



Last updated: 08/13/20108 Rev. 9

# R7 Build Instructions

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The R7 is so named as this was the revision the SMW3D/ Hobby-Fab team released; this DIY CNC router kit. The kit is fully open source. In addition, the kit was released in beta and all feedback taken to improve build and functionality. Thank you for joining us on this journey. We truly hope this build will help makers to achieve the satisfaction of creating a machine that will provide years of creativity with their own two hands.

## 2. SET-UP

We would love for you to rip open this package like it's Christmas morning and you are eight years old again. We must warn though, we have individually bagged the steps and they will match the below inventory as well as the videos on YouTube on the SMW3D/Hobby-Fab page. The videos are labeled R7v1, this means R7 video one, etc. Please DO NOT open every bag and dump the build on the table. This will severely impact your build time and locating the proper parts for the steps. The build videos are very outdated, they should only be used for reference.

We also advise finding a large, clean, flat surface to build your kit. The first few steps can certainly be performed on a smaller surface however, as the build grows, you will need a four foot by four-foot area flat surface. It is also advised that you lay out each step individually with all parts for the respective step. Lastly, before starting the build, please note the BOM (Bill of Materials) is described below and two columns are present after the item description. Please open each bag prior to build and count each item and check it off the below list. If anything is missing, please contact us at [contact@Hobby-Fab.com](mailto:contact@Hobby-Fab.com). Performing this task now will prevent having to put off your build in the event we missed something.

Finally, please have fun and take your time. The build process will control all your cuts after, build it once and build it right. The machine will provide years of great service.

### Tools Required: (all should be locally available)    Additional Items Required

Metric allen wrench set	Bucket for water
Soldering iron and solder	Table
Metric tap set	Computer
8mm combination wrench	USB A to B cable
10mm combination wrench	Square and level



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Hand file

### 3. Build and BOM

The steps shown here will correspond with the SMW3D build videos. It should be noted these videos are quickly getting outdated due to amazing feedback from users.

NOTE: as of November 2017, the mini wheels running inside the beam may be changed to Delrin.

NOTE: as of November 2017, mechanical limits are included in all R7 kits. The limits get installed as such:

Y gantry plate – limit faces rear of machine

X gantry plate – limit faces the right-hand side of the build looking at the machine

Z gantry plate – limit faces down

All wired NO

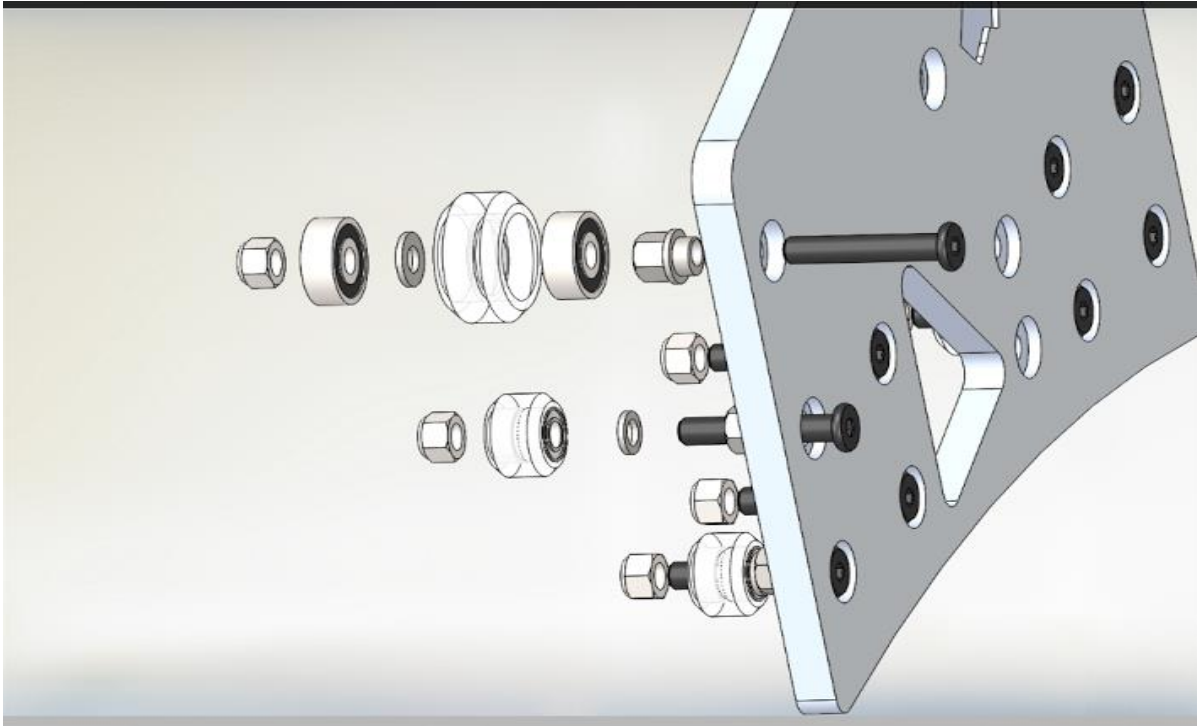
#### Step One:

In the first step, you will be assembling the Y gantry plates. These plates will run on the side of the R7 as you are facing the machine. One notable change from the videos is the .2mm shims are no longer needed. At the end of this step you will have two assembled Y gantry plates, each with eight mini wheels and three large wheels (all on M5 x25 bolts), the ACME block will also be installed (M5 x 20 bolts). Take your time on the wheels. If all wheels touch the C-Beam, you are in a great spot. We state in the video a tension is required. We have found this is not true. Each plate can take up to an hour and a half to completely assemble. So, sit back, relax, and let's build.



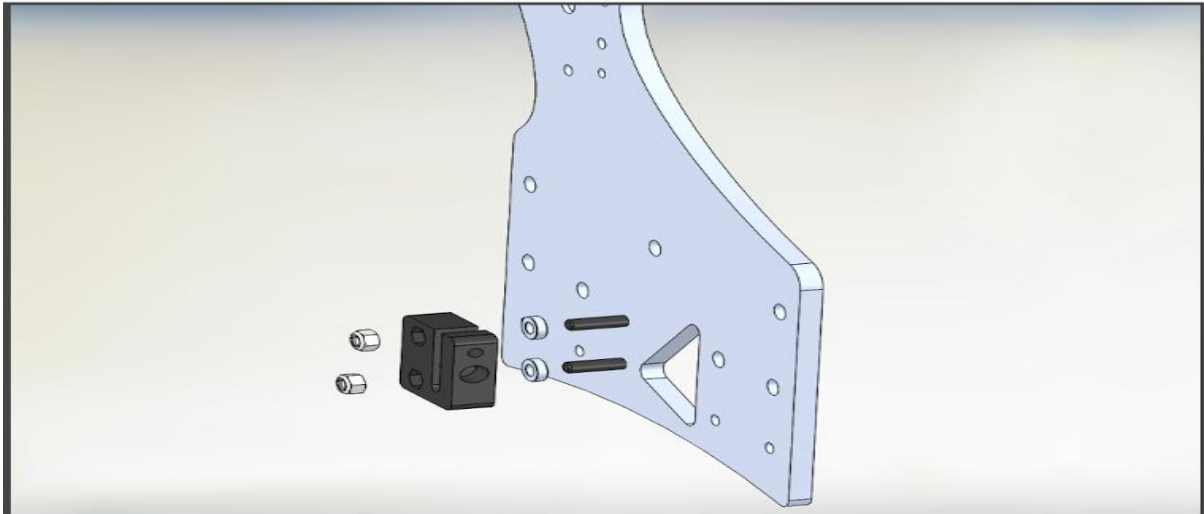
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STEP 1	Qty.	Smw3D	Builder
Y Gantry Plate LH	1		
Y Gantry Plate RH	1		
Large Xtreme Wheels	6		
Mini Delrin Wheels	16		
Adjustable Tension Anti-Backlash Nut	2		
6mm Spacers	8		
6mm Mini Eccentric Spacers	14		
3mm Spacers	4		
M5x20 Bolt	4		
M5x25 Bolt	22		



Note, the large wheels get a shim from the wheel bag between the bearings but not between the eccentric spacer and bearing. The mini wheels get a shim from the wheel kit, between the bearings in the wheel and between the bearing and eccentric spacer. All bolts are M5x25mm bolts. Note, you will most likely need to remove the limit switch to install the one wheel bolt that resides behind it.

Begin by installing the standard spacers on the smaller holes (bottom row), these will be a reference for the rest of the wheels. Tighten these with a small amount of torque, do not tighten so much that the wheel drags or locks. Next, install the next row up eccentric spacers and mini-wheels. Before tightening, turn the eccentrics until the wheel on this bolt is as close to the reference wheel below it. Install and correctly tension the inner mini-wheels on the inside of the C-Beam (250 length), before installing the outer larger wheels. Install the large wheels on the eccentrics and adjust to the beam in the same fashion.

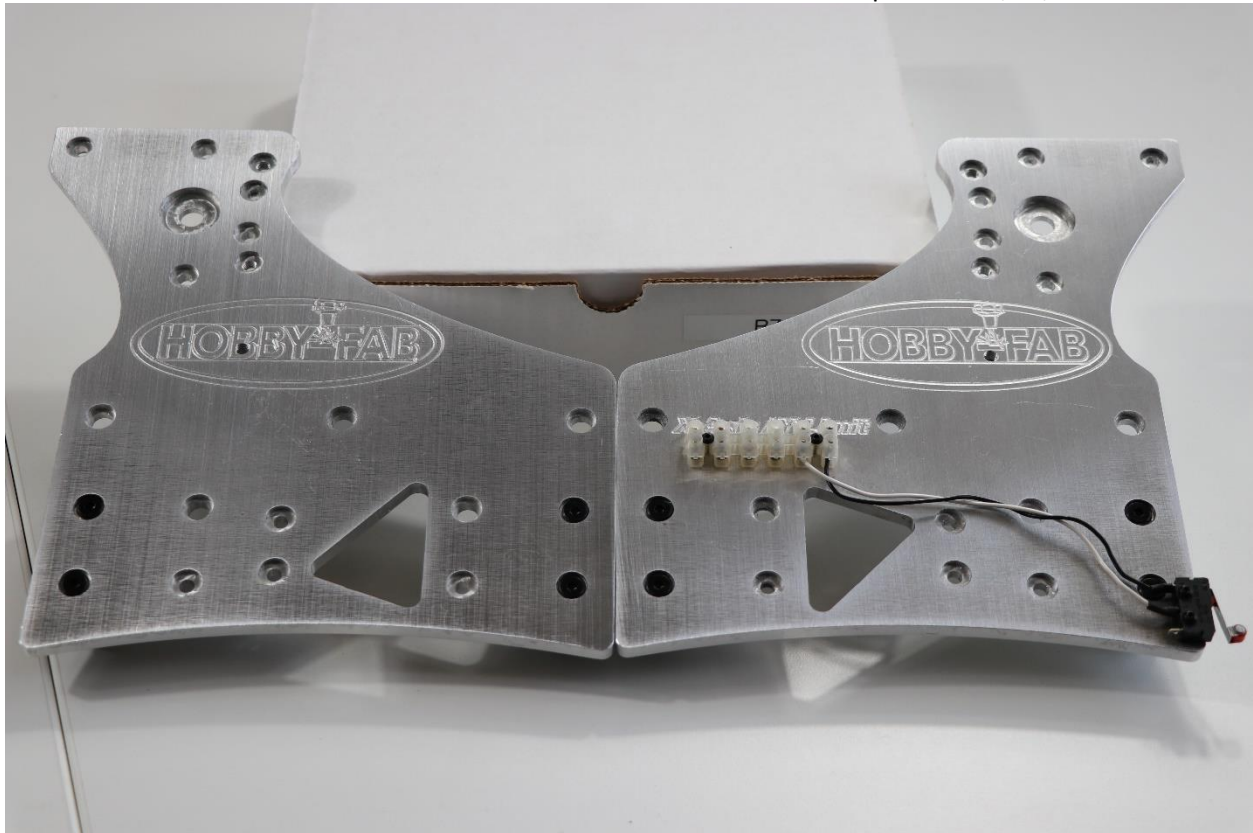


The ACME block is installed by using two M5 x 20mm bolts, 3mm spacers, and two M5 nuts. Do not over-tighten these M5 x 20 bolts, it is possible to collapse the block. Simply snug up and use lock-tight.

You can adjust the tension on the ACME block at this time if you so choose. Insert one of the ACME threaded rods into the block and adjust the set screw until there is slight resistance while trying to turn the ACME rod through the block. Do not overdo it. You can always adjust this after the build is complete.



