**WHAT IS TORQUE?**
Torque is rotational or turning force.

Torque is measured in length and force:
- **Length** means distance from “center of drive” to “center of handle”
- **Force** means “pounds”, “Newton’s” etc.

![Torque Diagram](image)

**Length (distance from pivot point to force)**

**Force (pressure applied)**

**Torque (rotational force)**

**The standard torque formula used to calculate torque is**

\[ \text{Torque} = \text{Length} \times \text{Force} \]

**Example A:** 2 ft. (length as shown above) \( \times \) 30 lbs. (amount of force at center of handle) = 60 ft. lbs. of torque (60 ft. Lbs.)

**Example B:** 1 meter \( \times \) 25 Newtons = 25 Newton Meters (25 Nm)

**WHAT IS A TORQUE WRENCH?**
- A torque wrench is any device that applies a pre-determined amount of torque to a fastener.
- It may be mechanical or electronic in design.
- A torque wrench has some type of indicating device which lets the operator know when the correct torque has been achieved: “click” or “impulse-break” feel; sound; lights; gauge; or some combination of these.

**QUICK FACT:** The Micrometer Click Type Wrench (Shown) is the most affordable and common torque wrench used today.

**TORQUE & ANGLE**
Auto manufacturers and makers of other high performance equipment are increasingly specifying fasteners with a combination of torque value followed by additional tightening with “angle”, or degrees of wrench turn. Manufacturers can calculate a more exact final “clamp load” for their applications, since “torque & angle” minimizes the impact of thread or under-head friction (see “What Does Torque Do” illustration and last bullet below). Note: The CDI “Torque & Angle” electronic wrenches easily handle these applications.

**Example:** Apply 80 ft. lbs. of torque, then apply 90 degrees of rotation

**WHAT DOES TORQUE DO?**
- **Bolts** (or threaded fasteners), are designed to create clamping force, also called “clamp load”.
- When torque is applied to a threaded fastener, it draws together the joint, (two pieces of material).
- As additional torque is applied to the fastener, the joint is pulled together creating a clamp load as the fastener begins the stretching process. It’s this fastener stretch that creates and maintains clamping force, like a stretched bungee cord maintaining tension.
- The actual amount of clamp load is determined by several factors:
  - The amount of torque applied to the fastener.
  - The material and grade of the fastener.
  - The external friction on the joint— friction under the fastener head, and friction between the threads of the fastener and material it’s connected to.

**WHY IS APPLYING PROPER TORQUE IMPORTANT?**
- **Safety & Performance:** Applying accurate torque is critical to assembly applications, engines and precision equipment.
- Creating a proper clamp load is the main objective when applying torque to a fastener. Engine cylinder heads, pipe coupling, wheels, all need to be “clamped” uniformly to specific torque values.
- There are three main factors that affect the correct application of torque: (1) Condition of components, (2) Accuracy of torque instrument, (3) Properly applied torque values.
- Applying torque incorrectly can lead to stripped threads, premature loosening or broken fasteners that can cause catastrophic failure. Leaking joints may cause engine or equipment failures.
**A.S.M.E.** – American Society of Mechanical Engineers, known for setting codes and standards for mechanical devices, including torque.

**CCW** – Counter Clockwise

**Calibration** – Adjusting a torque tool or a torque transducer in order to bring it back within spec, which is performed on a calibration system such as the CDI 2800-1 or 2000-1. Typical calibration accuracy is ± 4% CW of indicated value.

**Certification** – Also called a “Cert”, this is a form which lists the results of the calibration test. Almost all CDI tools are supplied with a N.I.S.T. traceable cert. CDI also conforms to the ISO 6789, which is the standard set forth by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for torque measurement.

**Cycling** – For mechanical torque wrenches, to “exercise” the wrench for use. With a new wrench, and for first use of the day, set the wrench at the desired torque value and pull for several minutes.

