

Commonsense Rules for Commonplace Tools

Keep these safety precautions in mind when using and caring for everyday tools.



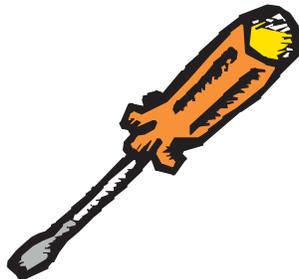
Chisels:

- Keep the cutting edge sharp.
- Repair or discard at the first sign of “mushrooming.”
- Use with a mallet instead of a hammer.
- Chip away from you.
- Hold the chisel near the work end.
That way your hand won't take the full mallet blow if you miss.



Hammers:

- Replace cracked heads and loose or cracked handles.
- Use the right hammer for the job.
- Grip the handle close to the butt end.
- Use hammers with heads of proper hardness.



Screwdrivers:

- Grind or file the tip periodically.
- Repair worn, bent, or broken tips or throw the screwdriver away.
- Don't hold the piece being worked on with one hand and the screwdriver with the other.
- Make starting holes with a nail or a drill.
- Don't carry screwdrivers in your pockets.

Wrenches:

- Don't straighten a bent wrench. Throw it away.
- Keep jaws sharp.
- Pull the wrench; don't push.
- Make sure the footing is secure.
- Never add an extension to the handle for more leverage. Get a larger wrench.