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*Limit switch and barrier block shown installed.*



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## Step 2:

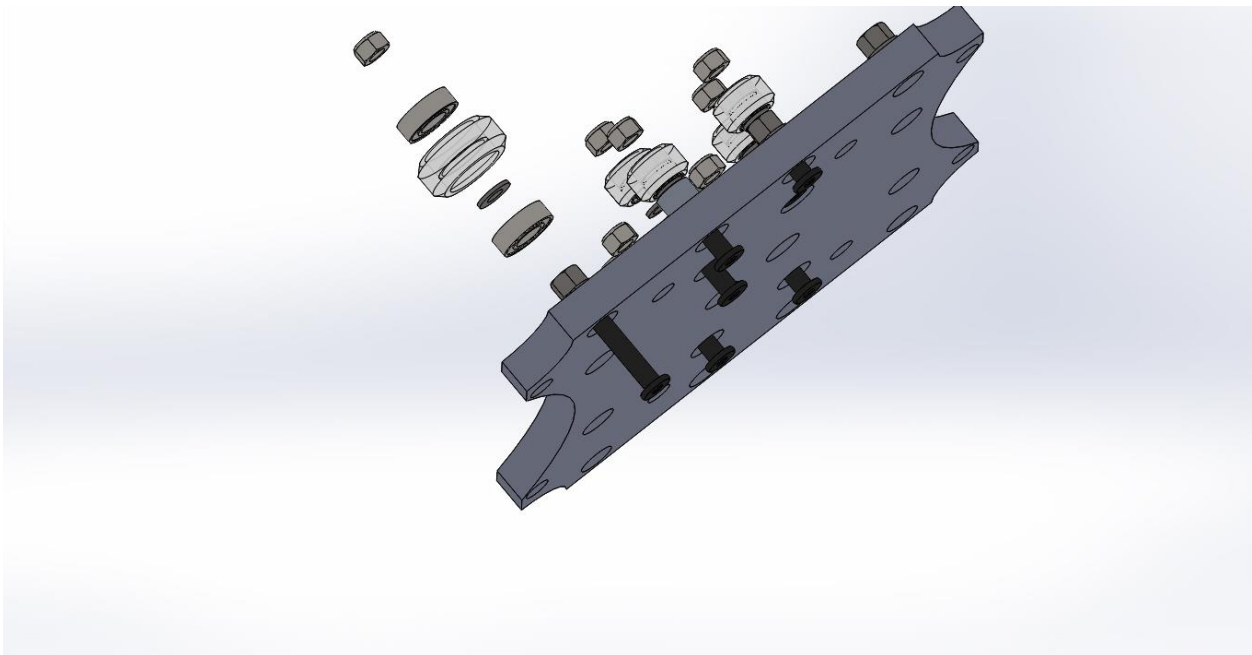
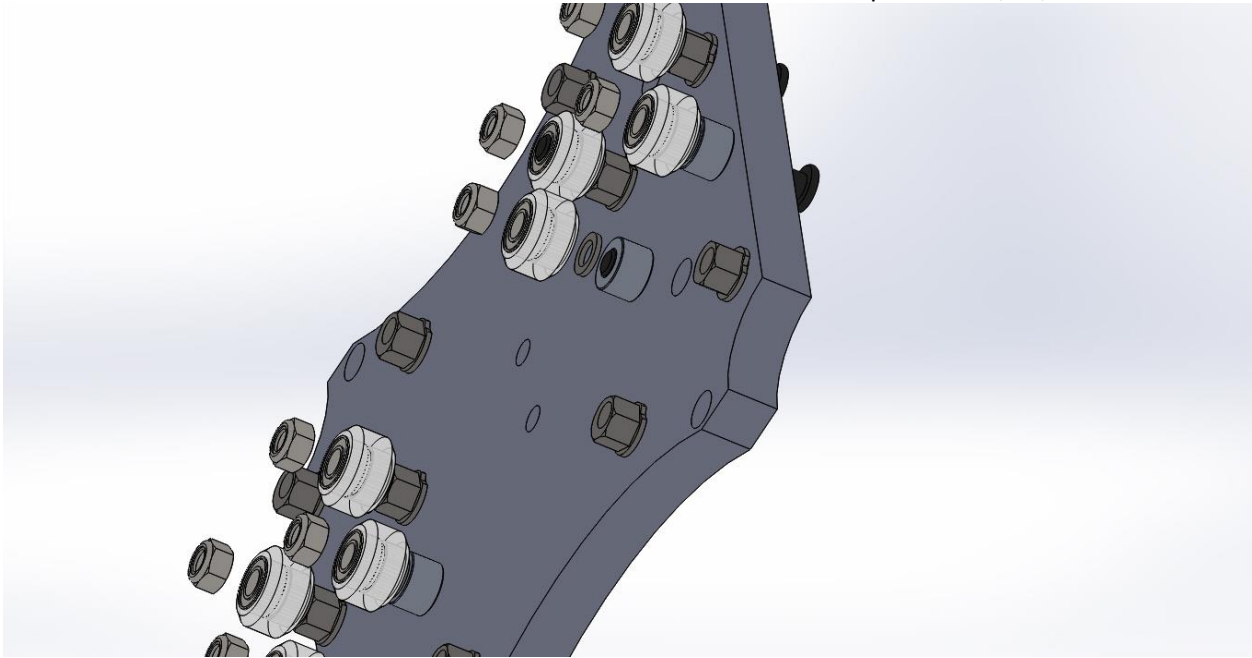
Step two has us assembling the front X/Z gantry plate. While looking at the completed machine, this will be the front plate that holds the Z gantry and moves side to side in the X direction. Recall front to back is Y and up and down is Z.

Note a change from the video, the Z is now driven by a single adjustable tension acme nut. Set the tension on the ACME as we did in step one. Insert the acme rod and turn in on the set screw until there is a slight resistance to turning the rod by hand. Do not lock the ACME in place by adjusting too far.

STEP 2	Qty.	Smw3D	Builder
Front XZ Gantry Plate (Machined)	1		
Large Xtreme Wheels	8		
Mini Delrin Wheels	8		
Adjustable Tension Anti-Backlash Nut	1		
1/4" Spacers	4		
1/4" Mini Eccentric spacers	12		
3mm Spacers	2		
M5x20	2		
M5x25	16		

Note that all wheels are installed with 1/4" eccentric spacers in this step to allow adequate room for the Z gantry.

To begin assembly, note that one side of the plate has recesses. We will be installing bolts from this side and the eccentric and regular spacers on the other side. Also, you will note one side of the inner gantry wheel holes is smaller in diameter, we call these the reference holes. Install these and tighten down the wheels, then use the eccentrics to add tension to the opposite wheels. All wheels on the reference holes should touch the beam, this ensures a true Z. Install and correctly tension the inner mini-wheels on the inside of the C-Beam (250 length), before installing the outer larger wheels. Install the eccentrics so that the wheels are as close as possible to the reference wheels. Install the beam and turn the eccentric until the wheel touches. Start in the center and work toward the top and bottom wheels.



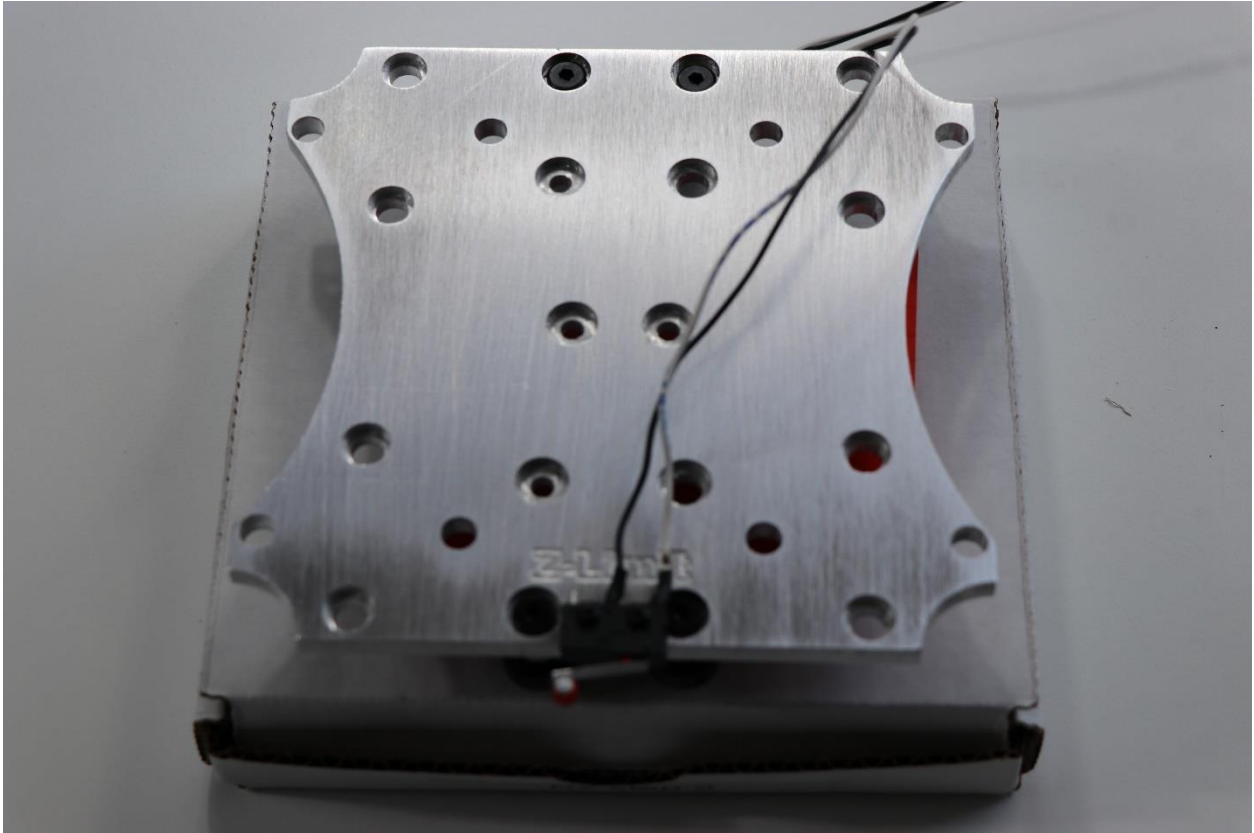
Install the outer wheels and turn the eccentrics until the outer wheels touch the C-beam.

The ACME block is installed in the same fashion as the first step.





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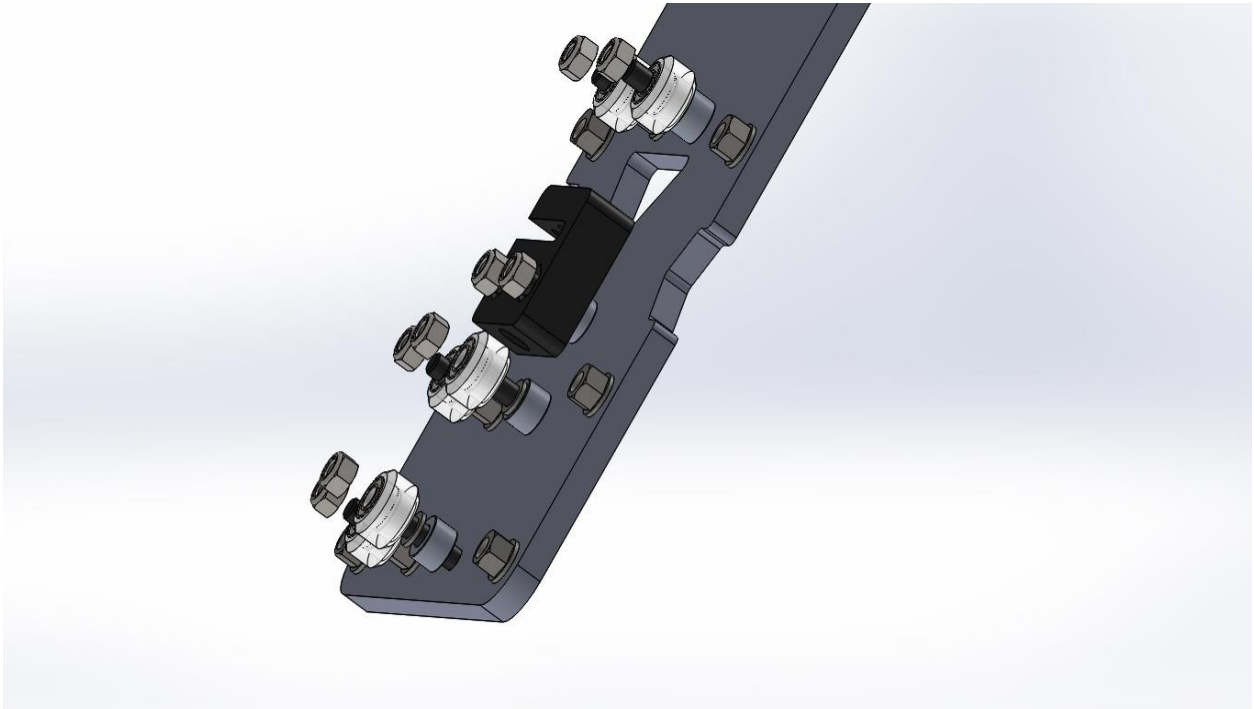
*Note limit switch on bottom of plate, these wires will remain loose till install.*



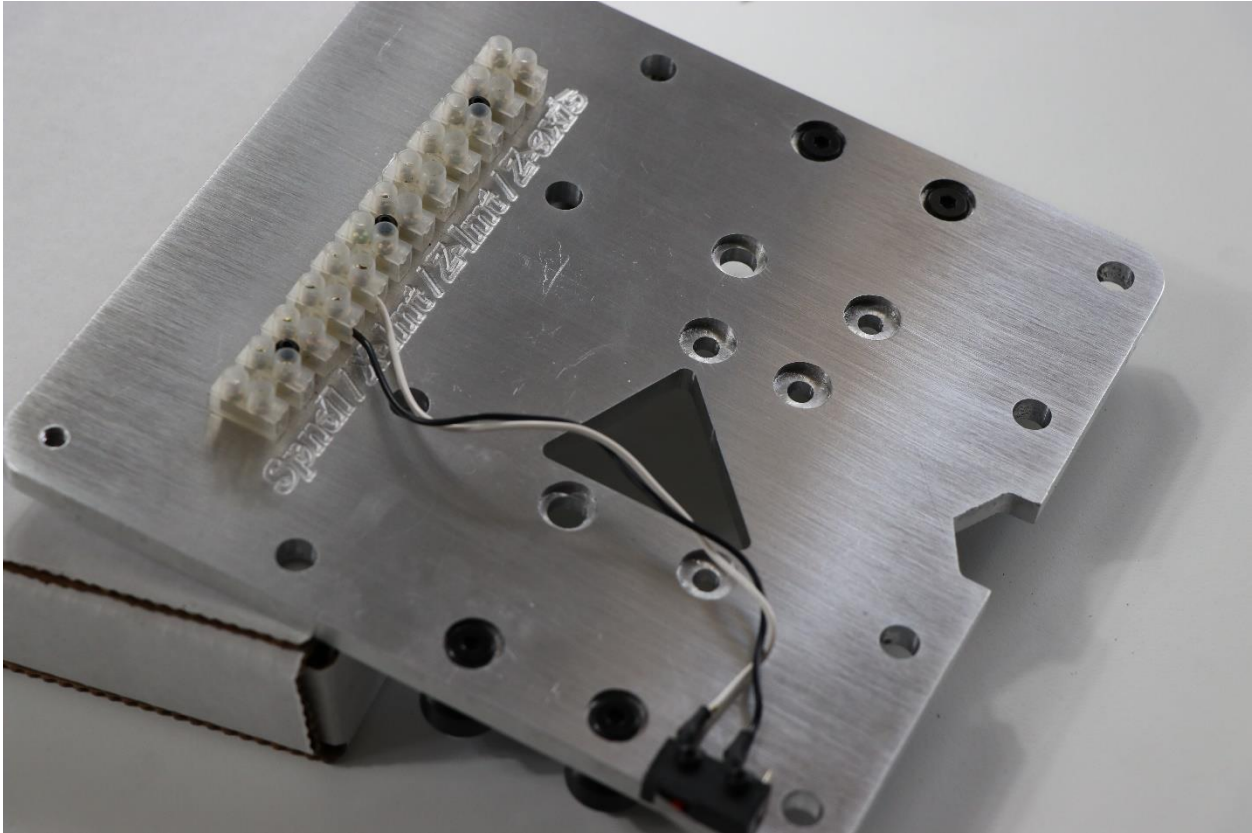
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### Step 3:

Step three will be the assembly of the rear X gantry plate. The same principles apply here. Use the reference wheels as a base and adjust the eccentrics to touch the inside of the sample beam (250mm length Z). Continue by installing the ACME block with the supplied 3mm spacers and M5 x 20mm bolts. Again, it is a good idea to adjust the tension on the ACME block at this time.



