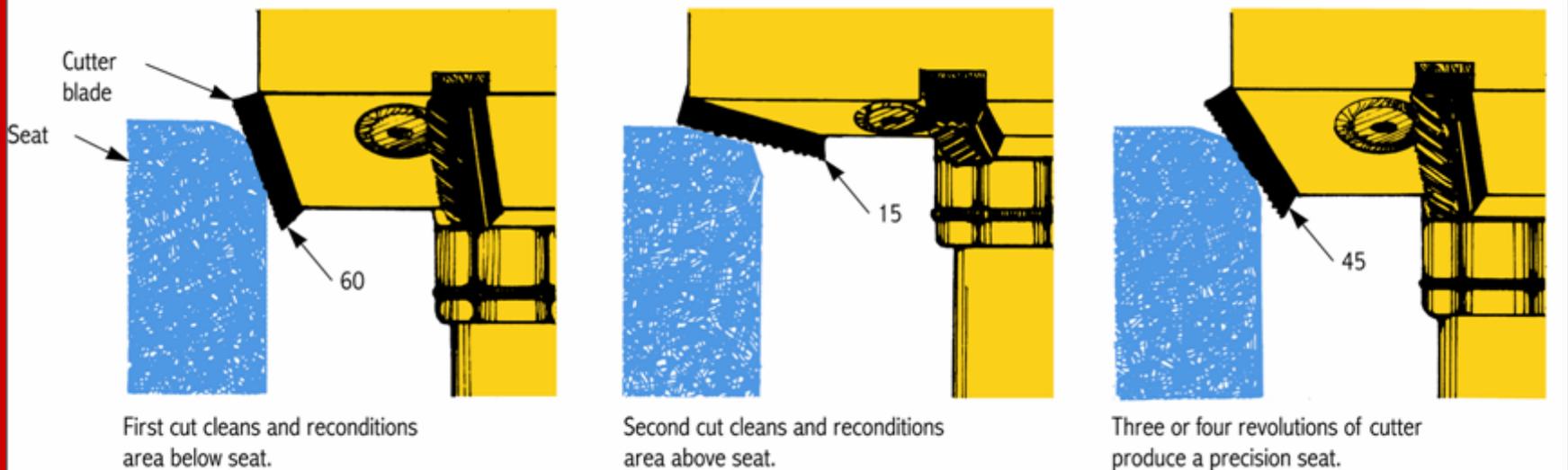
# Reaming a Valve Guide



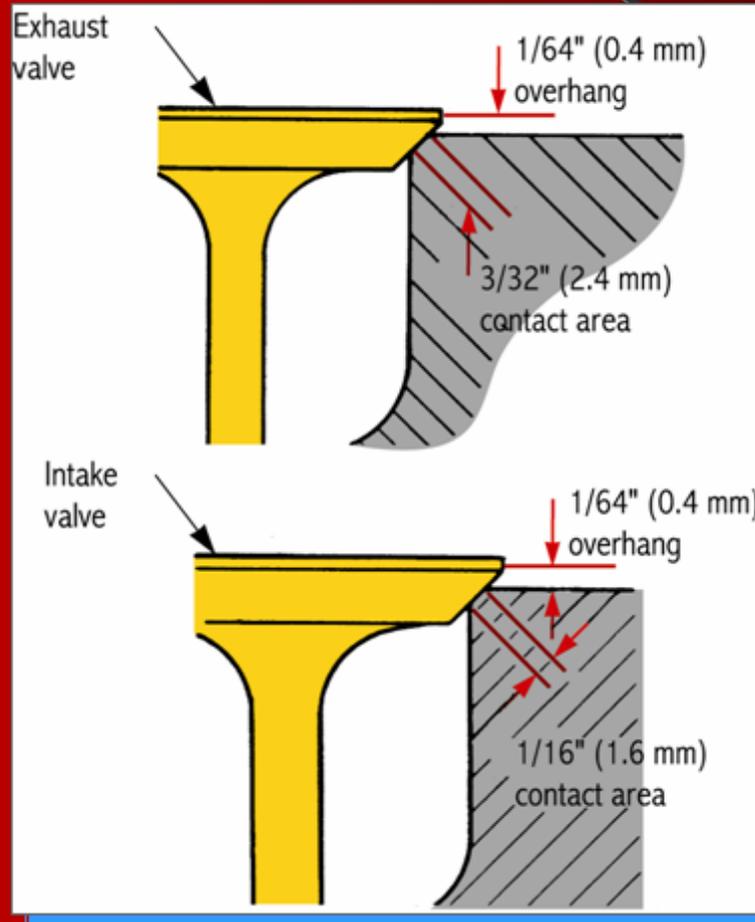
Enlarges guide for an oversize valve stem



