

Shrinker/Stretcher Tool Tutorial

The shrinker and stretcher are used for projects requiring a combination of curves, angles, edges, and flanges. These tools can shrink or stretch up metal up to 16 gauge thickness.

By stretching or shrinking the edge of a piece of metal, you can create a wide variety of custom organic shapes with tight bends.



Safety and Procedures

- Keep hands away from pinch points
- Do not use metal thicker than 16 gauge on these machines
- Ensure that the tool is solidly mounted to the bench or in a vice before using it
- Keep proper footing and balance at all times
- Use caution when handling sheet metal to avoid cutting yourself on the sharp edges

Basic Operation

1. Place metal to be shrunk or stretched in the mouth of the tool.
2. Pull the handle towards yourself to deform the material slightly. It doesn't take a lot of force to shrink or stretch the metal.
3. Move your material and continue to make a series of small deformations to achieve your desired result. The shrinker and stretcher are designed to produce results through a series of very small increments.
4. When all operations are complete, remove your material from the mouth of the tool.

Revision #3

Created 7 January 2025 22:08:57 by Paul Mazaitis

Updated 13 July 2026 19:58:45 by Manager Scott Martin