*Note this plate is completely remodeled but the assembly remains the same.*



*Notch in plate faces down. Limit switch on the left-hand side looking at the plate.*



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STEP 3	Qty.	Smw3D	Builder
Rear XZ Gantry Plate	1		
Adjustable Tension Anti-Backlash Nut	1		
Mini Delrin Wheels	8		
3mm spacers	2		
m5x20	2		
m5x25	8		
6mm Spacers	4		
6mm mini eccentric spacers	4		



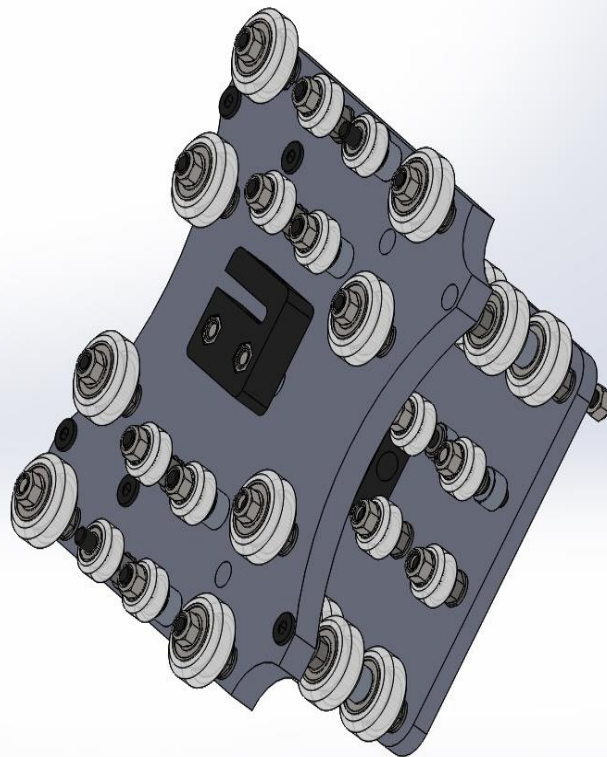
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#### Step 4:

Step four will be the joining of the front to the rear X gantry plates. When you have all the large wheels in place, apply a light amount of tension on the M5 nuts to hold everything together. Then, adjust the eccentrics so that the wheels are as far away from the center of the X axis as possible.

Once the wheels are installed and eccentrics have them spaced out, slide your 250mm length C-beam in and adjust the tension evenly. Turn  $\frac{1}{8}$  of a revolution on the two eccentrics on one axle at a time. Start with the far-left top corner then go to the top right corner, then the right bottom, then the left bottom. If all are touching, you're done. If not, repeat by turning each axle eccentrics  $\frac{1}{8}$  of a rev again. Once the outside wheels all touch, move to the inner wheels.

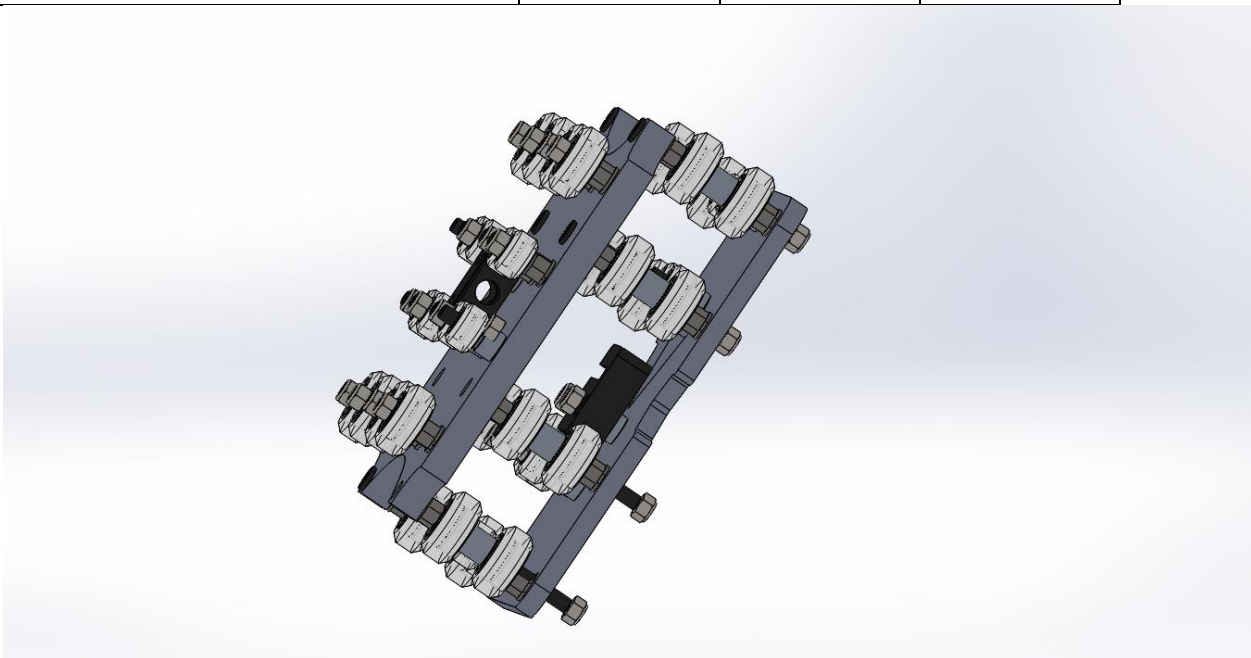
There are no shims used here except for those between the bearings on the wheel kit. The assembly is plate, eccentric, wheel, 9mm spacer, wheel, eccentric, plate.





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STEP 4	Qty.	Smw3d	Builder
Large Xtreme Wheels	16		
9mm Spacers	8		
6mm Mini Eccentric Spacers	16		
M5x60	8		



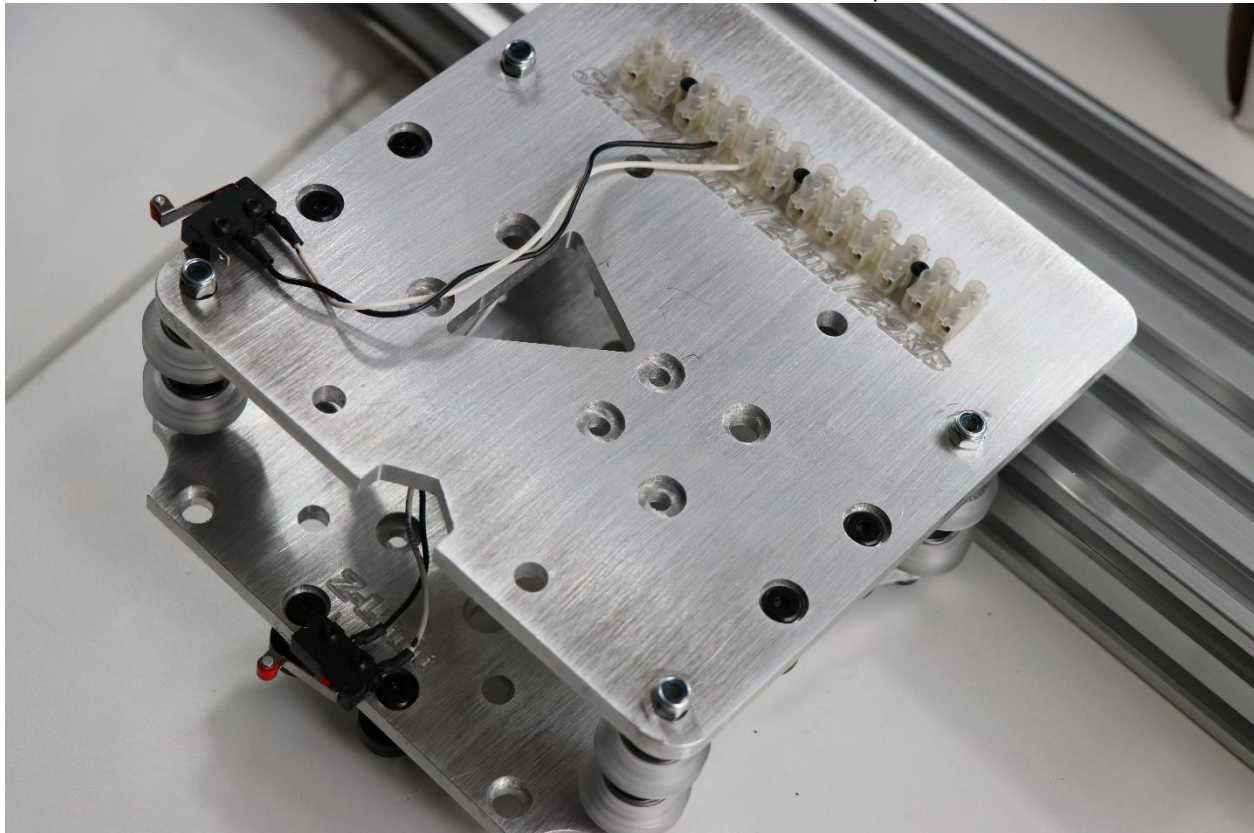


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### Step 5:

Step five we will mount the spindle to the Z gantry. The Z gantry will be the up and down axis of the machine. Note, the spindle clamp has been modified from the video. These spindle clamps are very fragile in the un-mounted state. Be cautious with these. Do not try to bend them or force them open with excessive force. Simply slide the clamp on the end of the C-Beam, install with a T-nut and M5 x 8 screw on both sides, and tighten. The clamp will be tight when installing the spindle. You can gently spread the clamp by hand and slide in the spindle. The clamps should be on the stainless caps of the spindle.

STEP 5	Qty.	Smw3d	Builder
800w Spindle	1		
Spindle Clamps	2		
M5 T-Nuts	4		
M5x8	4		
M5x35	2		
250mm C-Beam	1		



*Note, you can see both limit switches from the back view.*

*The Z-limit wires can now be moved directly up (in relation to the picture) and through the notch in the rear plate and inserted into the Z-Axis screw terminals.*





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#### **Step 6:**

Step six we will build the X gantry. Note, on the X gantry there will be a piece of 1000mm length C-Beam and a 1000mm length 20x20 V-Slot. The V-slot will be the exact same length as one piece of C-Beam. The ends of the beam will be colored to indicate the matching C-Beam and 20x20 aluminum V-slot. Please lay all out and find the piece of C-Beam that matches the 20 x20 x1000mm perfectly.

We will be mounting these two beams between the left and right Y gantry plates. We will also be mounting the first stepper motor to drive the X axis. The motor can be mounted on the left or right Y gantry plate. One should think about the final installation of the machine at this time and debate if there will be an advantage to the motor being mounted on one side or the other for space reasons. The M5x15mm bolts will hold the beams to the Y gantry plates. The bearings will fit into the recesses in the outside of the Y gantry plates. The ACME will thread through the anti-backlash nut on the X gantry we built in a previous step.

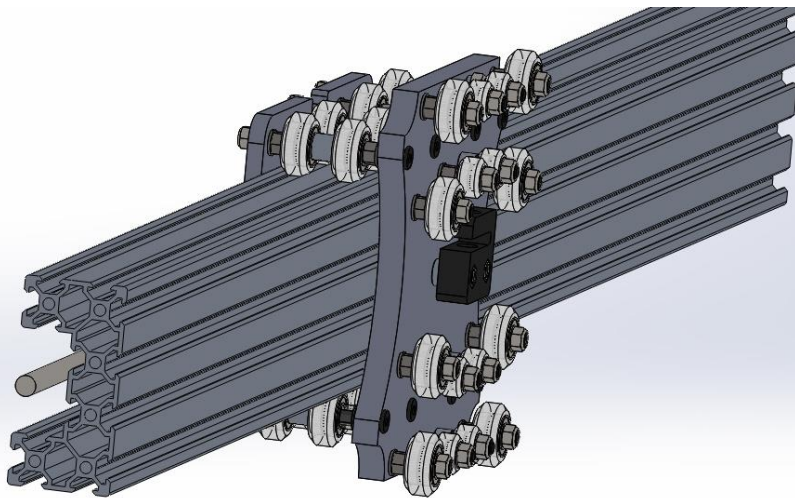
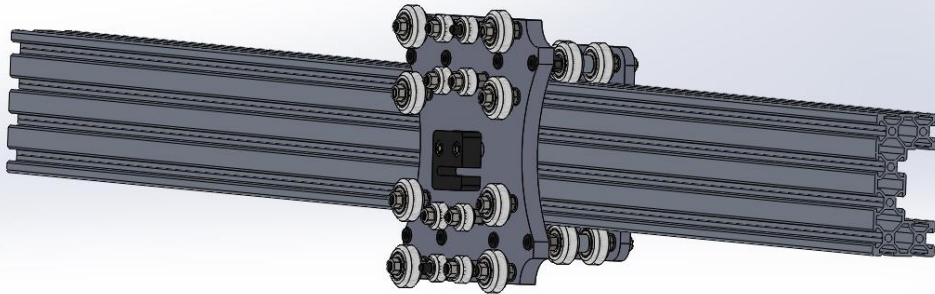
Prior to installation, it is advised to lightly sand down the ends of the ACME to allow the 608ZZ bearings to slide over the ends of the ACME. Only about .2mm need be removed from the OD of the final 40mm of both ends of the ACME. The bearings and ACME will be held in place by the 8mm lock collar on the end opposite of the motor, and the coupling on the motor side.