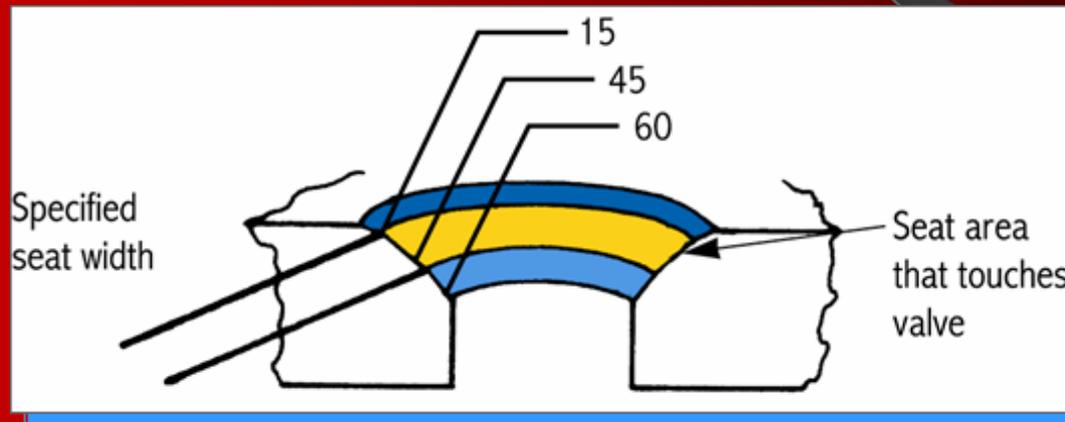
# Three-Angle Valve Job



# Seat Contact Patterns



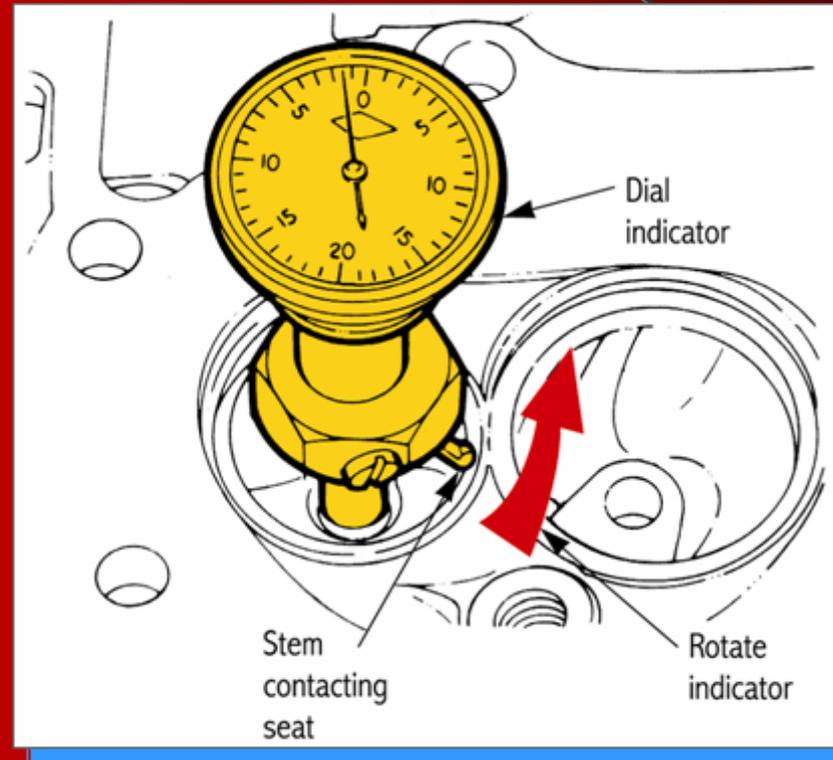
# Adjusting Contact Area



60° cut narrows the seat and moves it up, while a 15° cut moves it down



# Checking Seat Runout



Dial indicator reading equals runout



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7. Valve Lifter-Down Rate is measured by timing how long it takes to push the plunger to the bottom of its stroke under controlled conditions.
8. Cylinder Head Milling is a machine shop operation done to correct head warpage.

