

2D. Hand Tools

Scope

Hand tools, as indicated in definition 3.6 include: Screwdrivers, Hammers, Punches, Chisels, Hacksaws, Files, Axes, Knives, Crowbars, Shovels, Spanners, Mains and Battery Powered Electric Drills, Saws, Sanders, Grinders and any other item used by hand as a tool.

They normally present a low risk of injury if their use is restricted to activities they are designed for.

Selection, Use, Checks, Maintenance and Inspection

Hand tools should:

- Only be used for tasks for which they are designed (e.g. screwdrivers should not be used as punches);
- Not used if damaged or work beyond effective service;
- PAT tested annually if mains powered;
- Checked before use by the user; and
- Be replaced or repaired if damaged.

Hand tools are unlikely to need formalised maintenance, though some may require regular lubrication, and tools such as drills, grinders, sanders and saws may require replacement of the cutting/sanding/grinding piece.

There is no requirement for any formal form of inspection – pre use checks by the user should be sufficient.