

Crowbars and Pry Bars

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Hand Tools



Photo: Flanoz — CC0 — via Wikimedia Commons (Pry_bar_3.jpg)

Crowbars and pry bars lift, lever and pry apart materials in demolition, repair and crate work: wrecking bars with curved claws pull nails, flat bars wedge joints, and long bars use leverage for heavy work. They replace bare hands everywhere.

Key Features

- Wrecking and flat bar styles
- Lengths 300 mm to 1.8 m
- Curved claw ends for nails
- Slotted wedge ends for prying
- Drop-forged steel construction

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Pry open crates and cases
- Remove nails and fixings
- Demolish and dismantle timber work
- Lever heavy equipment for shimming

Safe Operation

1. Find a solid fulcrum point
2. Drive the wedge into the gap
3. Lever in controlled movements
4. Remove nails with the claw end
5. Check the workpiece does not crack

SAFETY NOTES

- Wear gloves and eye protection - bars slip
- Keep feet and hands clear of the lever path
- Do not use bars as hammers
- Check the bar is not bent or cracked
- Keep bystanders clear of the swing

Maintenance & Consumables

- Clean and inspect the bar ends
- Check for cracks and bends
- Oil lightly against rust
- Store on the tool rack
- Replace damaged bars

Specification & Buying Notes

A 450 mm wrecking bar and a 600 mm flat bar cover school work; add longer bars for heavy demolition. Drop-forged steel bends less than cast bars.