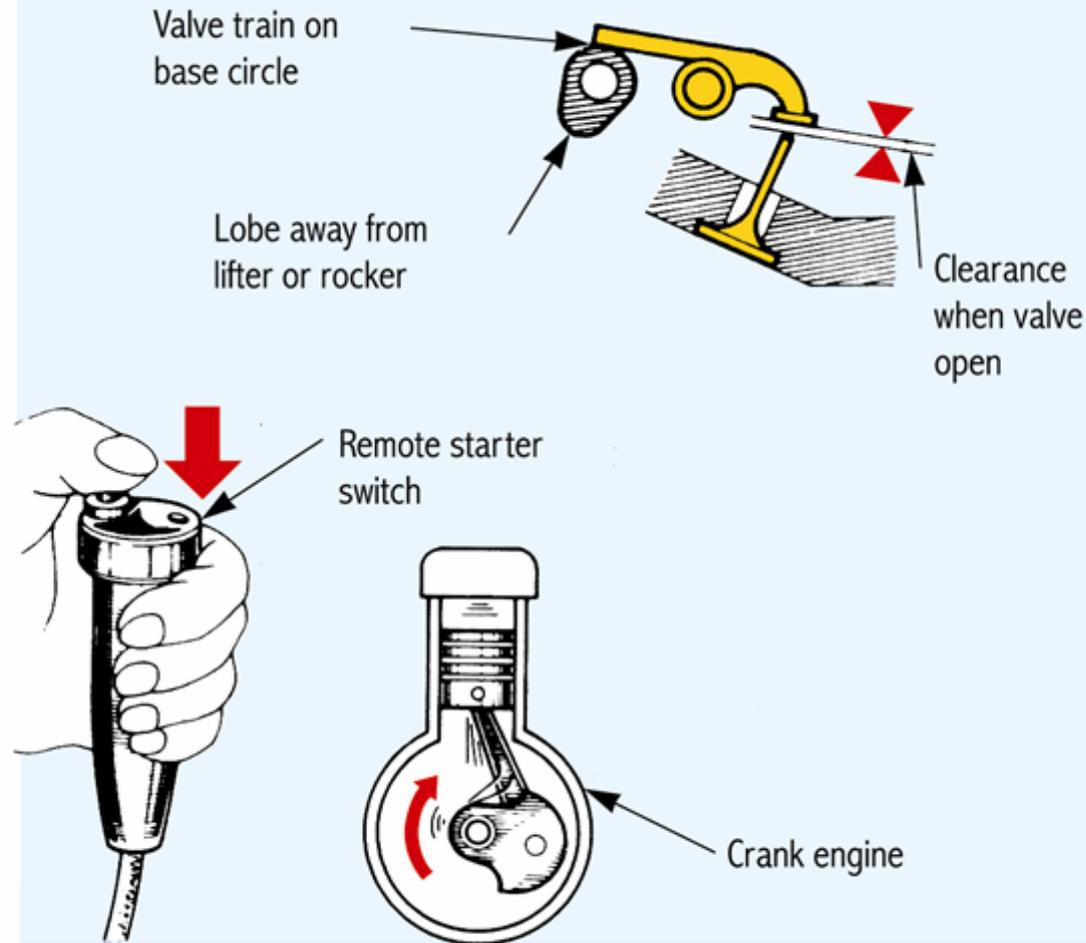


# Valve Adjustment

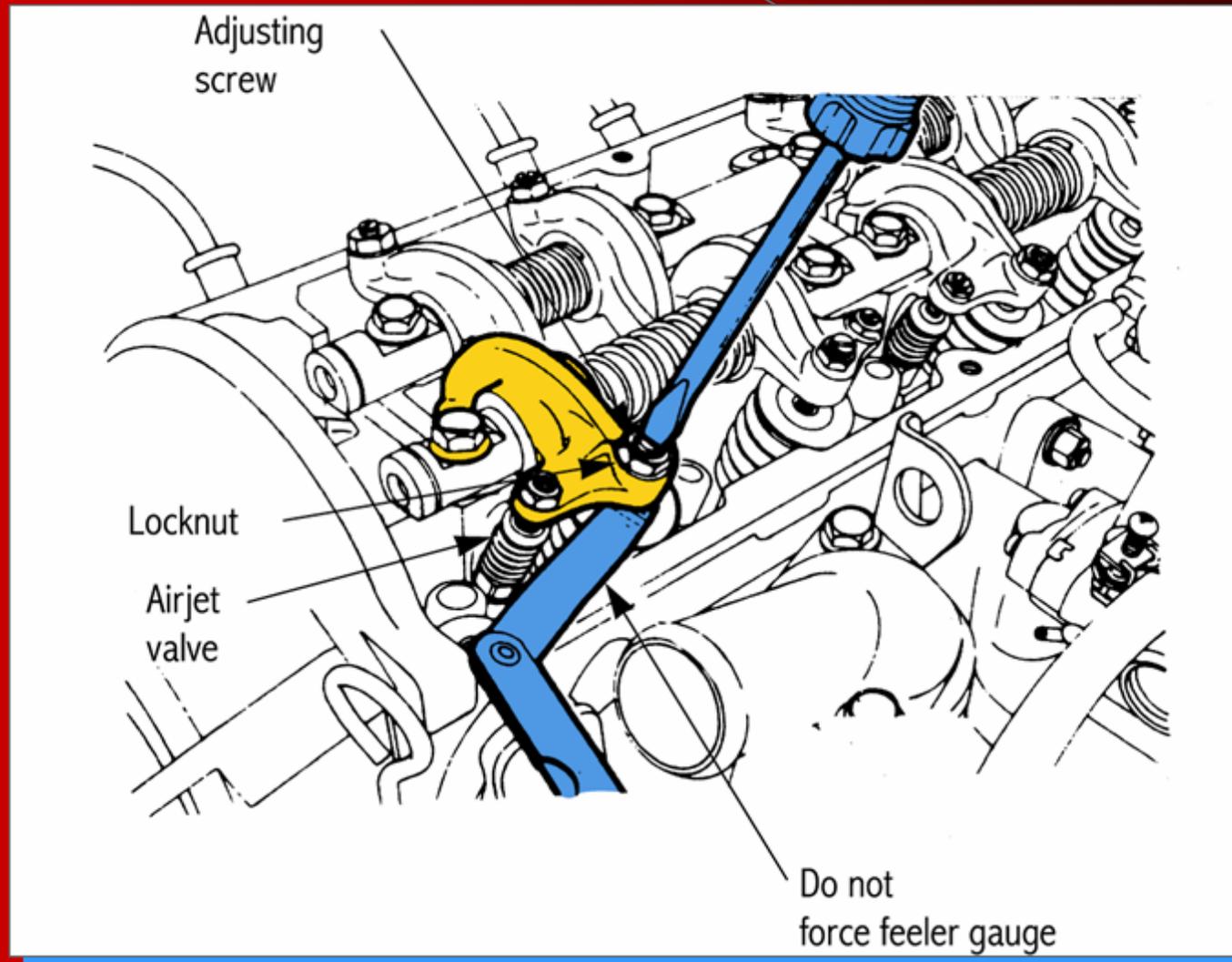
- Adjustment is critical to performance and service life
- If a valve train is too tight, a valve may be held open, causing burning
- If a valve train is too loose, noise and damage may result



