

SCRIBERS

The scribe is designed to serve one in workshop in the same way a pen serves one in writing in the class room. In general, it is used to scribe or mark lines on metal surfaces, and has two needle pointed ends. Scribes have a scribe point made of tempered high grade tool steel and a handle of steel tubing which may be nickel plated. The point is reversible telescoping into the knurled handle when not in use. Bent point scribes are usually 300 mm long with one straight point and one long or one short bent point bent at a 90 degrees angle for reaching and marking through holes. Some of these scribes are threaded and can be engaged in either end of the handle.



Figure 1: Scribe

Using a scribe

- Make sure that the point of the scribe is sharp. To sharpen, rotate the scribe between thumb and forefinger while moving the point back and forth on an oilstone.
- Clean work surfaces from all dirt and oil
- Place the steel rule or straight edge on the work beside the line to be scribed.
- Use the fingertips of one hand to hold the rule in position and hold the scribe in the other hand as is done while marking with a pencil.
- Scribe the line by drawing the scribe along the edge of the rule, at a 45° angle and tipped outward and slightly in the direction it is being moved.

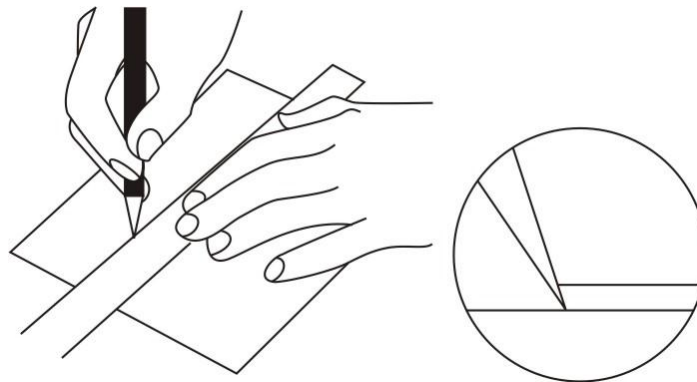


Figure 2: Using a scribe

To mark a line parallel to a surface, Pile up blocks of wood or metal to position the scribe at the required height when it is laid flat on top. Small adjustments can be made by adding strips of cardboard or sheet metal. Place the workpiece on the surface aligning the mark with the point on the scribe. Hold the scribe firmly in place with one hand and rotate the object against the point to mark a line.

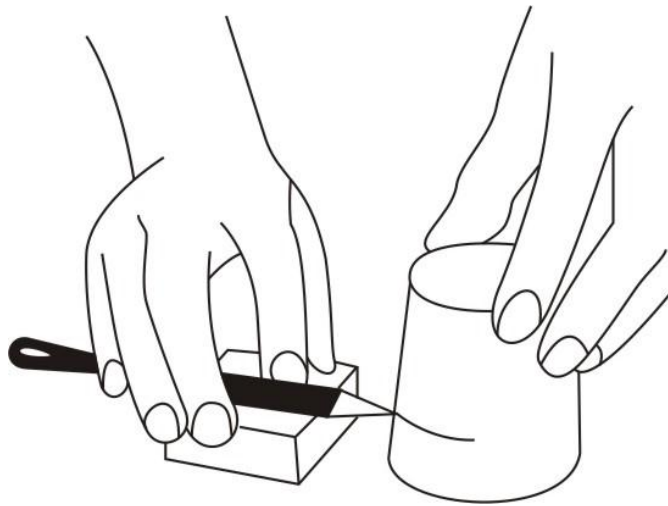


Figure 3: Using scribe to mark a line parallel.

Care of scribes

- Place a cork or soft wood over point of scribe when not in use. Coat scribe with anti-rust material before storage. Do not throw scribes in drawer with other tools. This practice can cause damage to scribes and injury to personnel.
- Place punch on rest and place point on abrasive wheel. Rotate punch during grinding to obtain cone shape.
- Dip punch in water frequently to preserve temper.
- Do not grind away more metal than is necessary to obtain a sharp cone-shaped point.

Reshaping mushroomed head

If the head of the punch becomes mushroomed after extended use, grind to original shape on a grinder wheel. Restore temper after grinding.

Restoring temper

If the point or the flat end of a punch is ground beyond the hardened section, if the mushroomed head was reshaped or if the punch was overheated in grinding, the punch must be hardened and tempered.