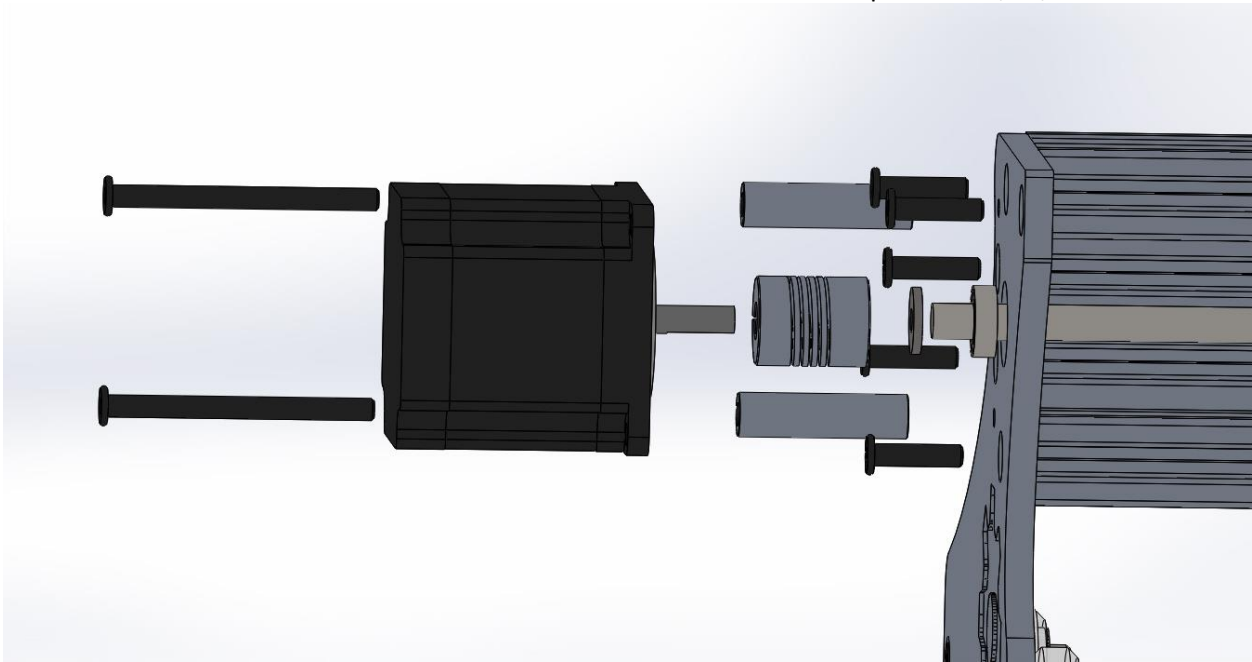
Install the X gantry on the C-Beam, thread the ACME through block on the X gantry, then install the two side plates with the provided M5x15mm bolts.



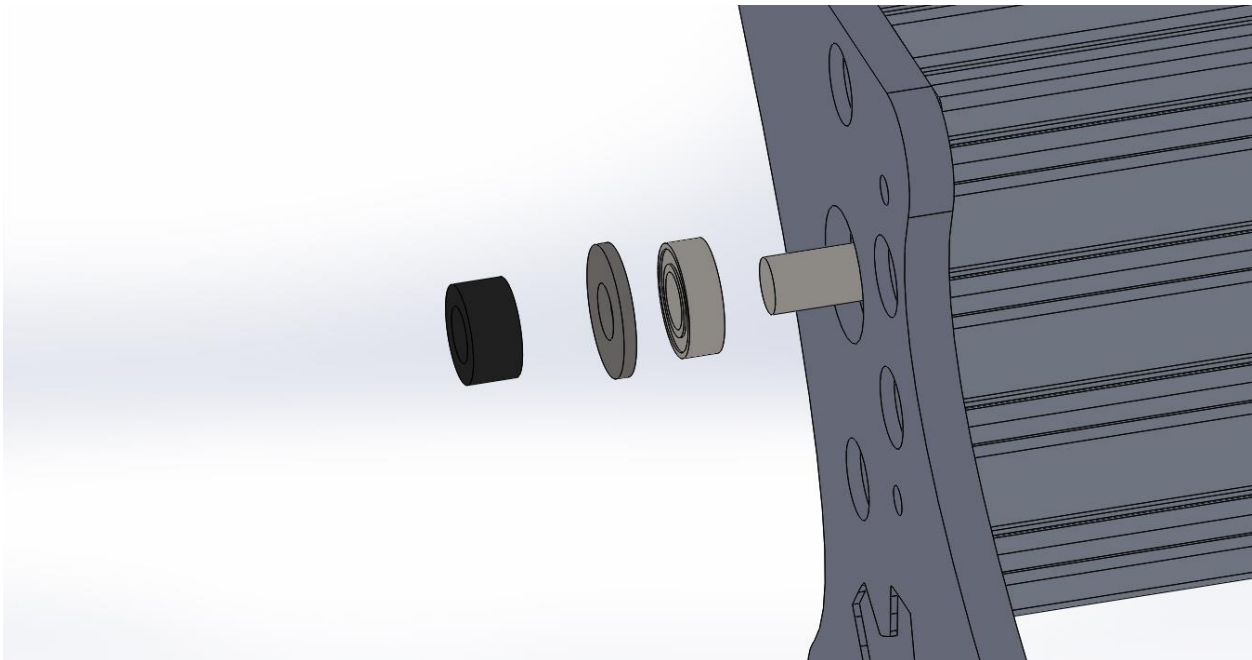
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STEP 6	Qty.	Smw3d	Builder
M5x15	10		
M5x55	2		
1.5in spacers	2		
608ZZ Bearing	2		
8mm lock collar	1		
6.35x8 Coupler	1		
1000mm Acme	1		
1000mm 20x20	1		
1000mm C Beam	1		
NEMA 23 2.8A	1		
Shim: 12.5x8x1.5	2		





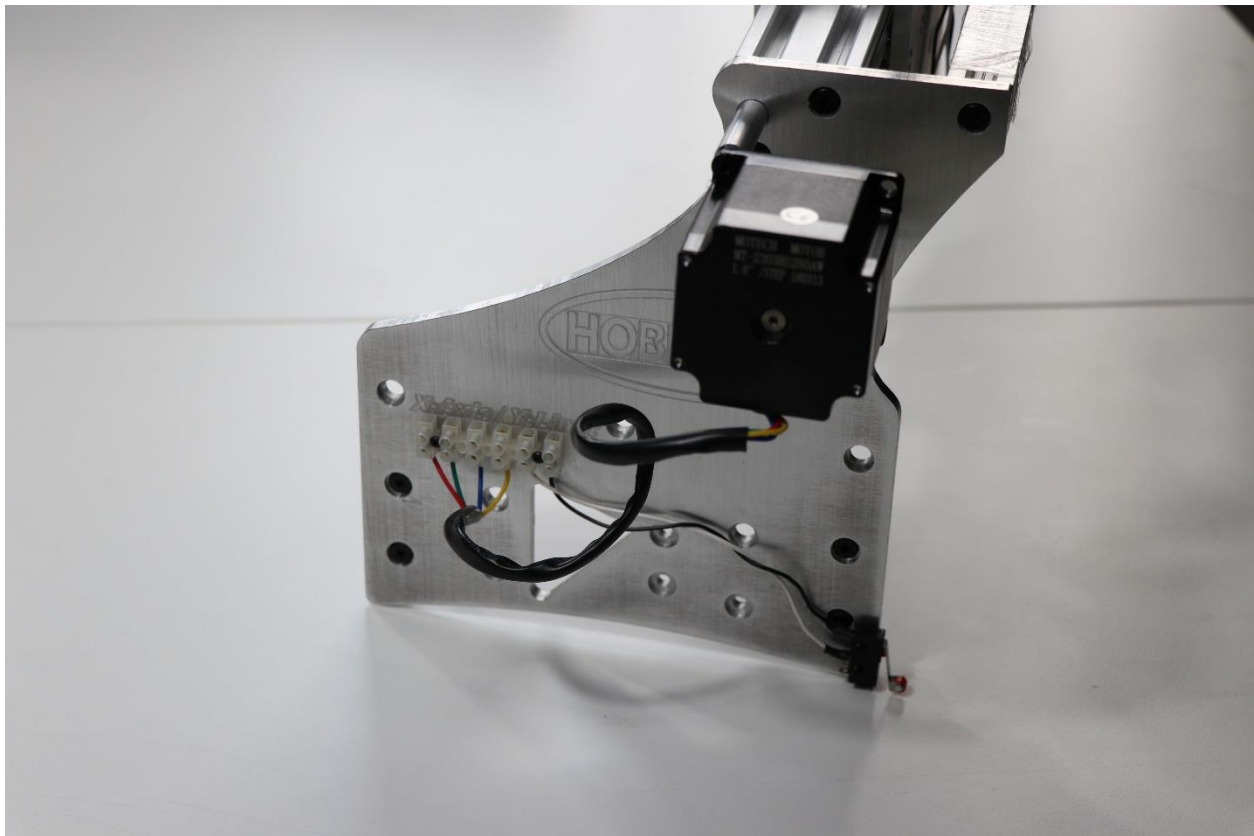
Above, the motor installation is shown. Use the two longer bolts and spacers to attach the motor. Install the bearing, washer, and coupler as shown. Tighten all set screws on the coupler once the ACME is fully engaged.





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The opposite side is constrained by the lock collar. In the step seven bag you will find an ACME nut plate. Use this to push the lock collar flush against the bearing and remove any slack from the drive. Excessive force is not needed. Simply tighten down the nut plate while holding the coupler on the other end, then tighten the set screw. Remove the nut plate afterward.





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### Step 7:

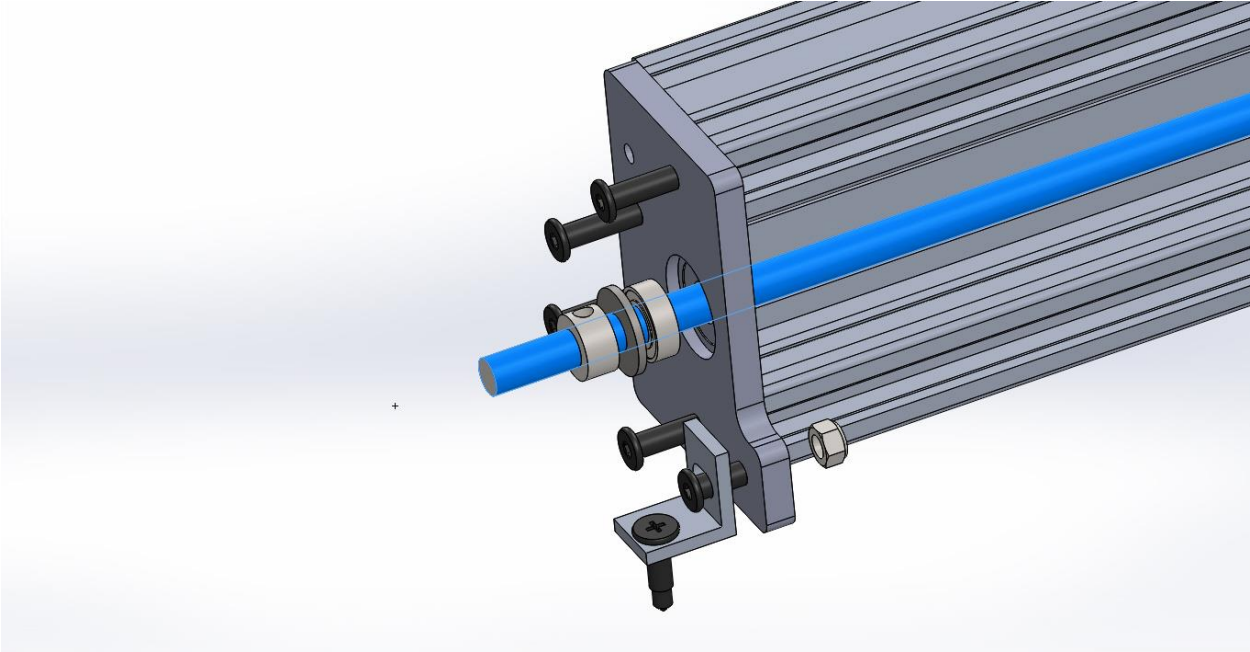
Step seven will be the build of the Y gantries. Your machine is really going to take shape after this step. This step is much of a repeat of the last, but we will be mounting end caps instead of Y gantry plates.

Step 7	Qty	Smw3d	Builder
NEMA 23 2.8A	2		
6.35x8 Coupler	2		
Machined end corner caps	4		
Lock collar	2		
608ZZ	4		
C-Beam 1000mm	2		
1.5" spacers	4		
M5x55mm bolts	4		
M5x20mm bolts	20		
Single corner bracket	4		
M5 nuts	4		
1000mm ACME	2		
ACME flange nut	1		
Shim: 8mm	4		

Each corner bracket holds the ACME in place and retains the build to the board.

