

Jewelry Shear Tool Tutorial

The straight or slitting shear is a bench tool used to make manual straight cuts in sheet metal. It consists of two - blades that shear material when a lever is pulled and the blades come together.

The shearing capacity of this tool is 16 gauge sheet.

TODO image needed

Safety Precautions and Features

- Keep guards in place and in working order
- Keep all body parts away from moving parts
- Do not exceed maximum capacity of the shear (16 gauge sheet)
- Don't force the machine. It will do the job better and more safely at the rate for which it was designed
- Don't over reach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times
- Sheet metal has sharp edges. To prevent cuts, use caution when handling
- Keep hands and fingers clear of the shear

Materials

- Materials must be thinner than 16 gauge - sheet and wire are both fine
- Materials must be soft - hard silver or softer
- Precious metals as well as brass, copper, nickel, and titanium are permitted
- All other metals are not permitted - specifically stainless and carbon steels and aluminum
- Wood and plastics are prohibited
- Use of cutting fluids is prohibited

Adjustments

The blade's edges will dull over time. If you believe the blades have become dull please find a shop tech or staff member for assistance.

The workholding pressure foot can be used to support material while performing cutting operations.

Basic Operation

Cutting flat stock and sheet metal

1. Lift the handle to open blades.
2. Insert material and lower the workholding foot to support the material (this will prevent the material from pivoting from the force of the shearing action).
3. Hold material on one side to keep it in place.
4. Pull the handle downwards and follow all the way through with the cut.
5. When all cuts are finished, clean up scraps on the table and surrounding work area.

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