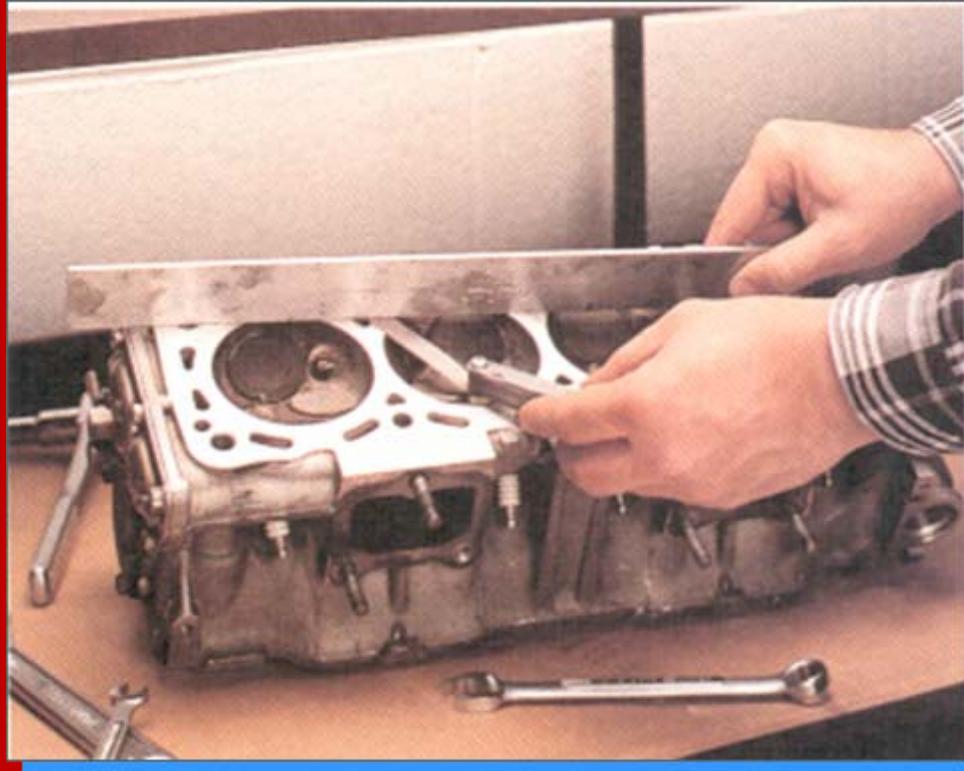
# Adjusting Hydraulic Lifters— Engine Off