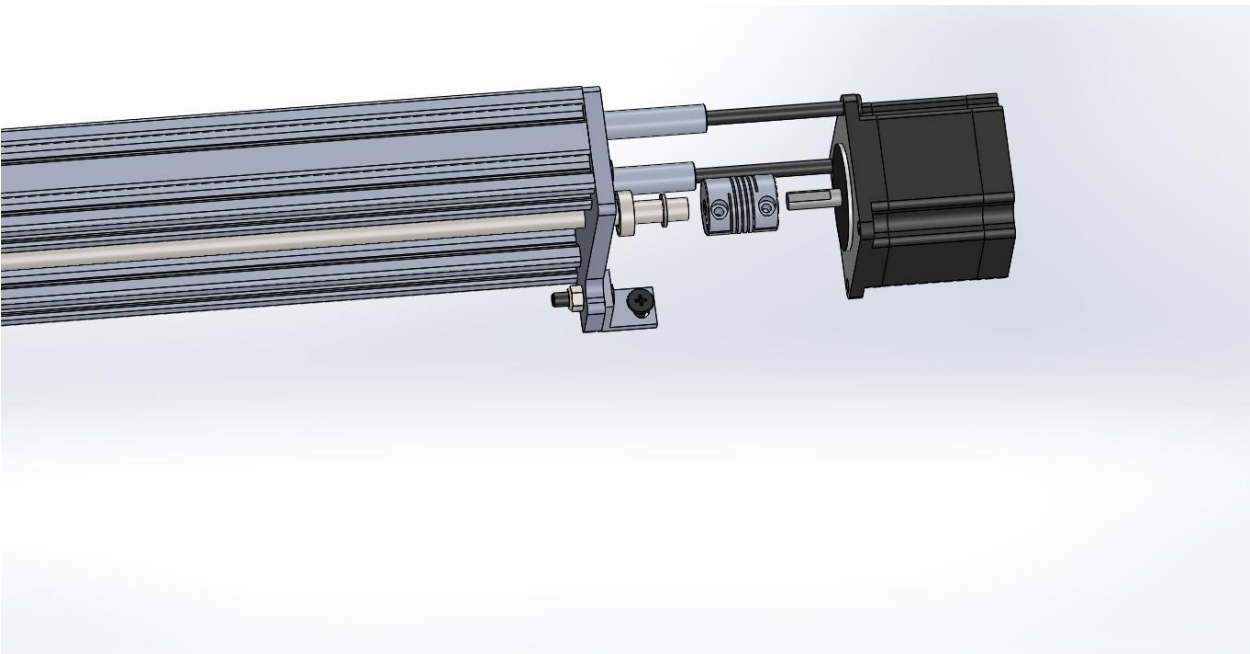


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*Front machined end caps shown above.*

The L-shape should face the inside of the C of the beam.

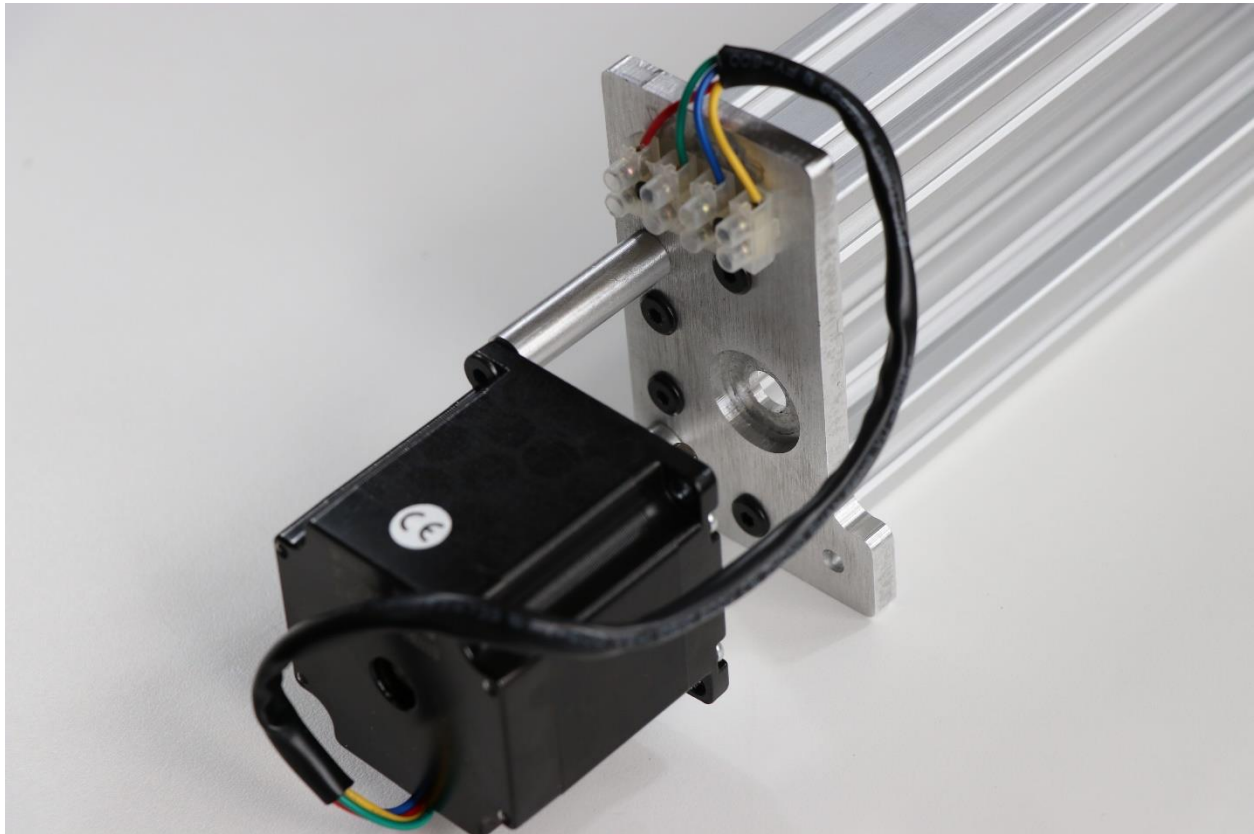


*Rear machined plates have been modified, installation is the same but now has wiring blocks.*



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It is best to install the wood screws into the spoiler board near the last step when we can square the build. If you choose to install them now, thread the ACME in until the Y gantry plates are the same distance from the corner plates. Then, install the corner plates square with the front edge of the spoiler board.



*Y rear machined end plates*

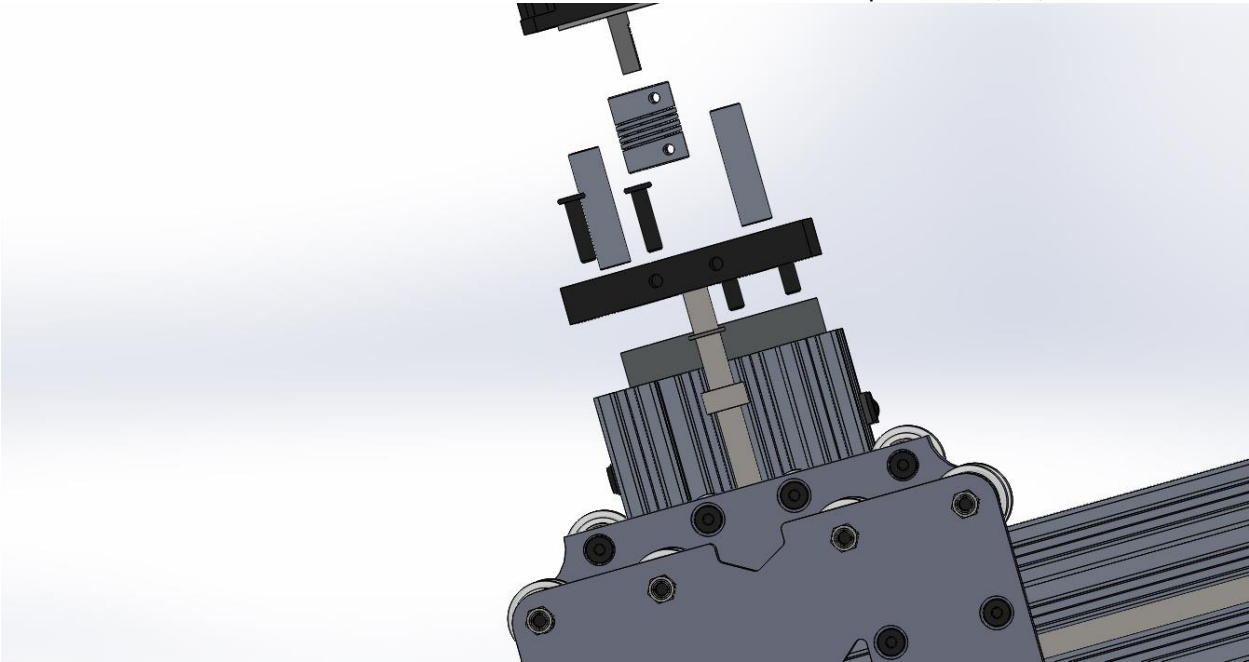




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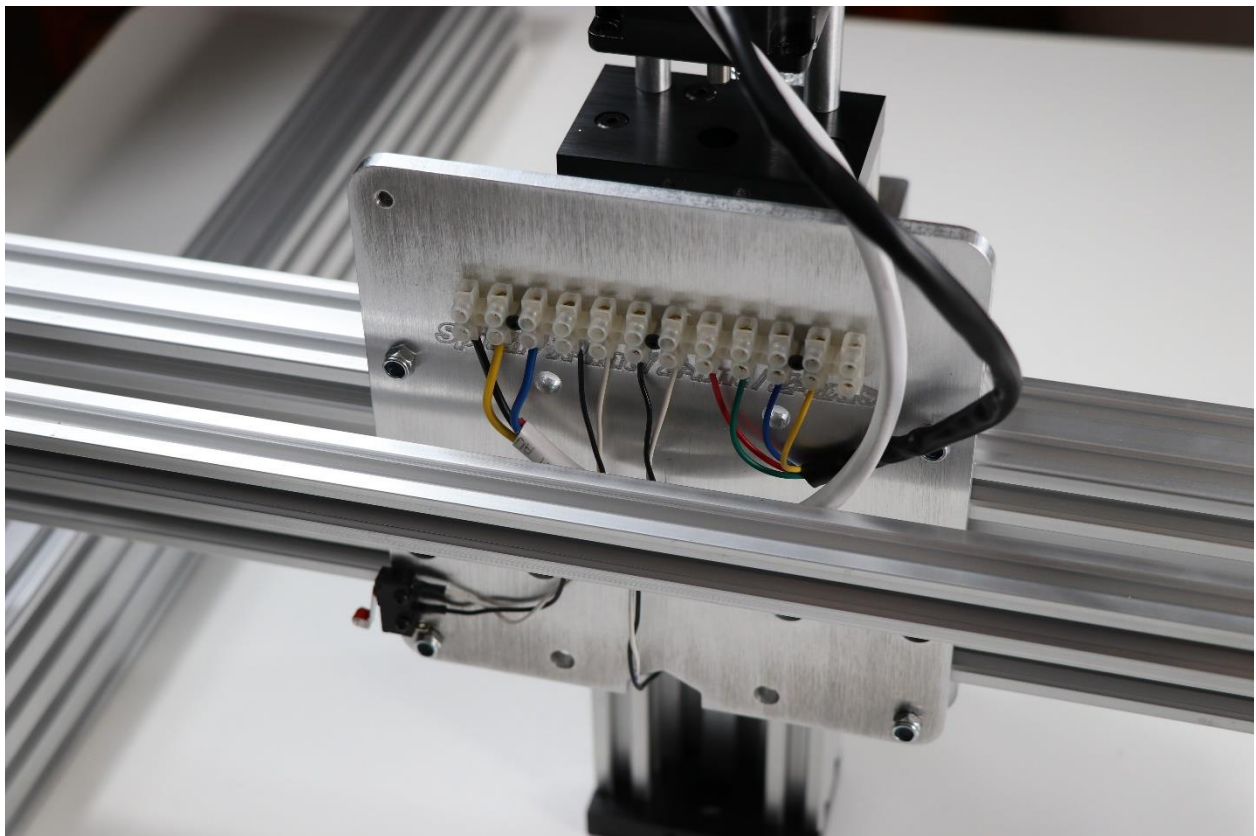
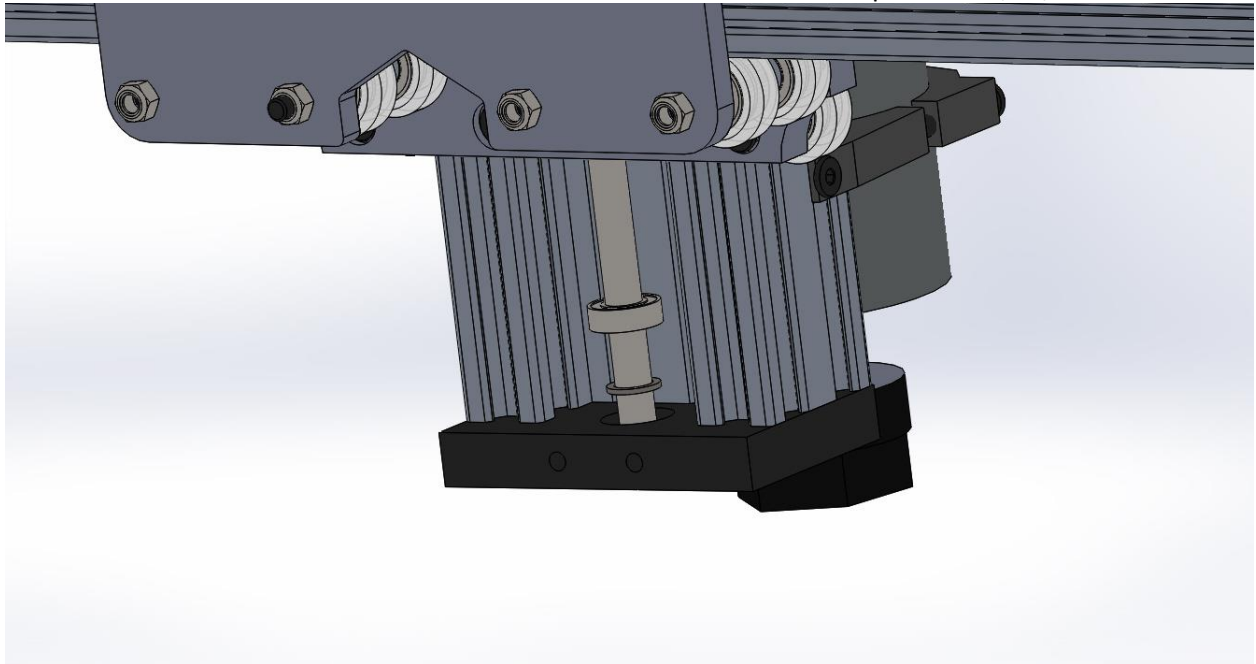
**Step 8:** We will assemble the full Z gantry in this step. Grab the Z gantry with the spindle and prepare to install this with the 250mm ACME. This axis is in compression versus the previous tension set-ups.

