SPECIAL FORCIBLE ENTRY TOOLS

This section includes the following tools and/or equipment:

- "K" Tool
- "A" Tool
- Rabbit Tool
- TNT Tool

"K" TOOL

The "K" Tool is used in a through the lock method of forcible entry. It is useful in pulling several types of lock cylinders which allows the firefighter to access the cam mechanism and open the lock. The "K" Tool kit is comprised of several components as seen in ***(Figure A)***

Figure A

The "K Tool is designed to be used in conjunction with the Halligan bar and Flat Head Axe. The tool is forced over and behind the trim ring and face of the lock cylinder until the blades of the tool "bite" into the body of the lock cylinder. The tool can be driven into place using the Halligan tool or the flat head of the Axe. Once in place the adze of the Halligan bar is placed in the loop of the K Tool and used to pry up, pulling the cylinder from the door. ***(See Figure B)***

Figure B

For **Mortise** locks, once the cylinder is removed, a key tool can be used to move the lock bolt into the open position. After pulling the cylinder insert the bent end of the key tool into the lock through the cylinder hole, holding the tool parallel to the ground and perpendicular to the door. With the bent end pointing to approximately 5 o'clock, move the bolt slide to the 7 o'clock position (or opposite if the slide is found at the 7 o'clock position). ***(See Figures C & D)***

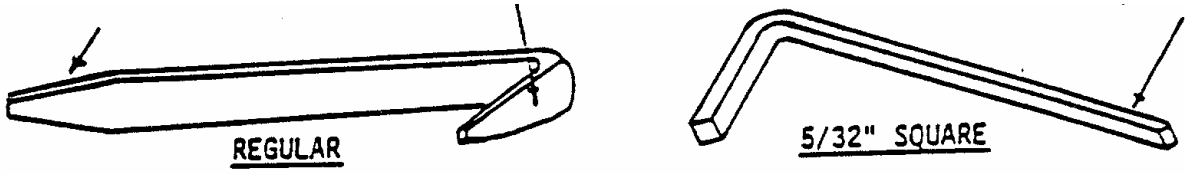


Figure C

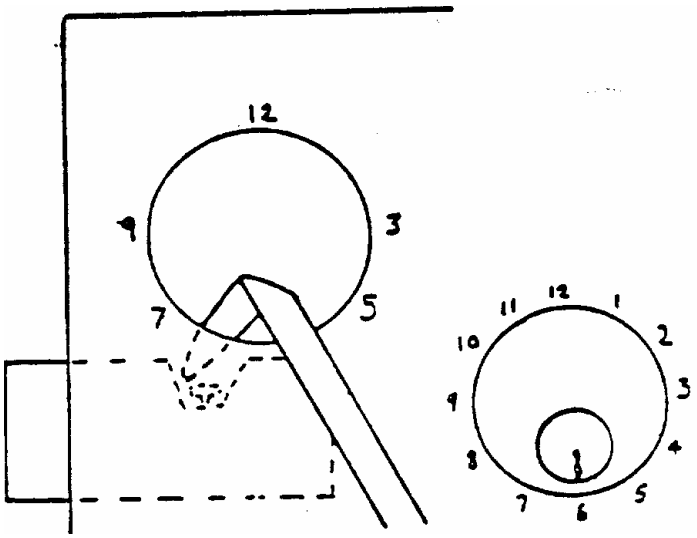


Figure D

If after the dead bolt is retracted (5 to 7) and latch is still in the locked position (knob will not turn), continue rotating the key tool until contact is made with spring loaded latch lever, which is usually found at 9 o'clock or 3 o'clock. Depress this latch to release the spring latch. ***(See Figure E.)***

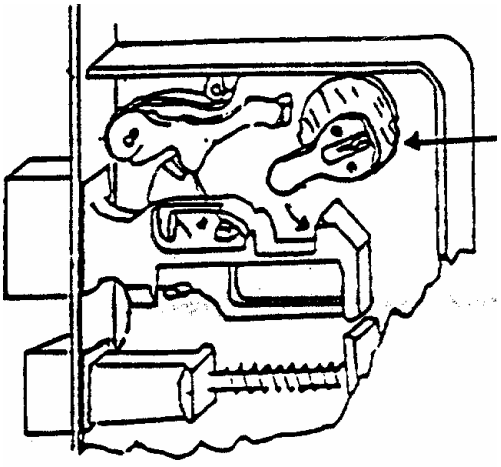


Figure E

Rim locks are manufactured to fit on the inside surface of the door with the cylinder visible from the outside. The key turns stem on the end of the cylinder which fits into the backplate of the lock. The stem opens or closes the lock in the same fashion as a screw driver. To open pull cylinder and check rear of cylinder for stem size then insert straight end of key tool into stem slot on the lock. Turn key tool either direction left or right. If for any reason you cannot insert key tool into stem slot (shutter present) or turn the key tool (night latch thrown), place the point of the Halligan or similar tool in the cylinder hole and drive the lock off the door. ***(See Figure F)***

