

# A Bar/Restaurant for Gearheads

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## It's called GearHouse Brewing Co.

It's in Chambersburg, a small town in south-central Pennsylvania. And it's fit for a gearhead. The bar/restaurant is decorated inside and out with more than 15 gears and gear blanks.

And the decoration can't be missed. It starts right by the front door, on the patio. In the middle of gray paving stones is a bed of gravel. Planted in the bed are two large, rusty gears. You can see them in the photo here.

Behind the two gears is the restaurant's garage door. On the other side is GearHouse's dining room. The garage door was there when GearHouse's owners bought the building. When they converted it into a restaurant, they upgraded the door. Now, it's like a wall of windows.

So, if you go inside and get lucky, you'll get a table by the windows so you can look at the patio gears. And, if the weather's nice, you won't even have to look through glass. It won't be there. By keeping it a garage door, GearHouse's owners made it so they could turn their place into an indoor/outdoor restaurant. When the weather's nice, the door is lifted out of the way. No wall between you and the patio gears.

Even if you're not seated by the windows, you can still see gears inside the restaurant. You can also see gear blanks. Several are prominent. A blank hangs on a wall as decoration. Another sits in front of a sofa as a coffee table. In a hallway, a large, wooden blank decorates another wall.

Now, why decorate with gears and gear blanks? It started when the building was being converted by its new owners: David and Erin Kozloski, Jesse and Candice McMath, and LaVan and Heather Gray.

Years ago, the building was a warehouse for the Cumberland Valley Railroad. The line has since been moved, but the building's past was still present. During the conversion, David and the other owners found lots of railroad spikes and tie plates around the building. They also found: "Some small-tooth gears and axle bits," David says.

Large gears stand upright near the entrance to GearHouse Brewing Co. A great watering hole for gearheads, the bar/restaurant is decorated inside and out with gears and gear blanks. (Photos courtesy of GearHouse Brewing Co.)



The bits and pieces helped the owners come up with a name for the restaurant and a plan for the décor. The gears and gear blanks themselves were bought or donated.

Take the two gears on the patio, for instance. First, the larger one was bought by the owners at a local auction. The other one was donated by a customer. The restaurant was just starting out, but people knew about its planned décor. "Word had already started spreading," David says.

So, a customer came to the restaurant one day, the gear with him. "We didn't even know it was coming," David says. Turned out the gear came on a good day. The customer donated it the same day the other gear was being embedded in the patio. Donated gear joined bought gear in the gravel bed.

In addition, GearHouse's décor shows the owners' love of bicycling. "All of us are very enthusiastic in cycling," David says, "or have been at some point." So, gears and gear blanks share space with bicycles mounted on walls.

The owners' enthusiasm is also obvious behind the bar, where they used sprockets in the design of their tap handles. You can see them in the bottom photo.

Now, the handles aren't old sprockets being used in a new way. They were made for GearHouse and started with a simple design, a 13-tooth sprocket. From there, the design was changed until it worked well as a tap handle.

The orange sprocket is also GearHouse's logo. And using it for the handles is right because most of the beers on tap are GearHouse's own brews.

GearHouse offers a lot of beers, and its lineup changes from time to time. In early April, the lineup was 14 brews. Eight were GearHouse's own, the other six: made by other Pennsylvania brewing houses. In late April, the lineup was 11 brews. All were GearHouse's own.

The bar/restaurant can make so many of its own beers because David is a professional brewer with more than seven years of experience. And, among GearHouse's own brews is a nod to industry, an ale called Mad Machinist. ⚙️

Inside GearHouse, the bar's orange tap handles were designed using the gear's cousin: the sprocket.

