

# BUILDER



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## NEW TOOLS

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## TOOL TALK



### Hammers

Here is a framing hammer that breaks all the established rules. It isn't heavy, it isn't tiring, but it still drives nails. The inventors at Stiletto first found that they could reduce the weight of the framing hammerhead while maintaining the strength by using Titanium steel. So they've taken it to 14 oz. from 24 oz. Now how do you drive framing nails with a 14 oz. hammer? A little physics says that what drives the nail is the momentum of the head. The momentum is a combination of weight and speed. The hammer is lighter so you can swing it faster. Add to that an 18-inch handle and the head on the end of that arc is moving so fast that the nail gets hit with the same momentum despite the light weight of the head.

Using this hammer I discovered that I always worked pretty hard just lifting my 24 oz. framing hammer. With the Titanium, you don't work on the upstroke, just the downstroke. Add to that the shock absorption qualities of both the Titanium and the long handle, and you have less fatigue to boot. It is not a cheap hammer at about double the price of a regular one, but it is getting great reviews. My reaction? It feels like a toy and nails like a weapon. I love it.

