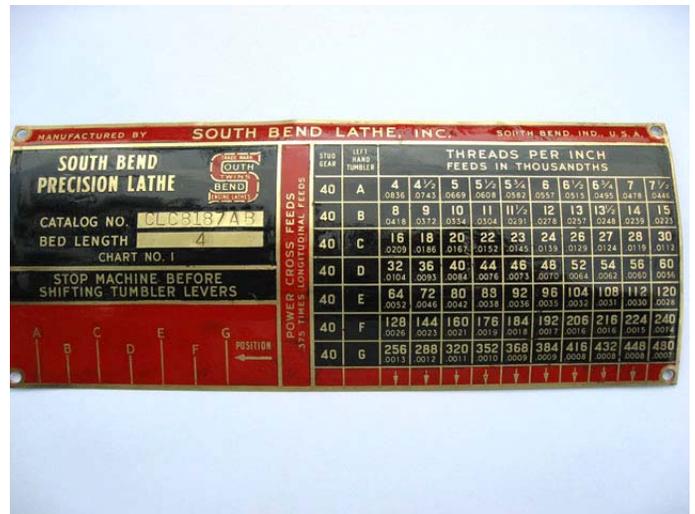
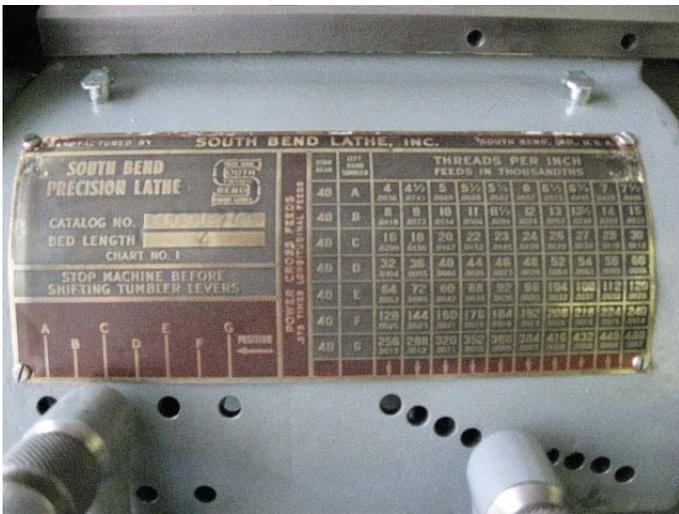


## Refurbishing a 10L index plate by Jim Kull

After refurbishing my 10L lathe I felt that the faded index plate just didn't fit in. I decided to try repainting it and the photos show the results. It took about 3-4 hours of working under a magnifying glass. While it isn't perfect, I find it much easier to read and I'm pleased with the results.

I first masked off the black areas and sprayed the rest red. After drying, I reversed the masking and sprayed the black. I used scotch tape for masking some of the delicate areas such as the large "S". This allowed me to see where to cut and remove the tape using a sharp pointed exacto knife. The "removable" scotch tape didn't work as well as standard tape.

Then the hard part--rubbing the paint off the raised areas to reveal the brass. This was made more difficult because the plate is curved and has some dents. A little touch-up was required with a fine brush.



To rub the paint off I used a 1/8 x 3/4 piece of balsa wood. The end was sanded to a chisel point. I had a cotton pad saturated with lacquer thinner and wiped the balsa wood on the saturated pad to dampen it. It seemed to work best when the balsa wood was just damp, not wet. The chisel point was used to do small areas and the flat side worked well on the black area to the right. The balsa piece was wiped on the cotton pad to remove the paint and to re-dampen it after two or three strokes on the paint. The paint was Krylon gloss lacquer. It took a little experimenting to develop a good technique.

Finally I used "Brasso" brass polish to clean up the brass and cleaned with glass cleaner to remove any wax left by the brass polish. Then a coat of clear lacquer to even everything out a bit.

It isn't really difficult, but a little practice on an easier plate would be helpful. If I did another one there would be less touch up required!