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**TYPES OF TORQUE WRENCHES**

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**BEAM WRENCH:**

The beam wrench, invented in the early 1900's, is a very simple design, not easy to read, and not considered a precise torque tool for today's standards of accuracy. CDI does not offer this type of wrench.

**OPERATION**

Set the desired torque value by pulling down on the lock ring while turning the handle. Always approach torque setting from a lower setting. The tube displays the major torque values, and the lock ring has the minor torque values. Apply force at the handle until the “click” is felt or heard, and then release force.

**ADVANTAGES**

Most common type of torque wrench. “Click” felt at the handle indicates torque value reached. Rugged, durable legacy design.

**DISADVANTAGES**

After day’s use, internal spring pressure must be released by unwinding the handle.

**APPLICATIONS**

Highly versatile: any general purpose torque applications: auto engine, machine maintenance, construction, oil field, compressor/generator, etc.

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**MICROMETER**

Also referred to as a “Click” wrench, these are the most popular type of mechanical torque wrench. An internal spring is tightened by turning the handle. The spring pushes against a block, and both are calibrated so the block pivots when the torque setting has been reached. This quick pivoting creates the “click” sound. When the force at the handle is released, the block resets to its original position and is ready for the next torque application.

**OPERATION**

Set the desired torque value by turning the knob on the side of the wrench. Always approach torque setting from a lower setting. Apply force at the handle until the “click” is felt or heard, and then release force.

**ADVANTAGES**

Fast to set; no unwinding after use. “Click” felt in handle indicates torque value. One way ratchet eliminates damage due to misuse as a breaker bar.

**DISADVANTAGES**

One way ratchet does not allow counterclockwise torque (this is a very rare need). Less fine adjustment vs. micrometer.

**APPLICATIONS**

Brake, tire and wheel shops; any general purpose mechanical applications.

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**SPLIT BEAM**

Also called a “Quick Adjust” wrench, this type is most popular for automotive tire and wheel installation and other heavy use environments. Torque value is set by turning a small knob on the side of the wrench. Two internal arms (the “split beam”) bend when force is applied at the handle, and a trigger device reacts when the set torque is reached, causing a “click” that can be felt and heard.

**OPERATION**

Set the desired torque value by turning the knob on the side of the wrench. Always approach torque setting from a lower setting. Apply force at the handle until the “click” is felt or heard, and then release force.

**ADVANTAGES**

Very accurate, user can visually track the approaching and achieved torque value on scale. Also you can observe the “effect” of torque on the work piece.

**DISADVANTAGES**

Fixed (non-ratcheting) head. Subject to viewing angle (parallax) error.

**APPLICATIONS**

Wherever the “effect” of torque needs to be observed. Recommended for use with all torque multipliers. Lower cost substitute for electronic wrenches when high accuracy is required.

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**MECHANICAL DIAL**

Uses a fixed, non-ratcheting square drive. Available in single scale and dual scale models. As force is applied at the handle, an internal beam flexes against a precision movement which rotates a needle pointing to the torque value against the dial scale. A memory needle indicates the highest torque value achieved.

**OPERATION**

Reset the orange pointer to zero by grasping the black bezel ring and turning. Turn the blue needle until it contacts, but does not move, the main orange pointer needle. Pull to desired torque and release. Needle must NEVER exceed 180 degrees of movement.

**ADVANTAGES**

Very accurate, can visually track the approaching and achieved torque value on scale. Also you can observe the “effect” of torque on the work piece.

**DISADVANTAGES**

Fixed (non-ratcheting) head. Subject to viewing angle (parallax) error.

**APPLICATIONS**

Wherever the “effect” of torque needs to be observed. Recommended for use with all torque multipliers. Lower cost substitute for electronic wrenches when high accuracy is required.
clicks on a stationary fastener. This exercises the internal wrench mechanism and ensures smooth and accurate operation.

ISO 17025 – A laboratory accreditation standard. Most all torque wrenches (including CDI) do not come with ISO 17025 accredited certifications. But torque wrenches can receive accredited certification for an additional fee (range of $50-200 depending on tool) if the end-user desires.