# Adjusting Mechanical Lifters



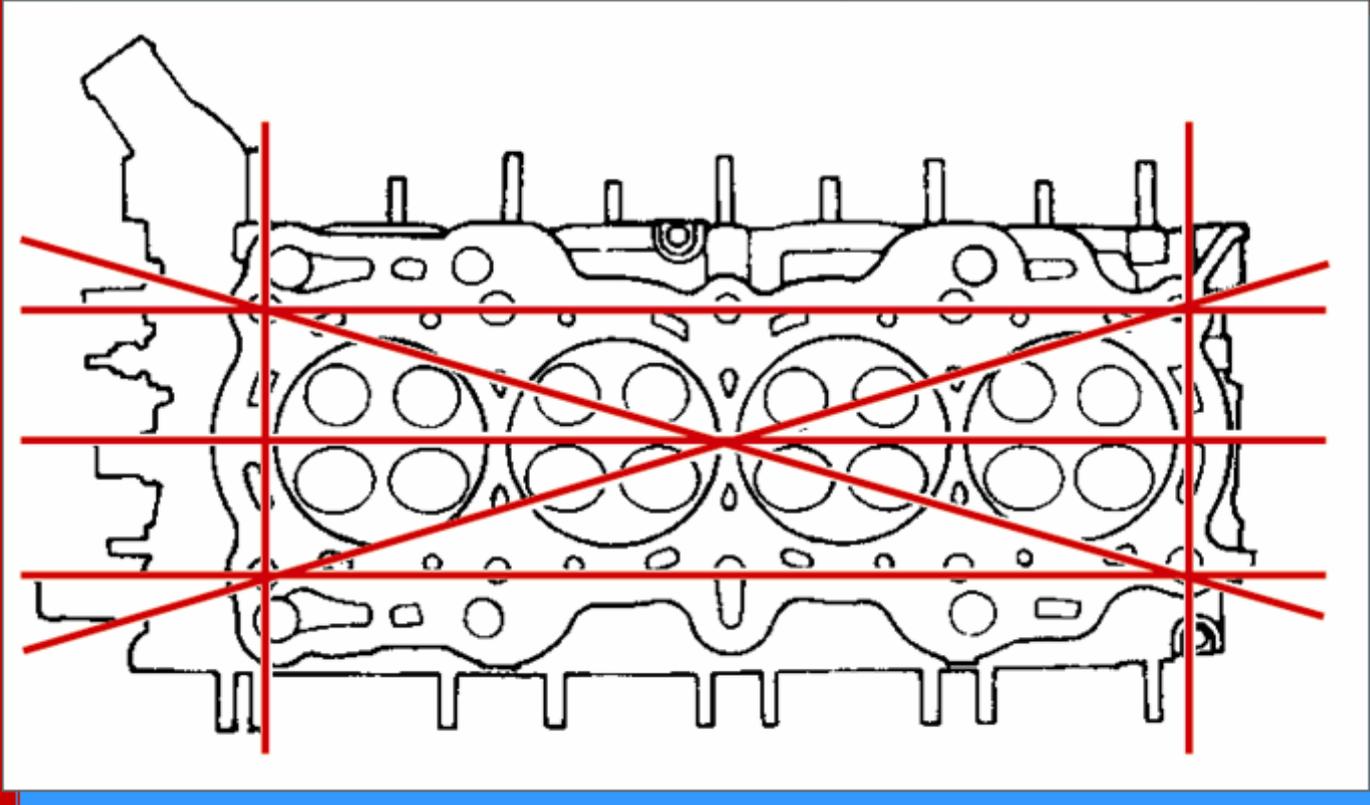
# Measuring Cylinder Head Warpage



Thickness of feeler gauge that fits under straightedge equals warpage



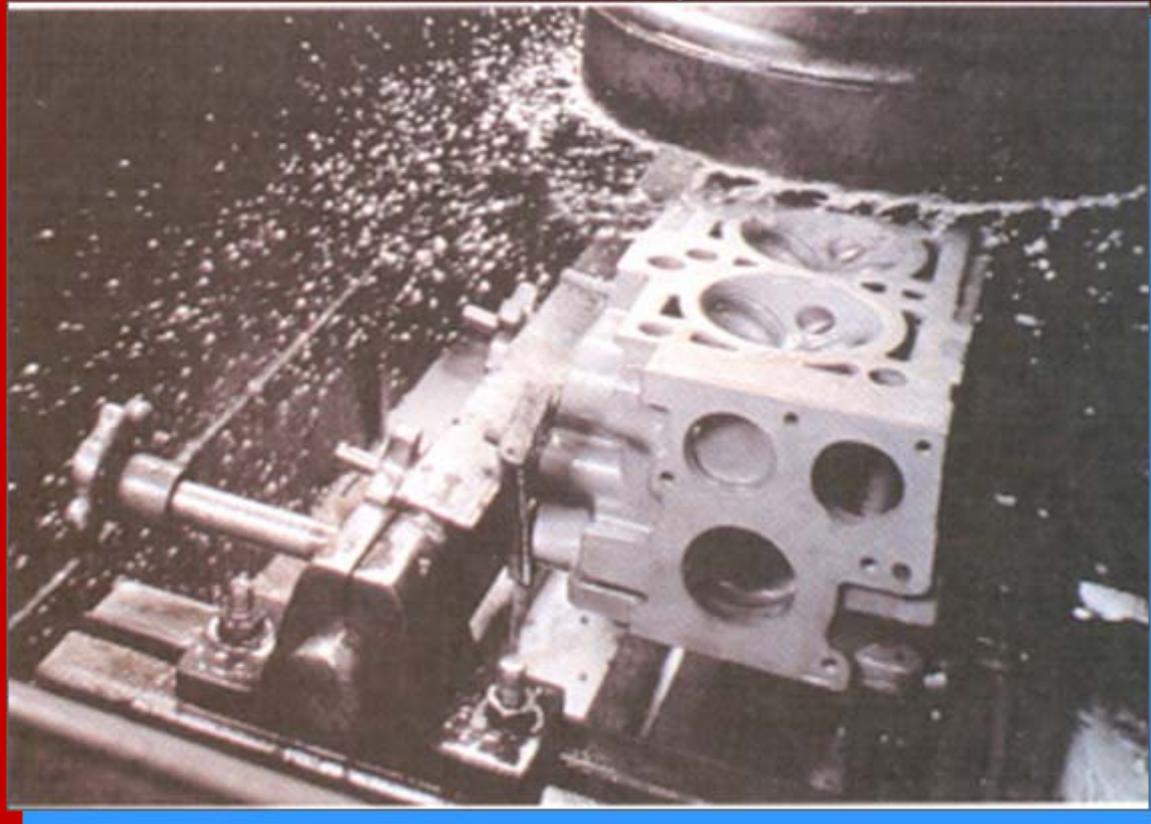
# Measuring Cylinder Head Warpage



Check across the head at these angles



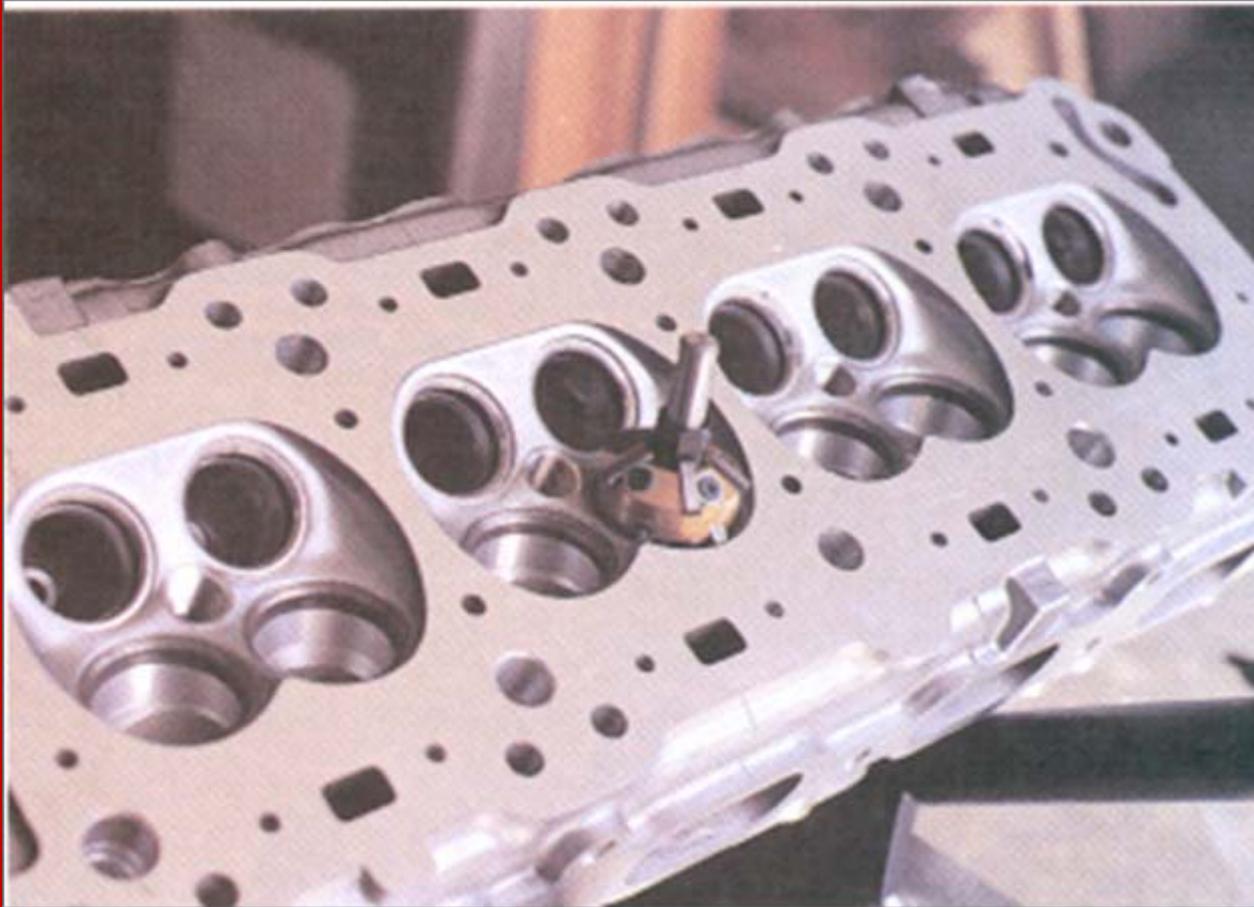
# Milling a Cylinder Head



Machining operation removes metal from the deck to correct warpage



