

Taking Delivery and Uncrating a Robust Lathe



The American Beauty and Sweet 16 are shipped fully assembled, bolted to a skid and protected by a full wooden crate. Dimensions for the standard bed AB and short and standard bed S16 are 61" long, 36" wide and 62" high. Depending on model and options, the total weight is 600-950 lbs. Long bed crates are 85" x 36" x 62" and will weigh 700 to 1100 lbs.

The Scout is also shipped fully assembled in a skidded and reinforced double wall corrugated container, 52" long, 30" high and 32" wide. If the optional Universal Stand is ordered, it is shipped disassembled in the Scout container. Depending on options and accessories, total weight will be 300 to 500 lbs.

When you buy a Robust lathe, we can usually arrange shipping for you. We pass on the shipping fees on at cost. What follows are some tips and info about taking delivery of your lathe. Quite a few Robust Owners have made videos of their Robust lathe delivery and posted their experiences on YouTube. We've used a few screen shots from their videos below, and links to the videos can be found at the end of this document. There are others as well.



When your lathe is picked up, a tracking number is assigned by the trucking company. We will send that to you. They normally call you a day in advance and set up a delivery window. It is OK for you to contact them too.

Residential delivery is usually via a full size semi (18 wheeler) with a lift gate attachment. The lathe will be placed at the end of your driveway.

If your driveway is reasonably level and paved, the driver may use their pallet jack to bring it up to your residence (at the driver's discretion).

They will not go up or down steps or on any unpaved surface.

If you want the crate moved under cover, you may incur a "threshold charge", typically \$125.



If your driveway is not level, and you're willing to help, the driver will usually get it as close to your residence as possible (so long as it's paved). But again, at their discretion.

If residential lift gate delivery via a full size semi is not available for your location, there are a number of options for you to consider:

- 1) If you are in a large metropolitan area, a shorter “pup” trailer may be available, as well as straight trucks (think furniture delivery trucks). This may incur an extra fee. Being in a rural or less populated city reduces the likelihood this option is available. We will check on the availability of this service before setting up the shipping.
- 2) You may arrange to pick up the crate at a terminal. This will involve having them load the crate into your pick-up, large van or trailer. You do not pay the residential lift-gate charge if you do this (Typical savings = \$60).
- 3) You might make arrangements for a local company to receive the crate on your behalf and load it onto your vehicle or trailer. The local company may require a fee for this service.



4) You can meet the truck in a large parking lot, such as a Walmart or Home Depot and have the driver use the lift gate to transfer the crate onto your trailer or truck bed.

In the picture to the left, you can see the crate half on the lift gate and half on the new owner’s trailer. The owner is using a tie strap to winch the crate onto the trailer. A come-along might have been a better tool for this part of the job.

- 5) You might find a local moving company that will receive and deliver the lathe on your behalf.

Uncratering the Lathe



The crate is held together with ring-shank nails and it’s hard to beat an old fashioned crowbar for disassembling the crate. You can take the whole thing apart that way, or after you have the top off and have a look inside, speed up your work with a Sawzall.



Please note that they are wearing safety glasses at all times and hearing protection when using the Sawzall.



The lathe is held to the skid with four bolts. After removing the nuts from the bolts, these new owners are using an engine hoist to remove the lathe from the skid. One is managing the hoist and the other is guiding the lathe. Note how they have cut away the skid to get the engine hoist under the lathe.

Alternatively, you cut the skid in two, and after unbolting the lathe, run a 2x4 under the ways on one end. While two people lift up that end of the lathe using the 2x4, a third person can remove that end of the skid. Repeat on the other end.



In this trio of pictures, the new owner has 1) built ramps from scrap lumber sourced from the crate, 2) added some extra wood to the skid to make runners, and 3) installed the optional caster set to roll the lathe off of the skid (best with two persons).

Please note, the casters are for moving and storing the lathe. They are removed when turning. More info about the casters can be found on the website.



This group is using the caster set to move the lathe into a back yard workshop. They are using a couple of pieces of plywood for a temporary roadway across the lawn. The sides of shipping crate can be used for the same purpose.

Additional YouTube viewing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxPZhtUBYU>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_fvtRXoduk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bguiqhyF5yc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7s-C82QB6E>

If the links don't work, you can cut and paste and put in your browser.