

## Hand Tools

### Hand Tools - Gear Pullers

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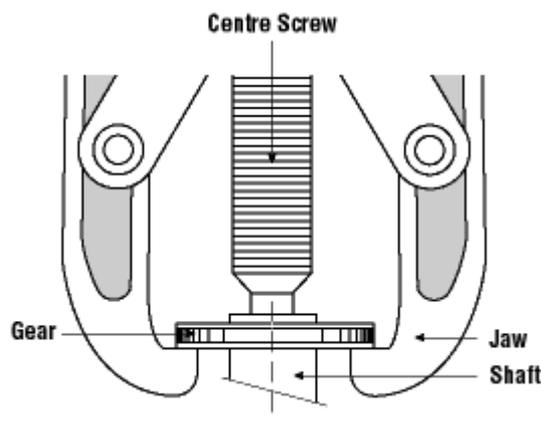
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#### What are some safety tips for using gear pullers?

Gear pullers are made in various shapes and sizes and have many uses. Always use the correct tool for the job.

- Wear safety glasses or goggles, or a face shield (with safety glasses or goggles).
- Wear hearing protection, when needed.
- Select the proper gear puller for each job. Always use a gear puller of the required size or larger. Use a 3-jaw puller, if possible.



- Inspect the pull tool before use for cracks, wear, damage, etc.
- Secure the workpiece on a stable surface that will withstand the forces created when pulling.
- Make sure that the gear puller is aligned with the shaft and fits tightly around the part to be removed. The jaws or hooks should grip firmly without any slipping or wobbling. The jaws should be parallel with the screw. This placement assures a straight pull.

- Be careful when removing a stubborn gear or bearing. Always strike the head of the centre screw squarely. If, after two sharp blows, the gear or bearing remains stuck, select a larger puller and proceed to remove the gear or bearing.
  - When applying force, apply with an even and consistent pressure.
  - Use a protective cap or removable point to protect the screw from mushrooming or splitting.
  - Stop work if the gear puller starts to deform.
  - Cover work with a cloth to protect you and bystanders from flying parts.
  - Lubricate the tool according to the manufacturer's directions.
  - Clean the gear puller after use and store it in a dry place.
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## What are some things that I should not do?

- Do not pull if there is a risk the tool will slip or it has a loose grip.
- Do not use air-powered tools on gear pullers.
- Do not use any puller with functioning parts that show excessive wear, dents, or cracks. Inspect the centre screw for signs of galling or seizing.
- Do not heat any gear puller. It will lose its strength and break under pressure if heated.
- Do not cut or grind any part of a gear puller.

Refer to the OSH Answers on [General Hand Tool Operation](#) for more tips.

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