Step 8	Qty	Smw3d	Builder
C-beam end plates	2		
M5x55mm	2		
1.5" spacers	2		
250mm ACME	1		
688zz	2		
6.35mm x 8mm coupler	1		
Nema 23	1		
M5x25mm	8		
8mm Lock Collar	2		
Shim:12.5x8x1.5	2		



Thread the ACME through the anti-backlash nut, then slide the lock collar, bearing, and shim over the top. Attach one of the black plates on the top of the Z via the supplied M5 x 25mm bolts. Feed the Z gantry down through the wheels in the front of the X axis. Continue to slide down until there is enough ACME hanging out of the top of the plate to fully engage the coupling. Set this height by tightening the lock collar on the ACME and trap the shim and bearing into the recess on the plate. Attach the motor as in the previous step. On the lower portion, perform the same task. Slide a lock collar, bearing, and shim, then the plate over the bottom of the ACME. Lock the axis in place by tightening the set screw on the lower lock collar.

Watch the play in the Z final assembly. You should not be able to wiggle the spindle up and down. Sometimes it is easier to leave a slight gap between the C-Beam and the end plate, then slide the lock collar all the way down, lock in place, then tighten the 4 qty. M5x25mm bolts. Do not overly compress the ACME. A very small gap of about .01mm is all that is needed when tightening the axis to remove play.





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**Step 9:** Let us add some peripherals.

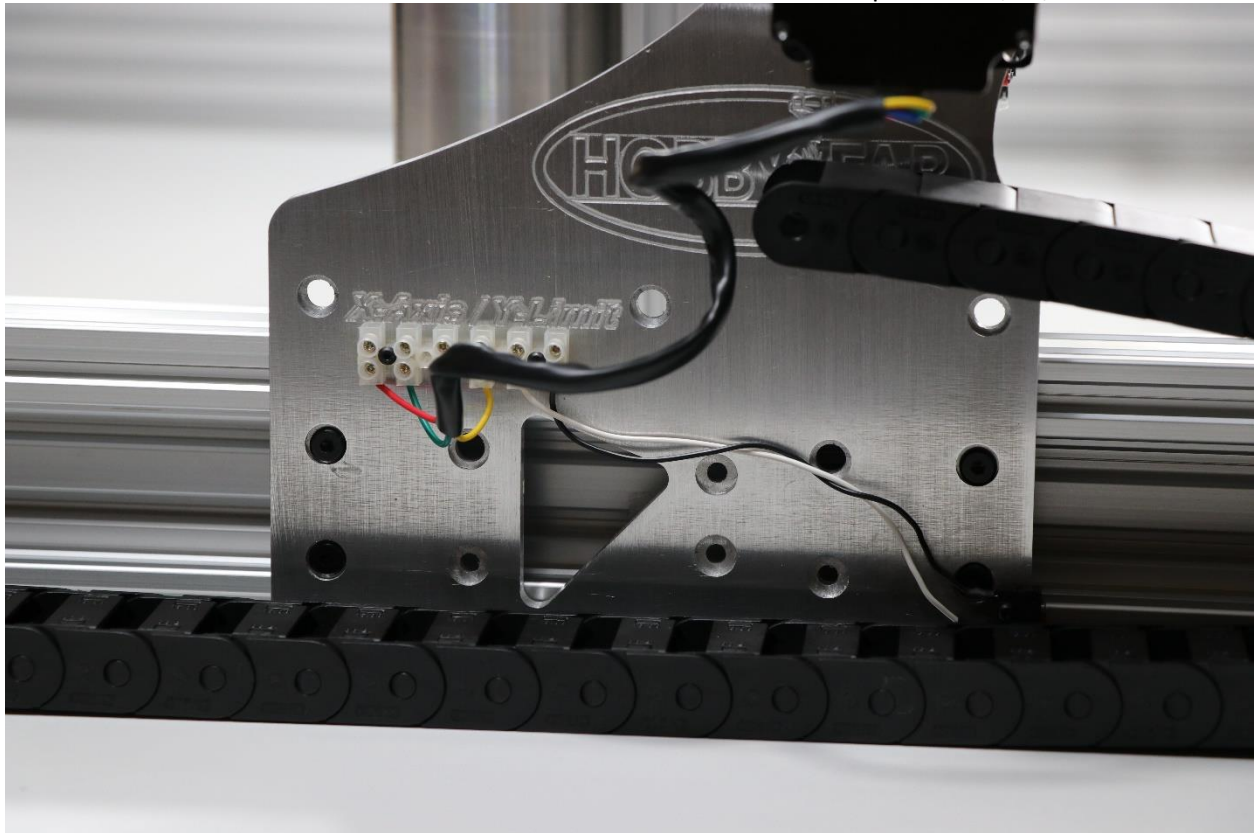
Step 9	Qty	Smw3d	Builder
3/16" ID 5/16" OD vinyl tubing	30		
4 pole wire 18 to 22g	36		
3 pole wire (typically 16g)	18		
15mmx30mm cable chain	2		
M5 drop-in T-nut	1		
M5 x 10mm bolt	1		
9mm spacer	2		
Water pump	1		
M5x20mm bolt	1		
Sheathing 10mm	10		
M5 x 25mm bolt	1		

Figure out where you want your electronics and water reservoir. It is highly advised they are not in the same location.

Run the cable chain down either the left or right side of the build. Mount one end to the y gantry plate. One plate will have a threaded hole in the middle of the hobby-fab logo, this is for the Y cable chain. Reduce the Y cable chain to half the shipped length. You will need to remove one end of the cable chain. If you remove the proper end, you will be left with a hole in the side of the cable chain where the mount end was "tabbed" in. Use this hole, a 9mm spacer, and M5x20mm bolt. Mount this end upside down and cable chain extending facing the front. Mount the other end right side up with a wood screw to the spoiler board, again aimed towards the front.



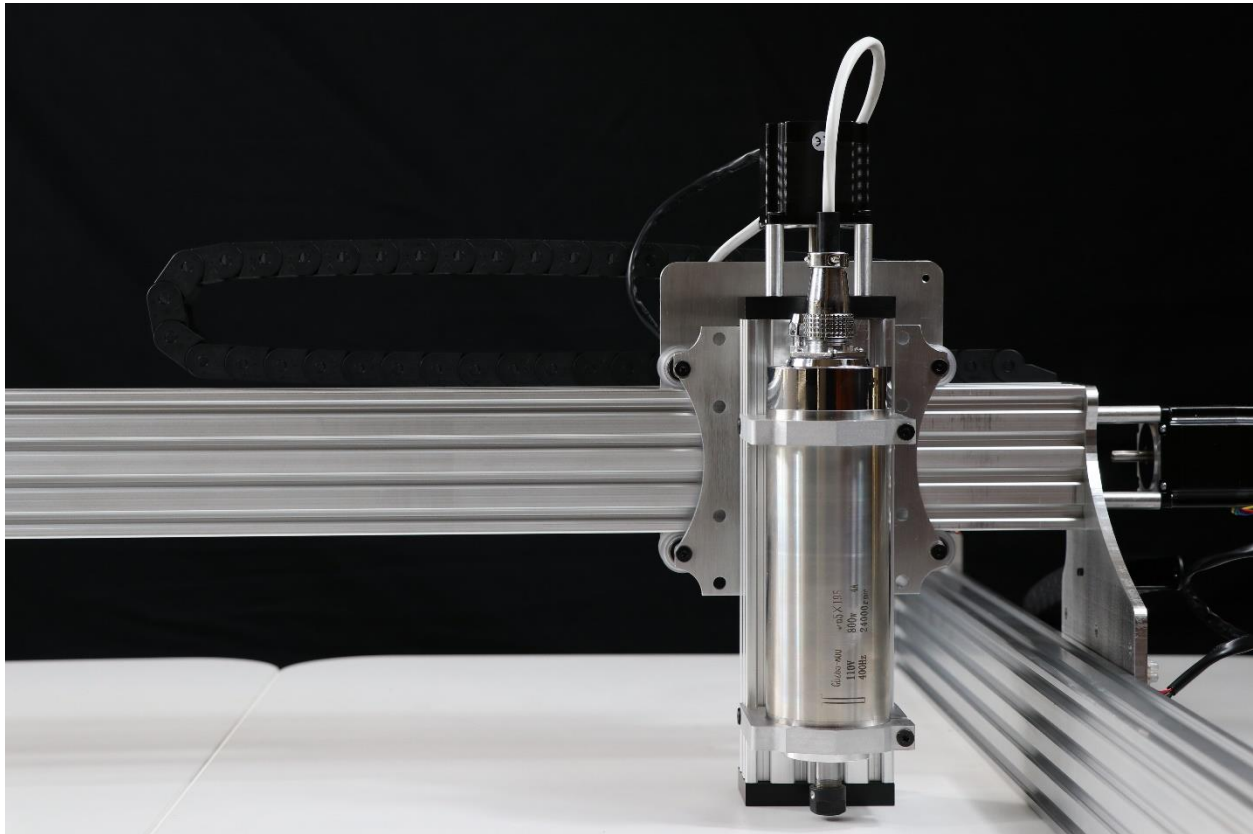
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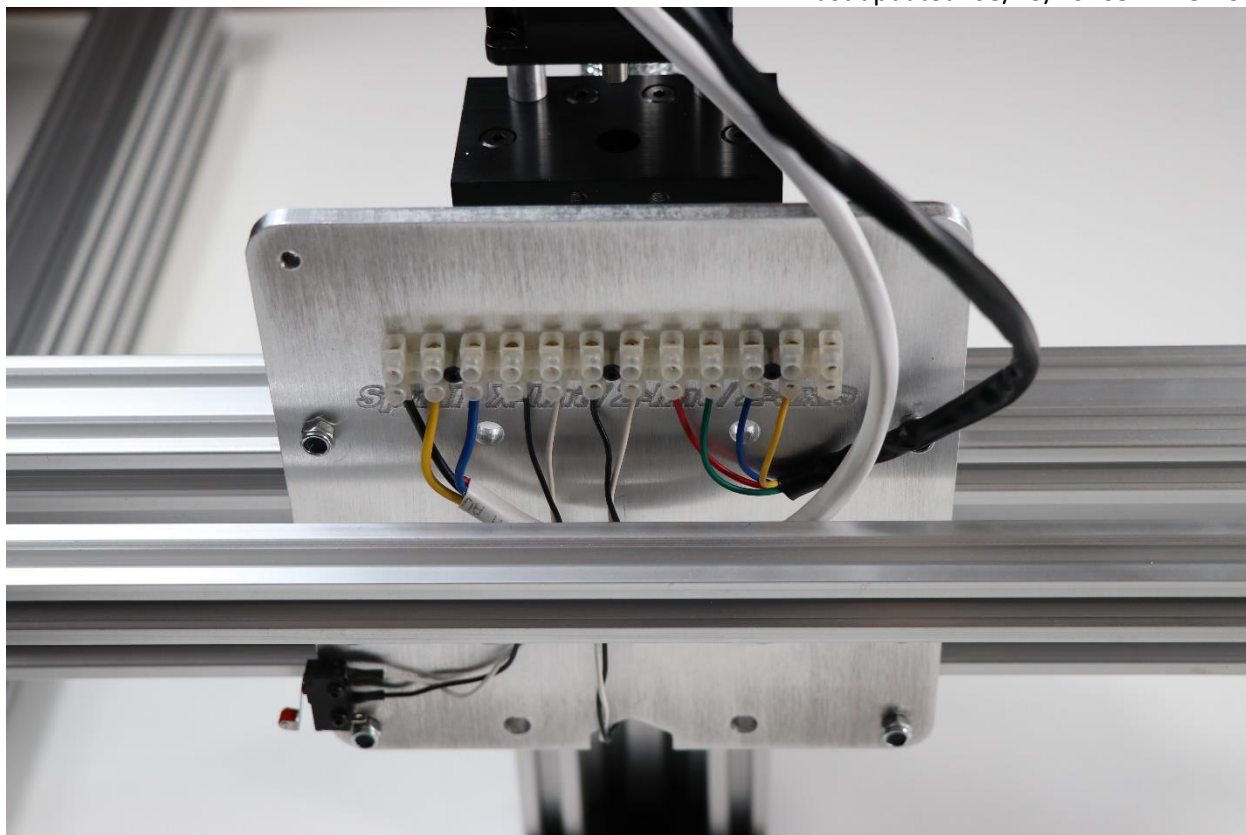
Mount the X cable chain in the same method. Attach the upside-down end to the back of the Z gantry. There is a threaded hole in the upper corner of the rear plate. Use two 9mm spacers and the M5 x 25mm bolt, attach the other end to the top of the 20x20x1000mm v-slot with the drop-in tee-nut and M5x10mm bolt.



At this time, it is best to remove the cable chain tops, as we will route wires and cooling hoses through both.

Install the water tubing by taking the nuts off the top of the spindle. Install a hose and route through both cable chains to exit at the rear of the machine. Route a hose to your tank and attach to the top of water pump. Route another hose to the tank and allow to flow into the tank. The video R7v9 provides a good example of a tank you can use. If your tank is a good distance away, you can pick more tubing up at most home improvement stores it is 3/16 ID by 5/16 " OD.

Install the three wires from the spindle to the terminal block on the back of the rear X gantry plate.







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### **Step 10:**

You have made it! The final step is the electronics of the kit. This video is rather short, so when you have questions hit the G+ group up and the team of builders will be happy to assist!

The video is meant for builder that purchase the all in one control box. See the end of this document for detailed instructions.

<https://youtu.be/cOv-T105RK4>

### **Communicating with the machine:**

If you have the all in one PRO control box communication is held internal to the machine. Use the video and instructions at the end of this document.

If you have the all in one simple control box, you will need a computer and follow these directions.

Plug a USB cable A to B into the control box.

Start your computer and open a google chrome window.

Go to this address:

<https://cnc.js.org/docs/desktop-app/>

Download the appropriate desktop app for your system, OS, windows, etc.

Open CNC.js

Look for a connection window on the top left hand side.

Power the machine.

Under port, hit the refresh button, use the drop down to find the USB port.

A blue button labeled "Open" is also in the connection window. Click this button.

You should now be connected. You must home the machine prior to jogging around. There is a blue button labelled "Homing" in the upper right-hand corner, click this.

The machine should raise the Z, then lower a bit, then go back up. X and Y axis should follow.

Once homing is complete you can now jog around.

If you jog the wrong direction, you will lock grbl. The system purposely does this to avoid damage. If locked, simply hit the refresh and unlock buttons located near the homing button.

You are now connected to the machine and it is fully usable!



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You can try jogging around, homing the machine, starting the spindle (M3 S1000), etc.

