	Cincinnati Fire Department Fire Training Supplement DRILL BOOK	SECTION #5 Tools and Equipment
Date: January 2006 Section #: 5	TOPIC TITLE: Ceiling Hooks or Pike Poles	Total Pages: 2 Topic #: 5

CEILING HOOKS OR PIKE POLES

REGULAR PIKE POLES / CEILING HOOKS:

Use and Description:

- There are three (3) sizes: long, medium and short.
- The pike pole or ceiling hook has many varied uses at the fire scene. The most common usage is to pull down lath and plaster. It is also used to open windows, pull off shingles, lower fire escapes, used as rails for water chutes, and to elevate hose to upper floors (Engine Co.'s carry a ceiling hook with a stirrup on the end of the handle for assisting in elevating hose).
- The hook part is used to hook, catch or hold objects. The pike is used for piercing or splitting.




- When the pike pole is used to pull or push, excessive force must not be exerted. Do not pry with a ceiling hook, since this will split or break the handle.
- When a man is sent to the apparatus for a ceiling hook, he must remember the intended use and select the size best suited for the job.
- Some short hooks are equipped with "D" handles to ease pushing and pulling.



Maintenance:

Heads are to be kept clean, free of rust and painted as needed. Handles are to be kept free of splinters and wooden handles should be wiped as needed with linseed oil.

	Cincinnati Fire Department Fire Training Supplement DRILL BOOK	SECTION #5 Tools and Equipment
Date: January 2006 Section #: 5	TOPIC TITLE: Ceiling Hooks or Pike Poles	Total Pages: 2 Topic #: 5

VENTILATION HOOK (LONG PIKE POLE):

Use and Description:

- Ventilation hook (just an extremely long pike pole) is 18 to 22 feet in length.
- It is most often used to open windows from outside of the building for ventilation purposes. Due to its length, sometimes 2 men are required to operate the hook.

Maintenance:

The head of ventilation hook is to be kept free of rust and painted as needed. The handle is to be kept free of splinters. Wooden handles should be wiped with linseed oil as needed.