

Our tools help us get our jobs done on a daily basis, quickly and safely. We know how difficult our jobs could be if we do not have the right tool or a properly functioning tool.

We invest quite a bit of money into the purchase of good quality tools. We limit who can borrow them and for what reason they can borrow them. If we think that the person does not know how to use the tool that we are going to loan, we take care to show them how to use it before loaning the tool out.

We have unwritten and unspoken rules about how the tool should be cared for and returned when they are finished with it. Whether we state it or not, we expect that anyone who borrows a tool from us will:

1. Treat it with the same amount of care as they would if they owned it.
2. Take care to insure that the tool is not damaged or lost while it is borrowed.
3. If it is lost or damaged, it will promptly be replaced without question.
4. The tool will be returned in as good or better condition than when it was loaned out in.
5. The tool will not be loaned out to someone else when it is loaned to us.

These are not usually stated among friends that loan tools among each other. They are understood to be true because many of us learned them from our fathers and other teachers that taught us the value of a tool.

When we loan out tools to others that we do not know as close friends, we call it "rental" and we list out all of the above rules on the backside of the contract.

The hoists, platforms, and rigging devices that we rent are tools that we loan out for a price. We expect that the people using this equipment will treat these items just like tools that we loan out. If they fail to take care of these tools properly while in their possession and damage occurs, the contract allows for repairs to be charged to the renter.

The two main reasons that we charge customers a rental charge are:

1. To make money as part of the business that we have engaged in.
2. To cover normal wear and tear expenses on the equipment that we rent.

Rental charges do not cover damages caused from abuse or neglect, and this is one reason for a rental contract. The hoists, platforms, and rigging devices that we rent are the tools with which we make our living.

REMEMBER THIS: Our tools help to pay our salaries and should be well cared for.

### Tips for tools

- Torque wrenches should be calibrated at least once a year. These can be done by the manufacturer or by a calibration company.
- Meters (Electric, digital, analog) should be calibrated periodically. Consult the manufacturer for service schedules.
- Hoist test stands should be calibrated during initial setup and after any changes are done to the stand.
- All tools should be cleaned properly when you are finished using them.
- Tools with moving parts may need lubrication.
- Tools generally have one designed purpose and should only be used for that purpose. (e.g. Crescent wrenches should not be used like hammers)
- Hammers should have heads and handles in good condition.
- Hoists should be maintained according to the manufacturers recommended standards.
- Make sure that all of your T-handle Allen (Hex) wrenches are in good condition and not rounded. If you have purchased tools with a lifetime warranty, exchange them out.

### Tool Instructions

Any of your more sophisticated tools such as torque wrenches and digital meters are supplied with instructions. These instructions should list out several important things.

1. How to use the tool correctly.
2. How to care for the tool with techniques for general and scheduled maintenance.
3. How to troubleshoot basic problems that may arise from abuse or lack of understanding about its use.
4. Who to contact if you have problems not listed in the manual.

Many people buy these tools because they know that they have a need for them. They know that the tool will accomplish the task that they need done.

Whether you have a lot of experience using a particular type of tool or not, it is very important that you save all documentation that comes with any new tool. Some torque wrenches click when they reach the appropriate setting. If you have to purchase a torque wrench with a dial for very small increments, it will undoubtedly have a different set of instructions for use. The information that comes with this tool will be helpful in learning the new process.

Experienced mechanics are an excellent resource for learning how to use and care for new tools. Though they are very experienced, make sure that you consult the manufacturer's instructions as the final authority.

### True Story

A journeyman carpenter asked a new apprentice to nail in some studs on a new house construction. After asking the apprentice to carry out this task, he went on to another task a short distance away. From time to time the journeyman would look over at the apprentice to see that he

was completing his work. He happened to notice that the apprentice was bending a lot of nails, so he went over to investigate. When he asked the apprentice what was wrong, the apprentice explained the nails were poorly designed. The young apprentice tried to explain to the more experienced carpenter that if the wood was softer and if the nail were not so flat and wide on this one end his job would be easier and less nails would bend.

### Did You Know?

- That you should never assume that anyone knows how to use a particular tool until it has been explained.
- Experience, always counts, make sure that it is the right experience.
- Power Climber dealers are encouraged to attend factory training on the hoists that they service.
- Mechanics that have attended the Power Climber service schools must renew their certificates every three years.

For questions or comments, contact Customer Service at 1-800-560-CLIMB (2546) or [customerservice@safeworks.com](mailto:customerservice@safeworks.com).