Take time to familiarize yourself with this window. There are a lot of features here. If you want to jog the machine around go to the upper right-hand window, called Axes, click the down button and the box will expand. Click on the “move” tab and select “1”

Then click any of the direction buttons. The machine should move.

### **GRBL Settings change:**

Example

If an axis such as X, Y, or Z moves in the opposite direction it should you will need to change the “\$3” mapping. For an understanding of this see the GRBL page:

<https://github.com/grbl/grbl/wiki/Configuring-Grbl-v0.9>

Scroll down a bit and you will see a set of numbers “\$1” through “\$132”, below this is an explanation of what each does. Related to the example above, if X moves the opposite direction we tell it, we would need to set “\$3=1” based on this information:

Setting Value	Mask	Invert X	Invert Y	Invert Z
0	00000000	N	N	N
1	00000001	Y	N	N
2	00000010	N	Y	N
3	00000011	Y	Y	N
4	00000100	N	N	Y
5	00000101	Y	N	Y
6	00000110	N	Y	Y
7	00000111	Y	Y	Y

To make changes, go to the Com screen. Look in the mid-left-hand side of the screen. Note it is black with white text.

At the bottom of this box you will see an area where you can type things, type in this box, \$\$



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You will see what your current settings are. Only if an axis is going the wrong direction should you make the below change.

Note that \$3=0 out of the list of things there.

Type \$3=1

Then type \$\$

Note that now in your list \$3=1, and when you jog the machine X now moves in the opposite direction. If all axis move in the wrong direction you would type \$3=7, for example.

One last thing to check is that the spindle turns the right direction. Type M3 S12000 in the serial port. This should turn the spindle on at 12000 RPM. Type M5, the spindle stops. Looking down at the top of the spindle, it should turn to the right.

The machine is set up and ready to be used! Play around with the \$ settings. Set travel limits, set max velocities and accelerations.

Have a read on our page about "How to CNC" here: <https://www.smw3d.com/blog/how-to-cnc/>

Read about feeds and speeds here: <https://www.smw3d.com/blog/what-is-the-right-feeds-and-speeds-for-my-cnc-router-kit/>

Explore the machine, explore software, explore all that various things you can create. There is so much to learn and new opportunities around every corner when you can build the world around you.

Join us and show off your build on the R7 Google Plus page. We look forward to the amazing things you will build!



## Laser install instructions

### 2.8w laser add on is identical for OX and R7.

If opted for during purchase a J-tech 2.8w complete laser system will be added to the order.

#### Safety:

Please open this package and carefully read and understand the safety warnings associated with this product included in the package.

Lasers are dangerous, fire hazards and eye safety should always be the end user's top priority when using the laser add on feature.

**Never leave the laser unattended when in operation!**

**Always wear the safety glasses provided in the kit when using the laser diode add on. If more than one party is in the local vicinity they should also have the required eye protection.**

**It is suggested to keep fire suppression equipment close at hand and prepared for an emergency.**

**SMW3D, Hobby-Fab, J-Tech and affiliated groups hold no liability to property, personal, or any other damage created from the use of this product. The purchase and use of this laser add on system is strictly the end user's liability and responsibility to ensure safe use.**

#### Specifications:

Please see the J-tech instruction manual for full details.

<https://jtechphotonics.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Instruction-Manual-445nm-Laser-Diode-Component-9mm-G2-Lens-J-Tech-Photonics-Inc.-v2.pdf>

#### Bill of Materials:

- 2.8w J-tech laser system with extended wires
- Modified spindle clamps
- 2 quantity M3 x 12mm bolts

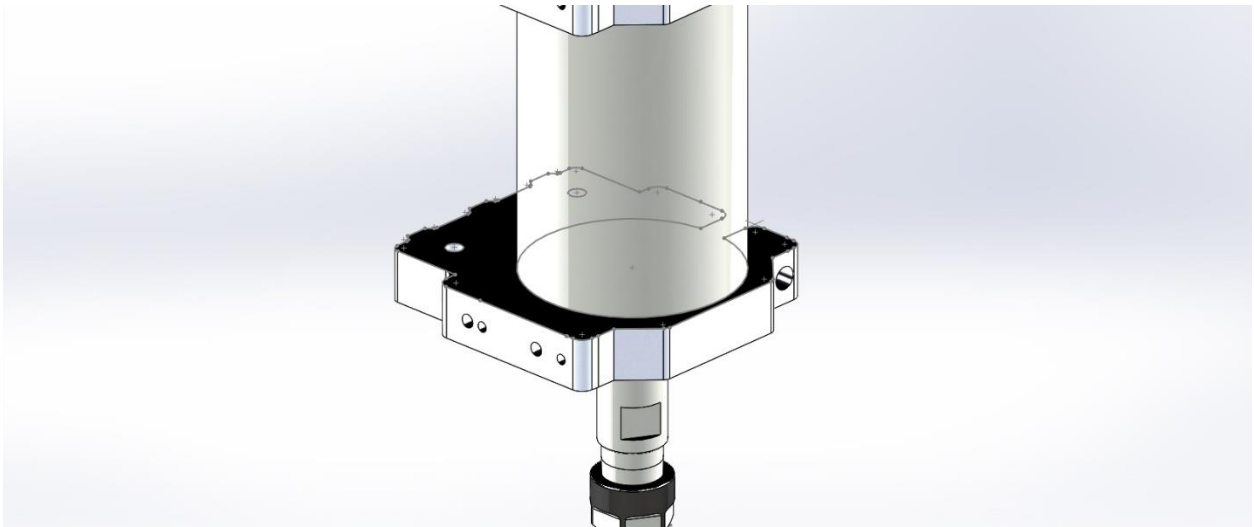
#### Installation:



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The spindle clamps in your kit will have 2 additional holes tapped into the side of one of the spindle clamps. There will be two bolts pre-installed in the spindle clamp.

This clamp will be the lower clamp on the spindle closer to the collet side of the spindle.



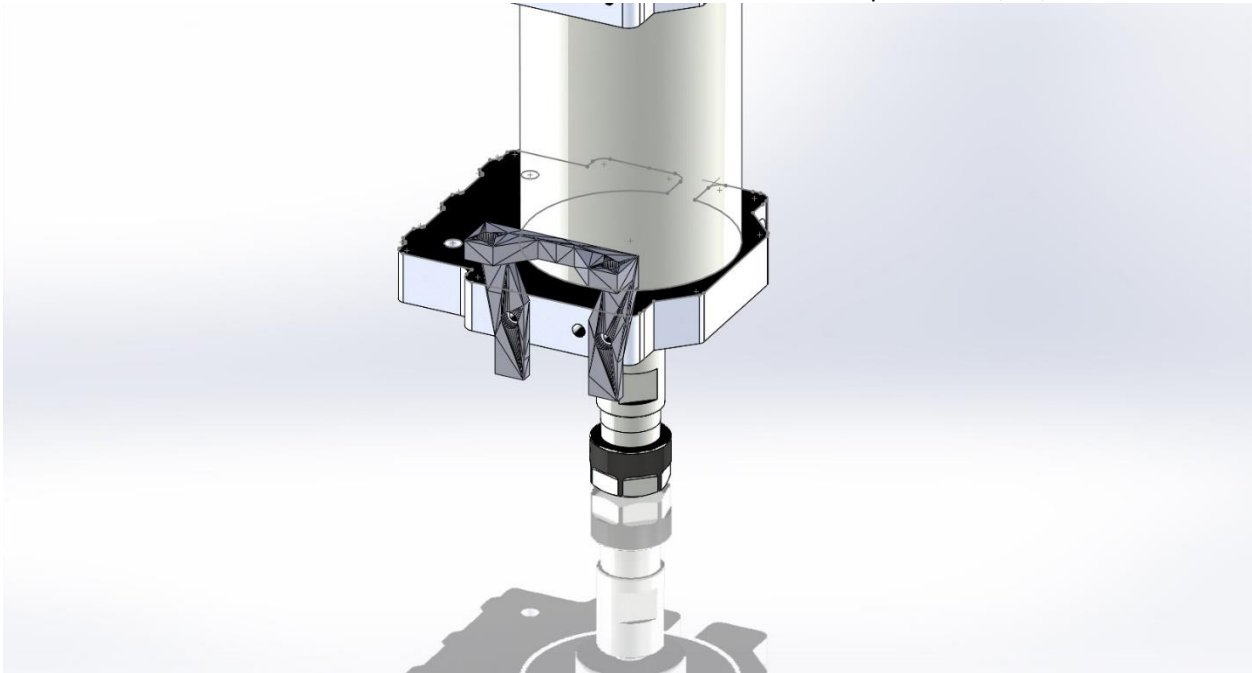
Shown above on the 400-watt spindle, 600w and 800w are identical.

These holes should center the laser in the Y plane with the spindle center.

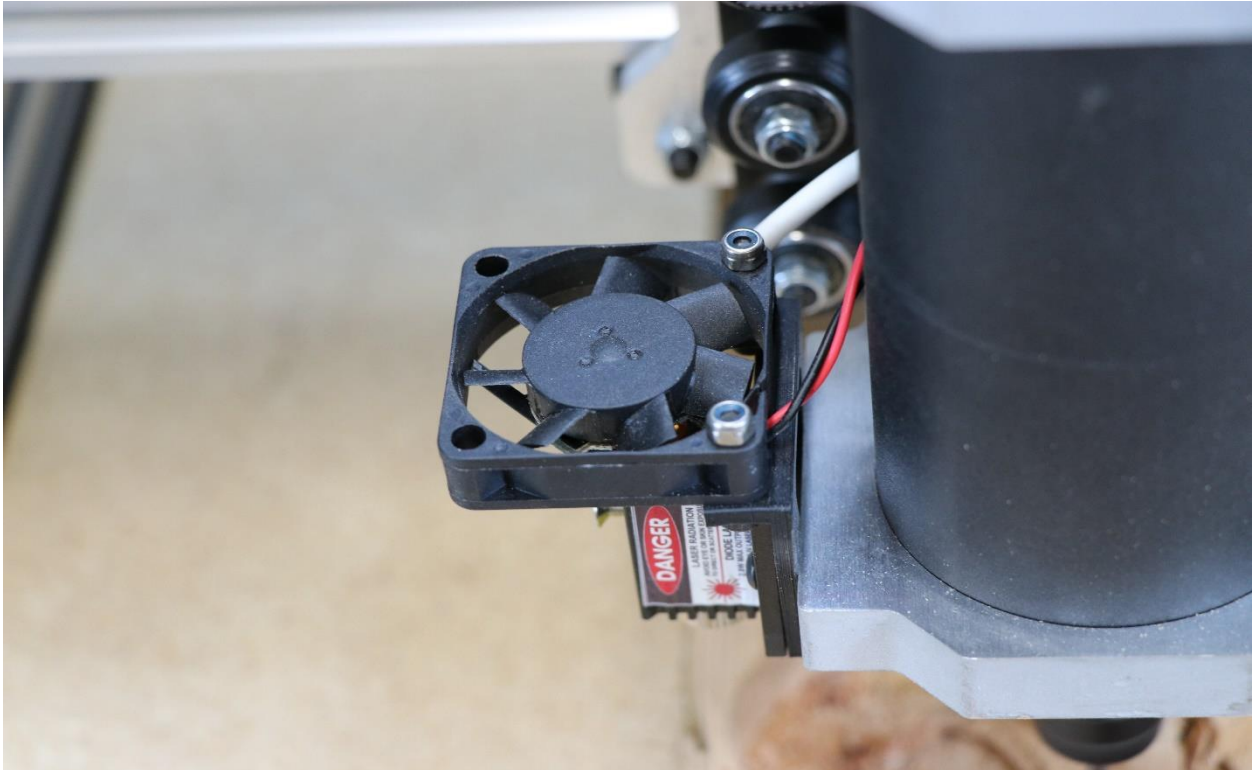
Open the laser package and look for a small bracket that will fix a fan to the back of the diode laser.



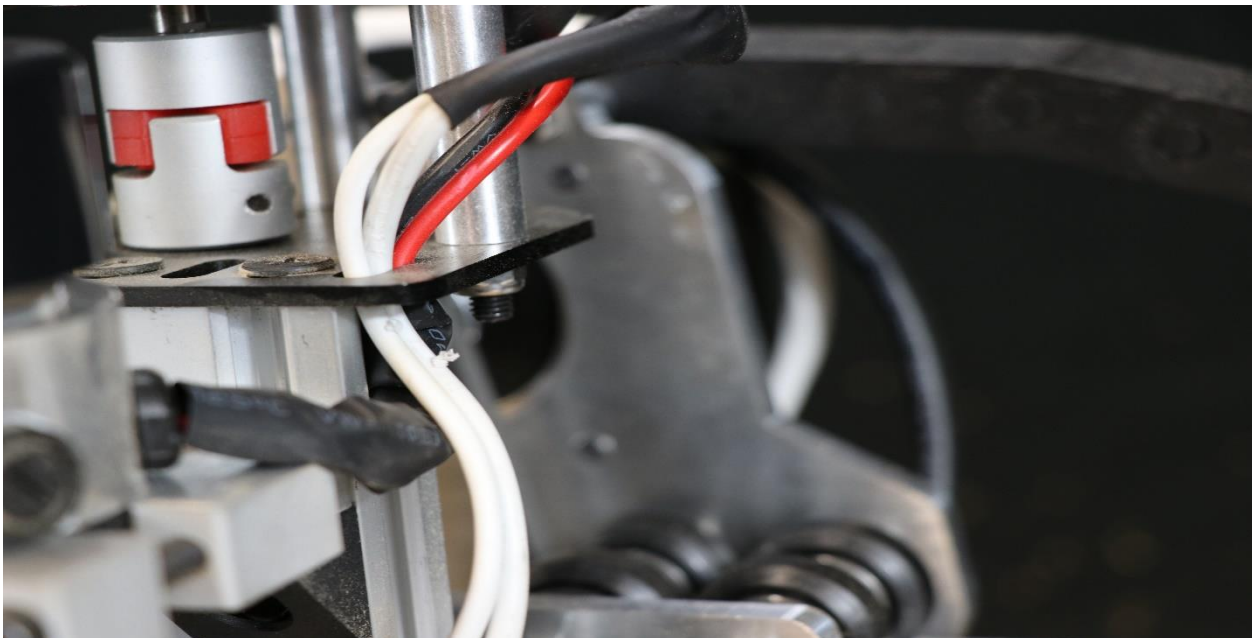
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Install the laser diode with this bracket. The laser should face downwards with the fan mounted on the bracket with the Sunon logo facing the diode. It is advised to install the laser M3 bolts with blue thread lock.