N.I.S.T. – National Institute of Standards and Technology is a non-regulatory agency of the US Department of Commerce. They are the federal agency that sets standards for all weights and measures in the U.S. All CDI torque products are calibrated on testers calibrated with weights and arms that are all traceable back to N.I.S.T.

Newton – A Newton is a common unit of weight used for torque from the SI system (not metric). Equivalent to 102 grams / .273 pounds.

Rolling Torque – Measuring the prevailing torque, or resistance, of a rotating shaft.

Strain Gage – A strain gage is an electronic device used to measure the bend or turn resistance of an object. The measured strain is then translated into torque.

Testing – To determine the accuracy of the tool. It does not include adjusting the tool. Commonly called “as found” data.

Torque plus Angle (T & A) – Tightening the fastener to a specific torque, then further turning a specific number of degrees (angle) of rotation. Example: 70 ft. lbs. + 40 degrees.

Torque to Yield (TTY) – Same method as torque plus angle except utilizes “single use” or “TTY” fasteners. These are special one-time-use fasteners which are stretched into their yield zone and cannot be used again.

**DIGITAL DIAL**

More accurate than a mechanical dial, and easier to use and read because of large LCD readout and color LED light bar. Utilizes an internal electronic strain gage to measure torque. Uses a fixed, non-ratcheting square drive as do the mechanical dial wrenches.

Turn on using the power button, set the units of torque by pressing the “U” button, and set the desired torque using the “+” or “-” keys. Pull wrench, slow down when YELLOW LED lights, and stop when GREEN lights.

**ELECTRONIC**

Most versatile and accurate torque wrench. Operates by means of a internal electronic strain gage with digital readout. Torque value setting can be heard (beep) and seen (digital screen and lights). Torque & Angle models enable fast and easy application of desired torque, plus additional angle application through internal gyro chip which measures up to 360 degrees of rotation.

Turn on using the power button, set the units of torque by pressing the “U” button, and set the desired torque using the “+” or “-” keys. Pull wrench, slow down when YELLOW LED lights, and stop when GREEN lights.

**OTHER TORQUE TOOLS**

**INTERCHANGEABLE HEAD TYPE**

Allows various head designs and sizes to be used in the same wrench body. Available in preset, single setting design or adjustable type.

**SCREWDRIVERS**

Used for applying torque in low torque applications, such as electronic assembly manufacturing, medical devices, etc. Available in adjustable models, or factory preset to a single torque value. Ergonomic tri-lobe handle design.

**TORKYS**

Used in higher torque applications than torque screwdrivers (can be factory preset to a single torque value from 30 to 170 in. lbs.). Features “L” shaped handle design enabling easier leverage for higher torque values. Commonly used for carbide tipped milling cutters, and many other applications where space is limited.

Quick Fact:
The first Torque Wrench was invented by Conrad Bahr in 1918 while working for the New York City Water Department. It was designed to prevent overtightening bolts on water main and steam pipe repairs underground.

## CDI TORQUE WRENCH RANGE AVAILABILITY

*Note: Ranges covered may require more than one wrench model.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Micrometer Adjustable (Dual Scale)</th>
<th>1/4&quot;</th>
<th>3/8&quot;</th>
<th>1/2&quot;</th>
<th>3/4&quot;</th>
<th>1&quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In. Lb. / Nm</td>
<td>10-150 / 1.4-15.3</td>
<td>20-1000 / 2.8-110.2</td>
<td>30-2500 / 39.6-276.9</td>
<td>50-600 / 119-779</td>
<td>200-1000 / 305-1322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fl. Lb. / Nm</td>
<td>5-80 / 0.8-13.3</td>
<td>20-500 / 32.8-87.7</td>
<td>20-250 / 34-332</td>
<td>50-120 / 119-779</td>
<td>200-1000 / 305-1322</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Micrometer Comfort Grip (Dual Scale)</th>
<th>1/4&quot;</th>
<th>3/8&quot;</th>
<th>1/2&quot;</th>
<th>3/4&quot;</th>
<th>1&quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In. Lb. / Nm</td>
<td>20-150 / 2.8-15.3</td>
<td>30-1000 / 4.0-110.2</td>
<td>20-250 / 34-332</td>
<td>100-600 / 169-779</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fl. Lb. / Nm</td>
<td>10-100 / 16.3-132.2</td>
<td>20-250 / 34-332</td>
<td>100-600 / 169-779</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Micrometer Adjustable (Single Scale)</th>
<th>30-2000</th>
<th>10-100</th>
<th>40-340</th>
<th>150-800</th>
<th>30-1500</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ft. Lb. / Nm</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nm</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### DIAL WRENCH (Single Scale)