# Milled Cylinder Head



Allows for good head gasket sealing



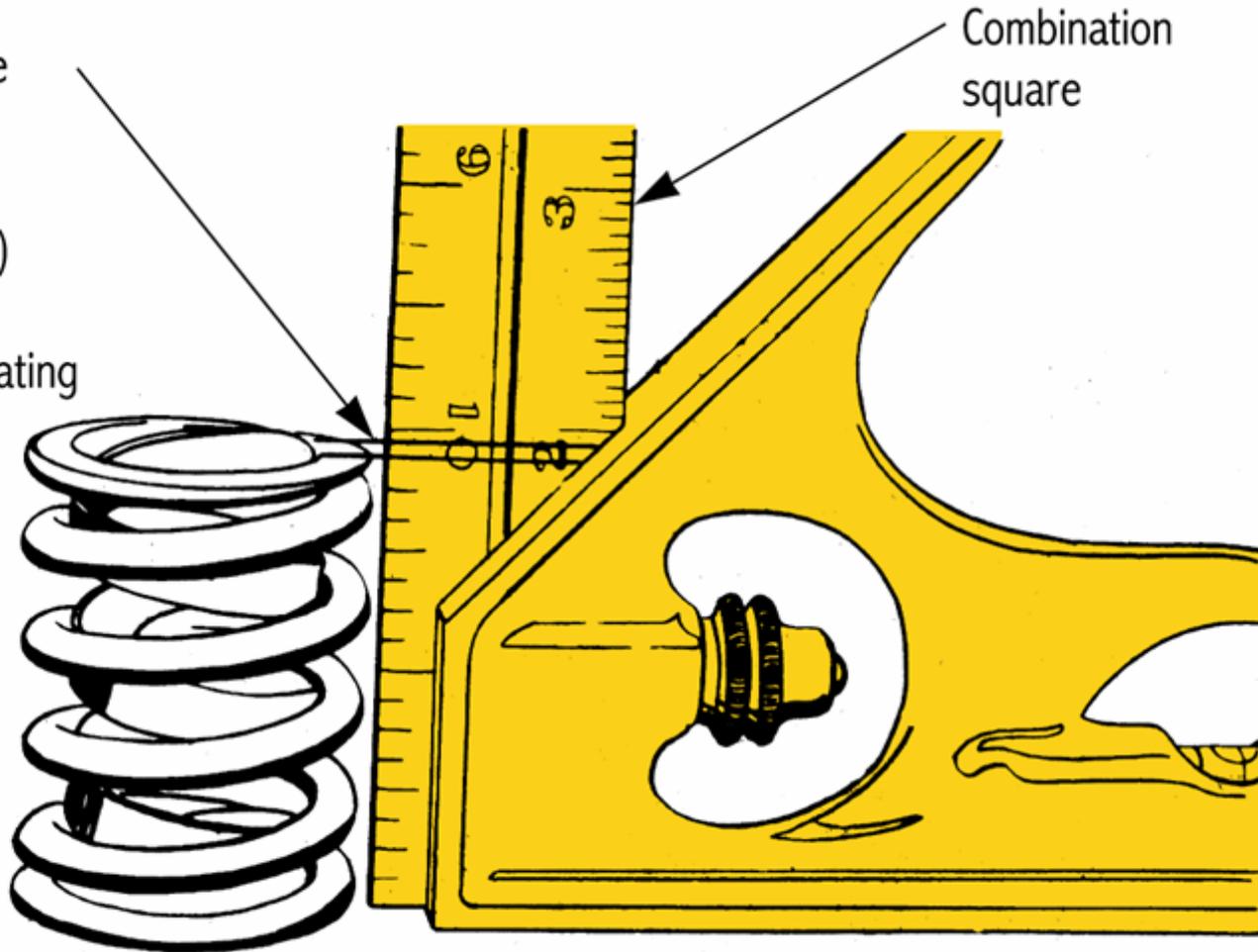
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9. Valve Spring Shims are used to maintain correct tension when the springs are installed on the cylinder heads.
10. A Valve Grind Gasket Set typically includes a head gasket(s), intake and exhaust manifold gaskets, and valve seals.