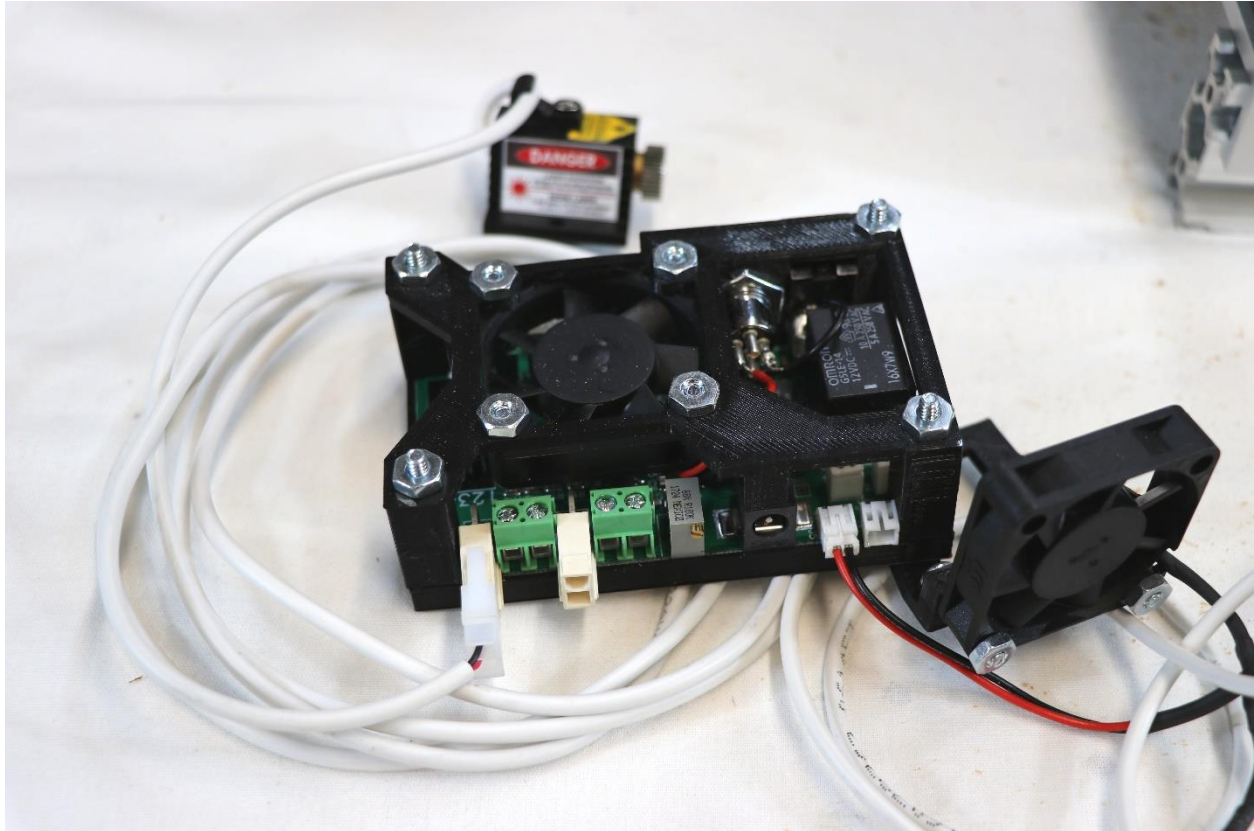
The laser diode and fan wire should be routed through both the X and Y cable chain and exit near the control box area.





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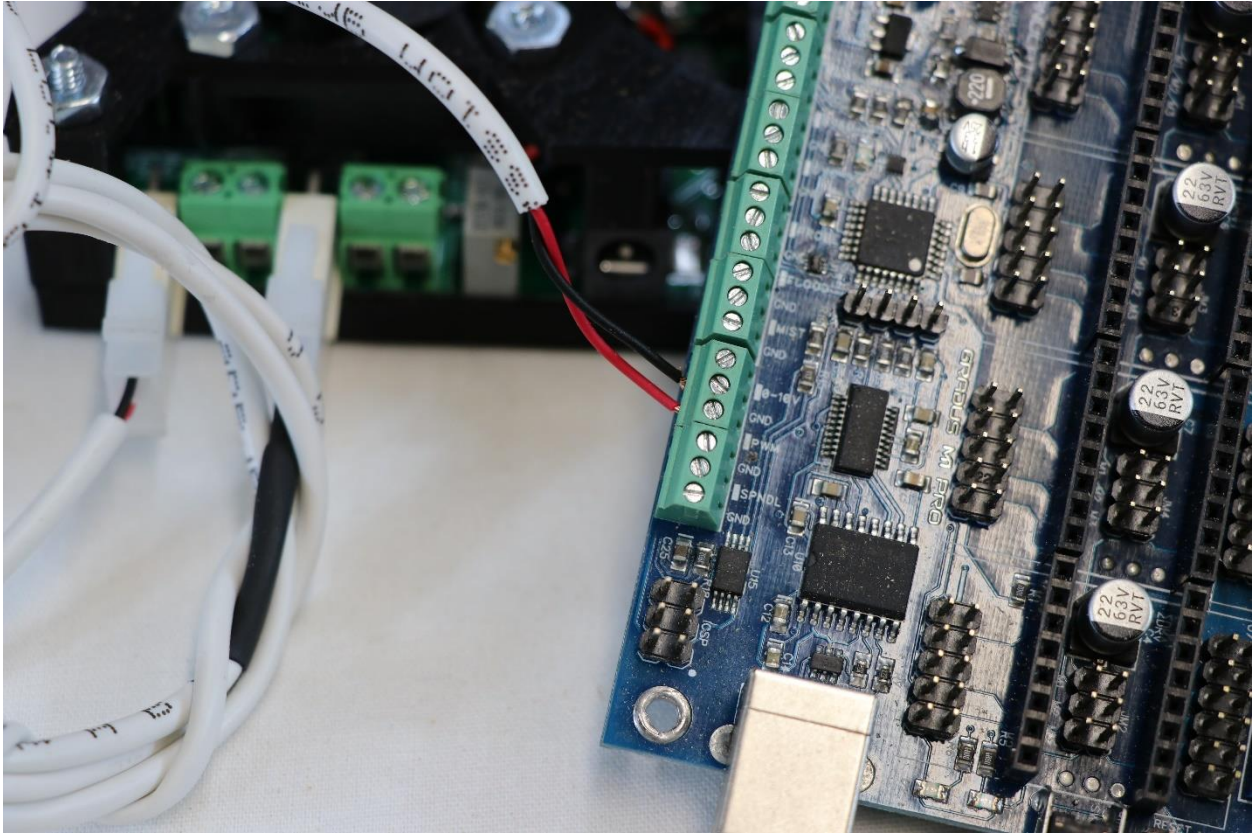
The laser diode will connect to the driver board on the H3 header and the fan will connect to the fan header.



*1 Shown uninstalled for relation*

Next connection will be the PWM signal. Regardless of the GRBL controller sent we will utilize the PWM + and – signals to control the laser power.





Connect the bare ended wire with the molex connector on the opposite side next to the laser connector, connect the other end to the PWM positive and negative connections on the board. Polarity matters. On the all in one controller the accessory port, yellow is PWM +, blue is PWM -.

Connect the supplied power supply with the barrel connector to the laser driver board.

The laser add on is now ready for use.



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#### Use:

When the laser driver board is powered for the first time, every use, the reset button must be pressed.

Insert the safety key, turn on the power and press the rest button. The fans should both come on along with a green LED indicating the driver board is ready for use.

Vector Gcode can be created in the same fashion as we create routing Gcode. A spindle speed of 4000 (lowest setting on most our products) will be the minimum power. A spindle speed of 12000 will be maximum power.

Raster jobs are best created by other software than the ones we use for routing gcode generation. They provide more efficient code.

Once gcode has been created, load gcode into your communication software, such as CNC.js or bCNC. Locate the serial port box, in CNC.js this is the black box in the middle of the left-hand side of the screen. bCNC this is the upper right-hand corner of the screen, a tab called terminal.

Type \$\$ and hit enter.

Note that \$32=0 currently. Router control is standard in this mode. Type \$32=1 and hit enter. The machine is now in laser mode.

Making this setting change turns off the spindle power, hence the laser power during G0 moves and enables during G1, G2, G3 moves.

As an example, in code G0 X1 Y1 Z1 the laser will be off moving or rapid to this location. The next move F600 G1 X2 Y2 Z2 will turn on the laser and move to this location. The next rapid of G0 will turn off the laser.

The power of GRBL allows the use of standard routing gcode to be used in this method without the need for special commands to operate the laser.



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Focus Length and Gcode generation:

The J-Tech diode has a focus length of around 3" from the factory. When setting the work piece home use a tape measure or calipers to ensure the diode is this distance away from the work piece. Set this as your Z=0.

When producing gcode for laser use, use a very small Z depth of cut (DoC) such as .001 units. Also, clearance height can be reduced to 0 for maximum efficiency.

**The number one mistake we make here is forgetting to turn the machine back to router mode. After laser operations recall to set \$32=0.**

Any questions please do not hesitate to contact us we will happy to assist.

[Contact@hobby-fab.com](mailto:Contact@hobby-fab.com)



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# Hobby-Fab Controller

Please read this entire document before installing and using the all in one control box.

## WARNINGS:

**Do not connect the 110VAC power cable till all motors are connected.**

**Do not disconnect any stepper motors while the control box is powered.**

**Mount the box to something non-conductive. A ground loop can be created between the box and machine if connectivity is allowed other than intended connections.**

**Do not place any electronics on top of the control box including 600w PSU/ESC, etc. The noise will cause erratic behavior.**

**Do not open the control box, wires can be dislodged.**

If the shipping box is severely damaged upon receipt please DO NOT PLUG THE BOX INTO A WALL OUTLET. The box is internally grounded and fused for both AC and DC but your safety is top priority, a damaged box should not be used. SMW3D, Hobby-Fab and related affiliates hold no responsibility for damage to equipment or persons by using this product. Be safe, be smart, build!

## CARE:

The control box is made of cold rolled steel and the early units have a black oxide coating. This is a similar process to bluing a firearm. In the same sense the outer surface of the box can be protected in the same manner. Using any type of firearm protectant or light oil will protect the box from rusting. Avoid spraying the box with an aerosol, instead spray a rag and wipe the box down.



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## Connections:

### Step 1:

Connect all stepper motors to the X, Y, (if using a gantry style machine Y2) and Z. The 6 pin connectors are labelled below. Looking at the face of the box the connections are, from left to right:

### Accessories :

Black/ White = Z probe  
10V

Yellow/Blue = (+/-) PWM

Red/Green = (+/-) 0-

### X Axis:

Black/White = X axis limit switch    Yellow/Blue = 1A 1B stepper motor pair    Red/Green 2A/2B

### Y Axis:

Black/White = Y axis limit switch    Yellow/Blue = 1A 1B stepper motor pair    Red/Green 2A/2B

YNL: (this is only needed on gantry style machines with two Y motors)

*YNL stands for Y axis no limit, the black and white wires are not present on this axis.*

Yellow/Blue = 1A 1B stepper motor pair

Red/Green 2A/2B

### Z Axis:

Black/White = Z axis limit switch    Yellow/Blue = 1A 1B stepper motor pair    Red/Green 2A/2B

*NOTE: If your machine is a kit from us this will directly plug (color to color) into the stepper motors and limit switches.*

*NOTE: All limit switches are filtered and should be used in the NO (Normally Open) position.*



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Step 2:

Make sure the E-Stop is “out” this allows power to the control board.

Step 3:

Plug in a USB style [Mouse and Keyboard](#) to either USB port on the front.

Step 4:

Plug an HDMI monitor into the port on the face.

Step 5:

Plug the 110VAC cable into the fused connection on the far left.

Step 6:

Turn on the master switch.



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## USE:

Every control box is tested prior to shipment. Based on your machine some changes may be required prior to use.

E-stopping the box kills power to the motors, but does not remove power to the program. In the event of an issue, one should be able to retain the current program and restart after homing.

There are two 110VAC outlets on the front of the box, next to the AC power in. The upper plug is a fused direct 110VAC plug, do not plug anything over 5A into this outlet. The lower plug is controlled by M8 commands. Typing M8 in a program will deliver 110VAC to this plug, typing M9 will remove power to this plug.

Settings may need to be modified prior to use. When plugged in the monitor will display a logo while boot up is taking place. Once this splash screen is complete the system will open to [bCNC](#) and connect automatically.

### THE MACHINE MUST BE HOMED PRIOR TO JOGGING

There is a home button on the control tab at the upper left-hand corner. Click home.

You should expect the Z axis to go up, touch the limit switch, go down, then come back up. After this action X and Y should both start moving towards the limit switches.

If the machine does not move in the correct direction. Click the unlock and reset button in the upper left-hand corner of the file tab. This will stop all motion.

Go to the upper right-hand corner and find the terminal tab.

Click on this.

A serial port message box will be on the left-hand side of the screen with an area to type in at the bottom.

Type \$\$

These are your [GRBL Settings](#) you will need to invert the Z if it went the opposite direction. This is done by typing \$3= (some number that corresponds below)



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Setting Value	Mask	Invert X	Invert Y	Invert Z
0	00000000	N	N	N
1	00000001	Y	N	N
2	00000010	N	Y	N
3	00000011	Y	Y	N
4	00000100	N	N	Y
5	00000101	Y	N	Y
6	00000110	N	Y	Y
7	00000111	Y	Y	Y

For instance, when you typed \$\$ and hit enter, and your current \$3=1 and your Z was going the wrong direction, try \$3=6 hit enter.

Try homing the machine again. Continue the above till all 3 axis are homed.

Post the above exercise and homing you are ready to CNC.

Play around inside bCNC and read more at the links provided within this document.

Setting workpiece zero is as simple as jogging to the location and clicking the X=0, y=0, z=0 buttons on the control tab below the digital readouts.





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Please email or call if there are any issues we are happy to assist.

[contact@hobby-fab.com](mailto:contact@hobby-fab.com) or 346-333-6500.