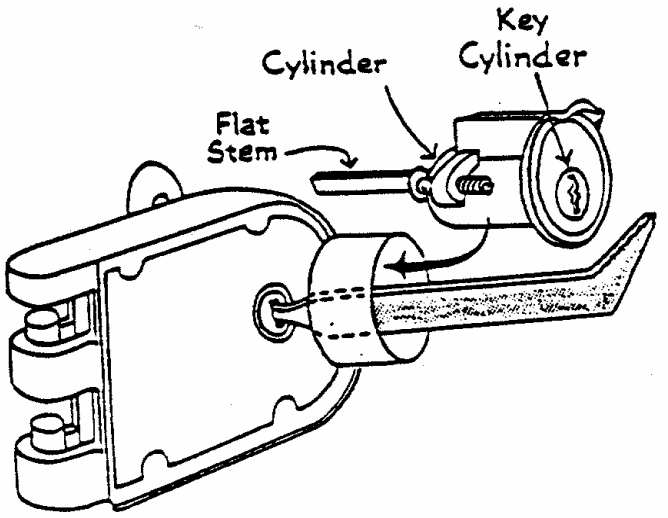
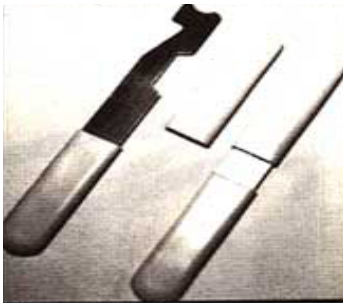


Figure F

The "K" Tool kit also includes the **Shove Knife**. It is the fastest, least damaging means of opening residential and/or office doors that use "key in the knob" locks. It is used extensively in fire towers to slip spring latch locks. The knife works from either side of the door. If the door opens inward, you shove the knife in back of the molding stop and retract the latch. For doors that open towards you, the knife is slipped in from above or below the latch point and jiggled and pulled to retract the latch. ***(See figure G.)***



"A" TOOL

The "A" Tool is designed to perform the same job as the "K" Tool using a different design. The "A" Tool will cause slightly more damage than the "K" Tool but will rapidly pull the lock cylinder. It was designed to use on locks with collars or protective covers that prevent the "K" Tool from being easily used.

- The sharp cutting edges of the "A" portion of the tool are driven behind the protective collar of the lock cylinder using a Flat Head Axe or other striking tool. The long handle is then used to provide the leverage to pull the cylinder. ***(See Figure A)***

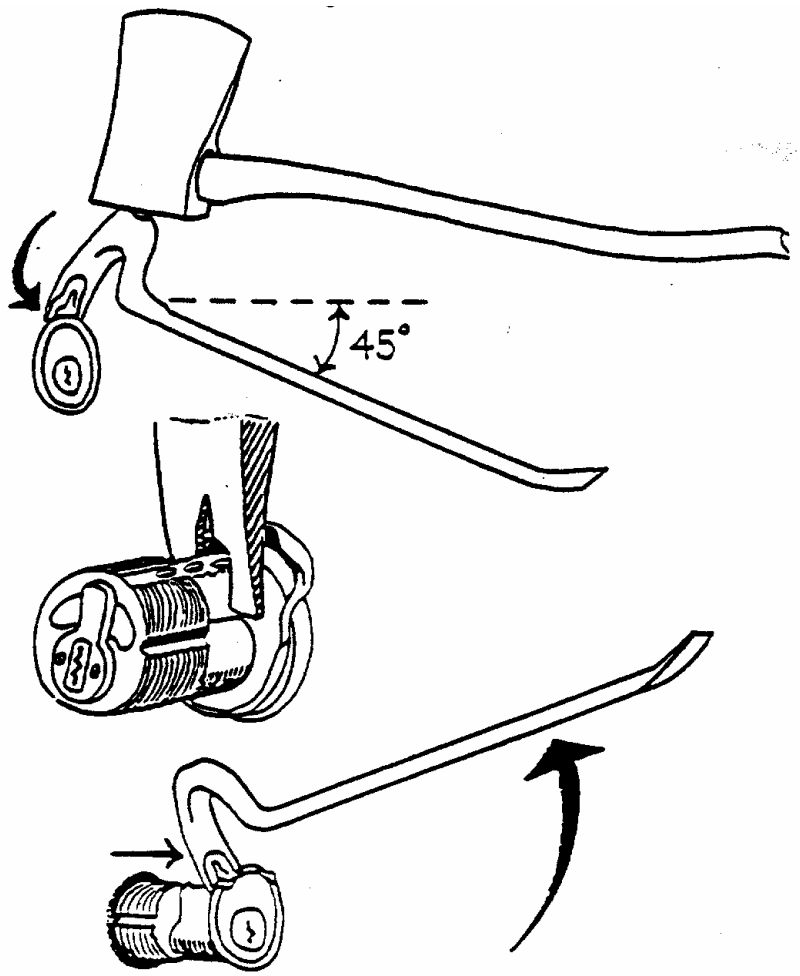
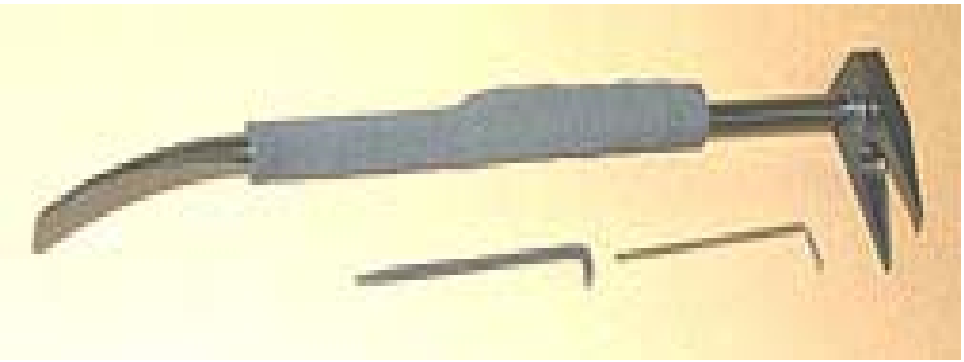


