

Center Distance, Pitch Diameters and Ratios of Spur Gears

- I. To determine the pitch diameters of a gear set, we must find two basic things:
- Required ratio
 - Required center distance

- II. Knowing this, first figure out the pitch diameter of the pinion (smaller gear) using the formula:

$$PD_1 = \frac{CD \times 2}{\text{Ratio} + 1}$$

Where: PD_1 = Pitch diameter of pinion (small gear)
 CD = Center distance

- III. Then, find the pitch diameter of the larger gear, PD_2 , by using the formula:

$$PD_2 = PD_1 \times \text{Ratio}$$

Where: PD_1 = Pitch diameter of pinion (small gear)
 PD_2 = Pitch diameter of gear (large gear)
 CD = Center distance

- IV. Then check the center distance by using the formula:

$$CD = \frac{PD_1 + PD_2}{2}$$

Where: PD_1 = Pitch diameter of pinion (small gear)
 PD_2 = Pitch diameter of gear (large gear)
 CD = Center distance