*Electronic Signaling Model Range*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In. Lb. / Nm</th>
<th>0.75 / 0.5</th>
<th>0.6 / 0.7</th>
<th>0.6 / 0.8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ft. Lb. / Nm</td>
<td>0.5 / 0.7</td>
<td>0.35 / 0.8</td>
<td>0.6 / 0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nm</td>
<td>0.6 / 0.8</td>
<td>0.8 / 0.8</td>
<td>0.6 / 0.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SPLIT BEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In. Lb.</th>
<th>Ft. Lb.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-50</td>
<td>25-600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.4-4.2</td>
<td>2-50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COMPUTERQ II (Electronic)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In. Lb.</th>
<th>Ft. Lb.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.6-56</td>
<td>28-667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nm</td>
<td>34-338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cmkg</td>
<td>830-830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mkg</td>
<td>83-83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COMPUTERQ 3 (Electronic)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In. Lb.</th>
<th>Ft. Lb.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24-240</td>
<td>120-1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nm</td>
<td>34-338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cmkg</td>
<td>830-830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mkg</td>
<td>83-83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TORQUE & ANGLE (Electronic)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In. Lb.</th>
<th>Ft. Lb.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-50</td>
<td>25-600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.4-4.2</td>
<td>2-50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DIAL (Electronic)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In. Lb.</th>
<th>Ft. Lb.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.6-56</td>
<td>28-667</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INTERCHANGEABLE HEAD (Single & Dual Scale)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ft. Lb. / Nm</th>
<th>5-75</th>
<th>20-250</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nm / Ft. Lb.</td>
<td>10-100 / 7.4-73.8</td>
<td>40-200 / 29.5-147.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SINGLE SETTING TORQUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In. Lb. / Nm</th>
<th>10-300 / 1.1-34</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ft. Lb. / Nm</td>
<td>15-75 / 20-102</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>J Shank</th>
<th>Y Shank</th>
<th>X Shank</th>
<th>Z Shank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-75</td>
<td>20-250</td>
<td>10-100</td>
<td>25-250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## PROPER WRENCH SELECTION

Proper wrench selection is just as important as the wrench itself.

- The more critical the torque requirement, the more accurate (think electronic) the wrench should be.
- Choose a torque wrench that has roughly twice the capacity of the torque being applied. For example, for an application of 100 ft.lbs., choose a 200 ft.lbs. wrench. If a 200 ft.lbs. wrench is not available, then a 250 ft.lbs. would work as well. The "sweet spot" of a torque wrench is between 40% and 80% of the maximum scale (for a 250 ft. lb. wrench, between 100 and 200 ft. lbs).
- Avoid choosing a wrench that will be used at the bottom of the scale and also at the top of the scale. Mechanical torque wrenches are typically calibrated from 20% to 100% of full scale.

## TORQUE WRENCH CARE

- Always wind down Micrometer wrenches to lowest setting for storage.
- Wipe clean with soft cloth.
- Store in its case with desiccant pack and manual.
- Keep in a cool, dry place.

CDI Torque Products Available From:

See the full line of CDI TORQUE PRODUCTS: www.snapon.com/industrialbrands or www.cditorque.com

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