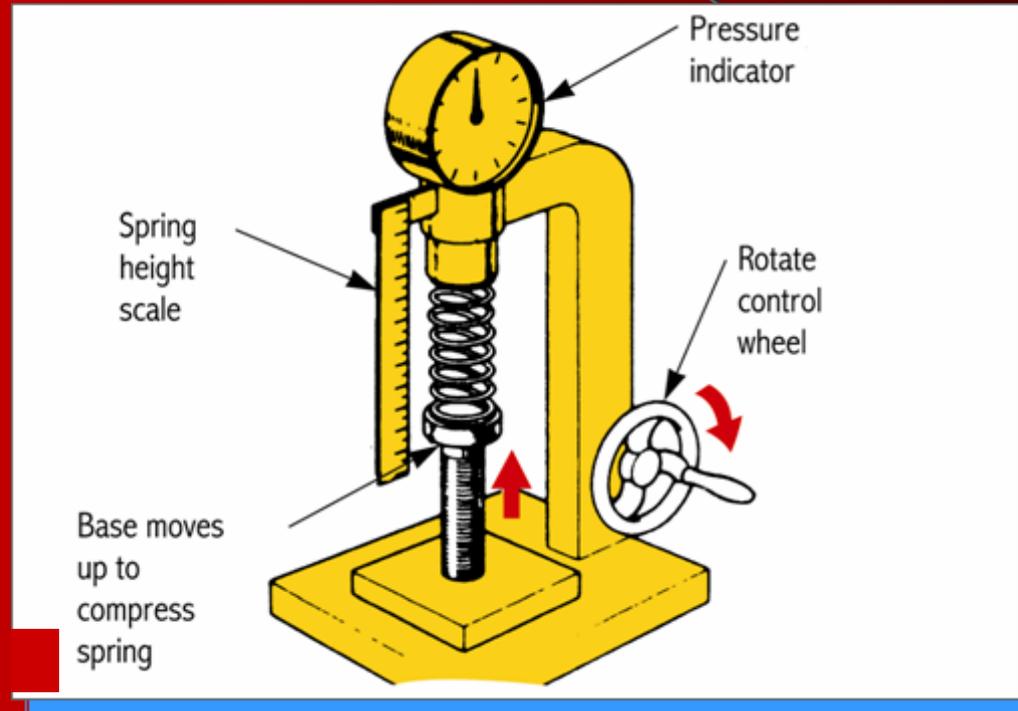


# Valve Spring Squareness

Not more than  
 $1/16''$   
(1.6 mm)  
variance  
while rotating  
spring



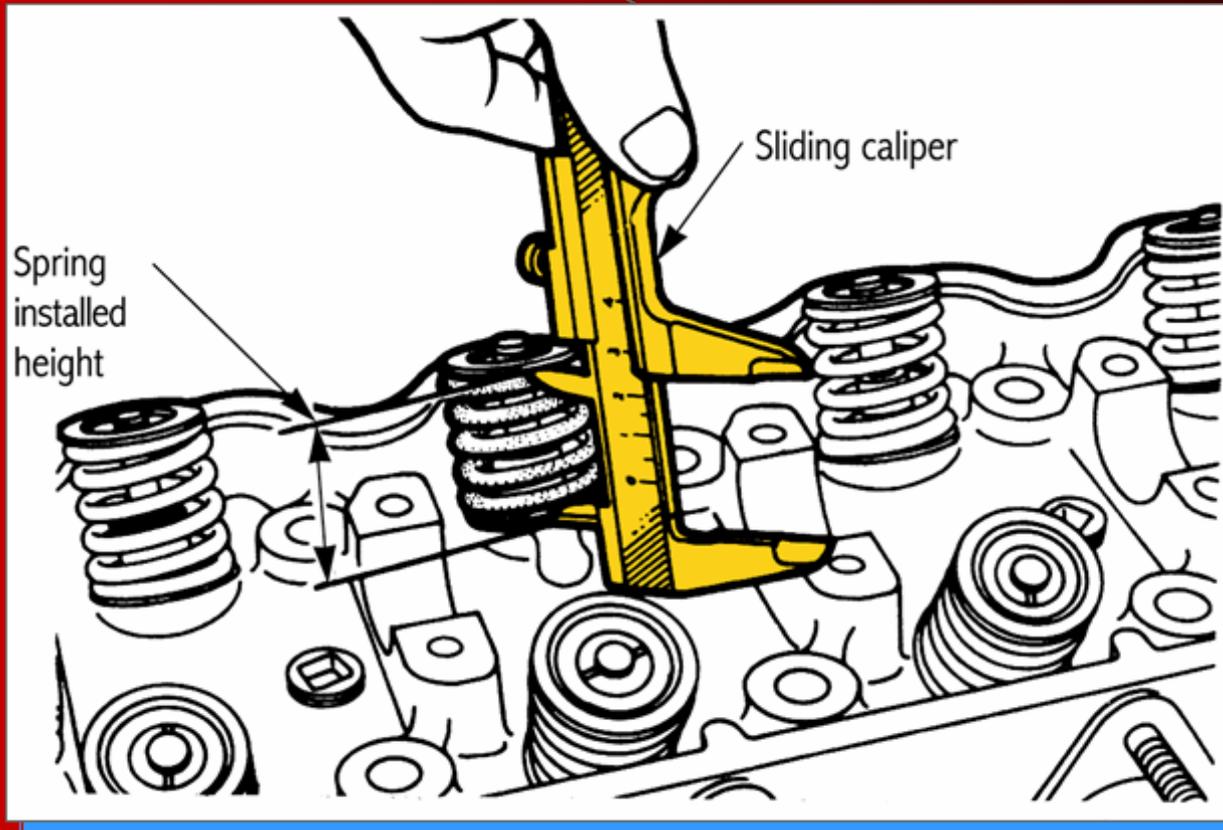
# Valve Spring Free Height and Tension



Measure the length of each spring with no pressure, then compress to specified height and read pressure scale



