



## HAMMER

### ARE YOU WEARING THE RIGHT SAFETY EQUIPMENT?

**Goggles should always be worn** when working with any tools that will create dust or cause small particles that can get into your eyes. Using gloves is an option as long as the user has a good grip.

### DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TOOLS?

A hammer is used with nails or dowels. **Do not hammer screws.** The **claw is used to remove nails.** It is not used for chipping away material.

### WILL YOU BE SAFE IF YOU START WORKING?

Before using the hammer, it's important to make sure that you have enough space around. If using small nails, **needle nose pliers are helpful in avoiding hammering any fingers.**

## WHAT IS THE CORRECT WAY TO USE THE TOOL?

1. Wear **safety goggles** to keep your eyes safe from any bits that might fly off.
2. Hammers come in different types; the claw hammer is the most popular and works in most situations.
3. Start by making your **workspace neat** and tidy. Make sure there's nothing to trip over and that your work surface is steady.
4. Grab the hammer's handle with your hand. **Hold it near the end of the handle**, but not too tight.
5. Put the thing you want to hit or attach in a safe place on your work surface. **Pliers or nail guides are helpful** and can keep little fingers safe and away from where the hammer will strike.
6. Line up the hammer's flat part (the head) with the spot on your thing you want to hit.
7. Swing the **hammer down gently**, using your **hand and arm**. Let the hammer's weight do some of the work.
8. Pay attention to where you want to hit. Try not to hit too hard or too soft.
9. After you hit, keep swinging just a bit to make sure it's a good hit.
10. Do It Again If Needed: If you need to hit more times, keep swinging the same way. Stay in control

and be careful.

11. Look at what you did after each hit. If something needs changing, do it.
12. When you're done, **store the hammer in a safe place**, like a toolbox.

## NAIL VS. SCREW

- To secure things, you can use nails. Nails are like pointy sticks. You hit them with a hammer to make them go through one thing and into another.
- **Nails are different from screws. Nails are like metal wedges.** When you hammer them, they push things apart and stay in place because of the compression force.
- **Screws are like spiraled wedges.** They must be turned with a screw driver. They draw two materials closer together, making them tighter. It's like a twisty handshake that holds things together.