

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

- When grinding, leave corners slightly beveled. Very sharp or pointed carbide may break on harder stones.
- Don't forget to grind the shank end or striking head frequently to maintain the correct "as-new" shape for safe performance.
- Use care when storing or transporting carbide tools. Although tough and durable, carbide can break, especially when struck by another carbide tool.
- Never quench your carbide tool after grinding. Sudden changes in temperature can cause cracking and chipping of the tip, so always air cool your tool after grinding.

TOOLS

Hand Chippers: A Carbide Chipper is used to chip a straight edge onto a flat, smooth, stone like a monument or building stone that has been sawed, ground or polished smooth. It is usually used along a chalk line or placed in position and the head is struck with a hand hammer. As the stone is chipped off, the blade is moved along the chalk line or straight edge and the chipping process continues.

Hand Chippers should not be used to chisel off high spots on stone or chip an edge onto rough stone.

If chipping or chiseling is needed on a rough as-quarried piece of stone, a carbide chisel should be used.

Hand Chisels: A Carbide Chisel is used to chisel off high spots on stone. It can also be used to trace lines on stone or chop off edges of stone.

Hand Points: A Carbide Point is used to lift high spots off a stone to shape it.

Hand Sets: A Carbide Set is used to pound off stone along the edge of a flat smooth stone. It is used along a chalk line to produce dimensioned stone. The entire blade should be placed on the stone and angled back just a little before striking with a hand hammer. As the stone falls off, the set is moved forward along the line for continued striking and stone removal. If the stone is not smooth and the carbide resets on few high spots of rough stone, the carbide can be expected to fracture. The 3/8" wide end of the carbide blade should never be used to cut stone.

Hand Tracers: A Carbide Tracer is used to mark a straight line on stone. The blade is placed in position and the head is struck with a hand hammer. Continuous tracing back and forth will usually cause the stone to split along the line. On large stones, tracers are used to mark a line that plug holes will be drilled into. Inserting wedges or shims into the drilled holes will cause the stone to split when the wedges are hit with a hammer. Once the stone starts to split it usually continues along the traced line.

GENERAL CARE INSTRUCTIONS

All Carbide Tools will cut easier, faster and cleaner if the carbide cutting edges are sharpened frequently. Dull carbide can be properly sharpened on green silicon carbide grinding wheels with a grit size of 80. It is much easier to grind a cutting edge often than it is to grind it back to shape after it has become dull.

Heads on hand struck tools should be hard enough to moderate upsetting or mushrooming by the striking of the hand hammer. This moderate upsetting should be ground off frequently to avoid rolling over of the steel. If the heads are hard enough to prevent upsetting, they will usually crack and chip off making them dangerous to use.