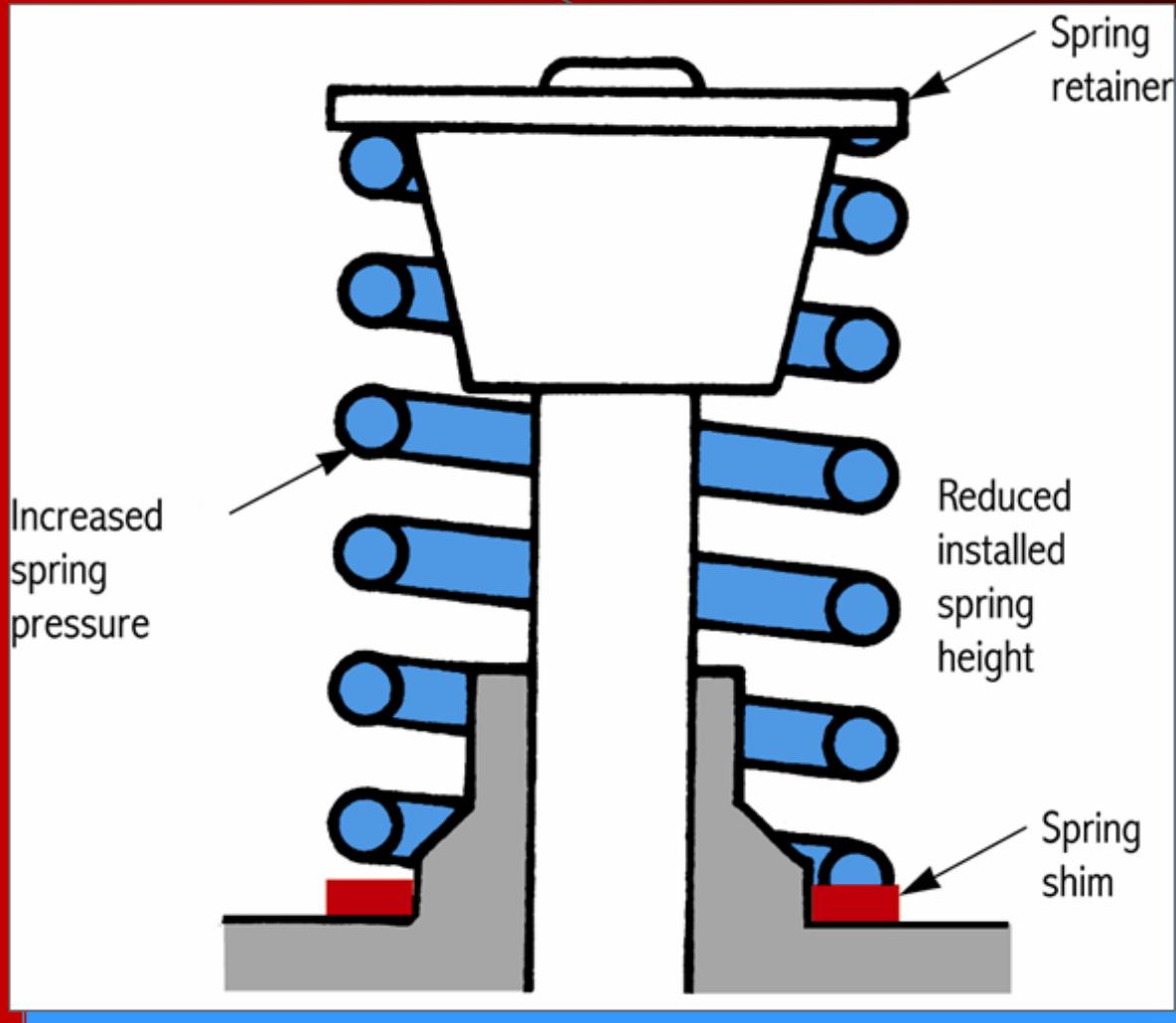
# Spring Installed Height



Distance from the top of the spring to the bottom, when installed on the head. If reading is too high, “shim” the valve



# Valve Spring Shim



Restores spring pressure, preventing valve float



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