

# Dial Test Indicator Support Base, Version 1.0

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I am the proud owner of an Indicol Dial Test Indicator (DTI) holder. It clamps onto the spindle of my mill so I can indicate surfaces.

I am not the proud owner of a similar support that sits on a flat surface. Sure, it would be nice to have, but I can't justify the cost.



The solution fell into my lap when my good friend, John Herrmann, gave me a gift: a [Magswitch](#). With a turn of the knob, this magnet holds with 60 pounds of force to a steel surface.

I just needed to put these two items together.

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I turned a collar out of 6061-T6 aluminum. The smaller OD matches my spindle OD. The larger OD matches the Magswitches major axis width. The thickness of the larger OD is enough to accept three threads of my 6-32 mounting screws.



The length of the smaller OD permits about 10 thou of the Magswitch to be proud. This is necessary for maximum holding force.



Be mindful that this length must be sufficient to permit the knobs to turn without binding on a mounting surface. Here you see the knob hanging over the edge of the surface. I had to thin the larger OD to raise it up about 0.1 inches.



For use on my surface plate, I stick the Magswitch to a 1-2-3 block. The result is a smooth sliding action.

When not being used to support my Indicol, I've found this Magswitch generally useful for holding thin stock down on my mill table. It will even hold a DVM probe down.

I have no doubt that other uses will present themselves over time.

I welcome your comments and questions.

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