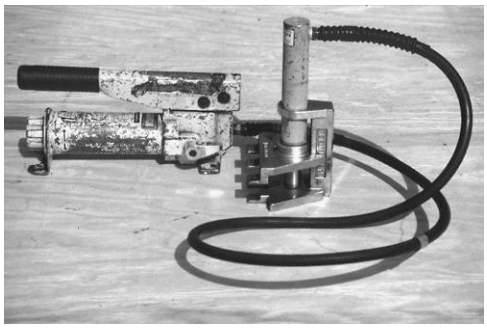
Figure A

- The chisel end on the rear of the tool is used if it is necessary to gouge the wood around the cylinder for a better bite of the working head.

- The "A" Tool also includes a key to move the locking bolt into the open position once the cylinder head is removed. This is performed in the same method as described previously in this section.



RABBIT FORCIBLE ENTRY TOOL:



DESCRIPTION:

The Rabbit Tool provides rapid forcible entry with a minimum amount of effort by fire/rescue personnel. The tougher the door, the better it works. It is especially effective against inward opening doors with steel jambs, but may be used in other applications. The tool includes a hydraulic pump with a two position valve on the side, as well as, a pry bar and a rubber mallet. A hydraulic hose permanently connects the pump to a spreader having teeth designed for placement between the door and the jamb. The hydraulic system is closed (there is no fluid lost during any movement of the tool). The tool is capable of developing 8000 pounds (4 tons) of force.

NOTE: This tool is not designed as an automobile extrication tool and shall not be used as such.

OPERATION:

To open a door, place the spreader between the jamb and the door, at the lock. **Note**: If there are two locks, place spreader between them. Place the teeth deep enough into the jamb for a good "bite". It may sometimes be necessary to drive the teeth into the jamb using a flat head axe or a heavy hammer. The pry bar provided with the tool may also be used to spread the jamb sufficiently to gain access for the teeth. With the teeth in place, operate the hydraulic pump handle causing the teeth to spread. Usually, four or five strokes are all that are necessary to open a door. Once the door is open the two position valve on the side of the pump is moved to the release position, allowing the spreader to return automatically to the closed position. Closing the valve then makes the tool ready for the next door. Doors that have multiple locks require operation of the spreader at each lock location. Doors that open toward the firefighter can be forced by placing the spreader between door and frame and operating the pump. When the bolt is free of the keeper, place a wedge between the bolt and the keeper and pry the door open with a pry bar. Care must be taken, as the tool may slip and the tool or the door may be forcefully propelled toward the firefighter.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

1. Always wear full protective clothing when using the tool.
2. Always use eye protection. This is especially important when forcing doors with glass panels.
3. Do not place hands in a position where there is a possibility of getting them caught or pinched if the tool slips.
4. Do not stand in front of the door being forced. Take a position to one side. This will protect you if the room is extremely hot, or if the tool slips.
5. For inward swinging doors, companies shall carry a short length of rope or 1" tubular nylon strapping with a loop on one end to secure the knob of the door. This will allow the firefighters to quickly close the door in the event there is heavy fire and/or smoke behind the door.

TNT TOOL

Description

The TNT Tool is a combination tool that allows for a variety of forcible entry, cutting, prying and other applications by the user. It has metal tools at each end of a fiberglass handle. This tool is carried on some companies.

Use and/or Operation

This tool can be used for a variety of purposes:

- Forcible Entry – prying with the tip, striking with the sledge or axe end
- Pulling Ceilings or Walls – with the pike pole end
- Cutting – with the axe end
- Striking – with the sledge hammer end

This end is equipped with an axe head, a handle for the pike pole end, and a sledge hammer head.

This end is equipped with a pike pole / ceiling hook end to allow rapid access to void spaces.

Maintenance:

This tool should be kept clean and free of rust. The ends can be painted.