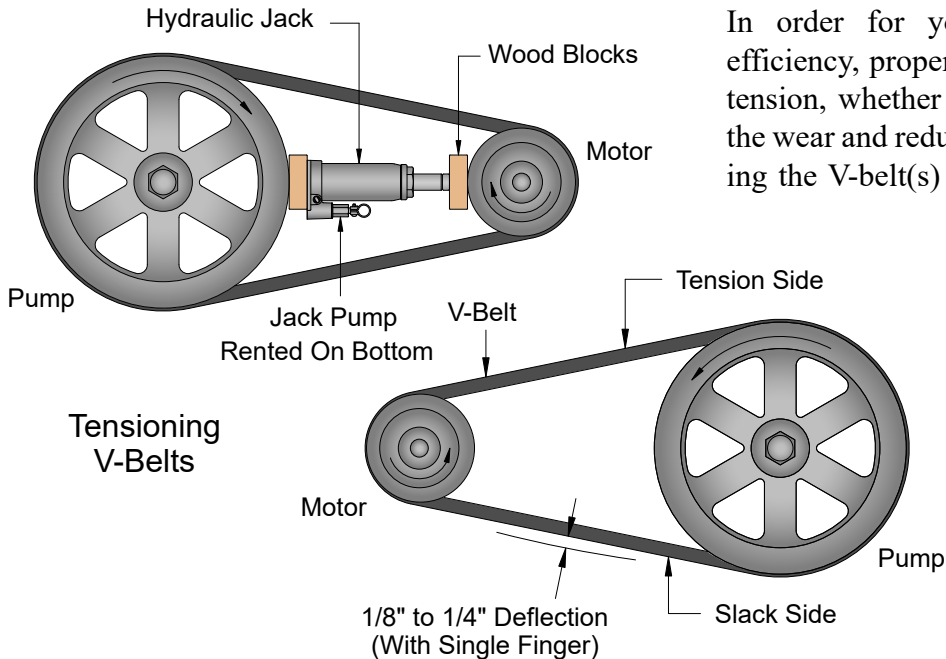


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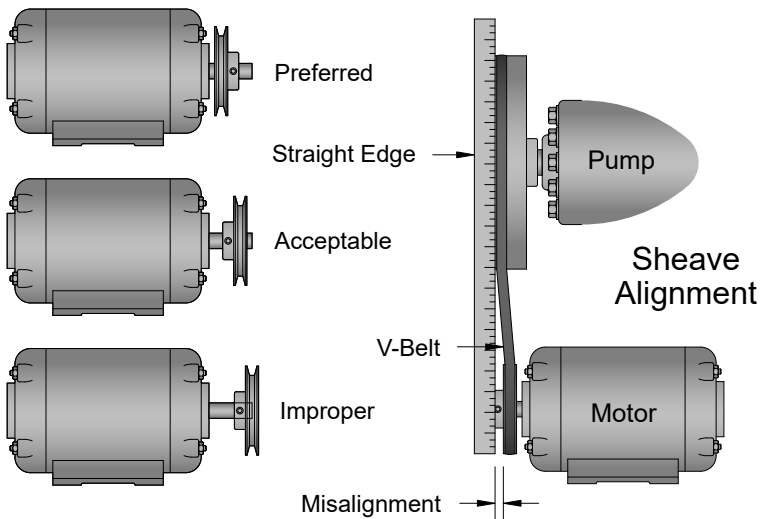
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Tensioning & Alignment of V-Belts

by Brian S. Elliott



In order for your equipment to operate at peak efficiency, proper V-belt tension is essential. Improper tension, whether too tight or too loose, will accelerate the wear and reduce the service life of the belt. Tensioning the V-belt(s) on any piece of equipment should be carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation. In the absence of a recommendation, belts should be adjusted so that they have approximately 1/8" to 1/4" of deflection when pushed with one finger. For larger belts and multiple belts, a jack may be placed between the sheaves to achieve proper tension before tightening the motor bolts.



Equally important as tensioning is proper sheave alignment. The illustration to the far left shows how the sheave should be aligned on the shaft of the drive motor. The illustration, near left shows simple method for aligning the sheaves on the pump and motor.

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