**WHAT IT IS AND HOW IT WORKS.**

The Slammer is a multi-tool combining a sledgehammer impacting on a digging bar and an axe head.

It uses the downward force of the inner bar to slam the cutting blade through tough ground, soil, roots, wood and concrete.

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**A NOTE FROM INVENTOR, TJ IRVIN**

“Congratulations on purchasing a Slammer tool.

I didn’t initially make the Slammer to sell commercially. I just wanted a simple, indestructible, multi-use tool for myself for tough, labour-intensive jobs. I used to use a crowbar (digging bar), mattock/grubber, axe and spade when dealing with hard ground, roots, rocks, concrete and well-compacted soil types (clay, sedimentary, conglomerates). However, once I started using the Slammer I found not only did it take less time to complete a task, it used a completely different set of muscles that did not hurt my back. The key to this was to grip the bar with my hands but use my legs to get my body to move the bar up and down, rather than my arms. The other big feature was the blade design. Once the tool was driven into an ugly patch, to get it out was a lot of work. But by rocking the 5-sided blade from side-to-side it “walks its way out”.

Clients, co-workers and friends saw my Slammer and asked if I could make one for them. Then things just escalated through word of mouth and the Slammer Ltd was born.

The slide-hammer concept has been around for a long time but the design and materials used for the Slammer has been a 23-year evolution of countless prototypes to make it as sturdy and robust as the one you see today.

I filed a PCT patent 583181 in 2008 and took the Slammer to agricultural, horticultural and trade shows where it has been well-received by a very diverse range of customers.

This manual aims to provide you with a few tips and uses that I have learned along my Slammer journey. Other techniques have been shown to me by customers who have provided comments and feedback. Please get in touch to let us know what you think of the Slammer and what you use it for.

**HAPPY SLAMMIN’!**

TJ “Slammerman” Irvin”
OPERATOR INSTRUCTIONS

To assemble, carefully insert the upper section/inner bar into the anti pinch rubber sleeve and lower section/blade pipe. Take care not to trap hands or fingers.

**Safety warnings and hazards**

*Sharp! Heavy!* Use with great caution and care.

*Always* use the Slammer with respect and care to others.

Severe pinch risk: The Slammer is a 2 part tool. Take care not to trap anything between the 2 parts.

Wear gloves and grip the upper section by the handle only.

Use your leg or core muscles to raise and lower the slide bar, as opposed to just your upper body strength.

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**DO**

*Use ear protection*

The Slammer produces a loud repetitive noise.

*Use eye protection*

Objects may become airborne when using The Slammer.

*Wear protective footwear and gloves*

Be aware of objects and cables underground

Always know before you start digging.

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**DON’T**

*Use your back*

Engage leg and core muscles to lift the inner bar/upper section as opposed to just your upper body strength. Use gravity and the natural weight of the Slammer to slam it down, then rock the tool from side to side to dislodge and walk the Slammer out, without straining your back.

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**TIP:** When walking with The Slammer, hold it in 2 separate pieces - one in each hand.
Always know where you are digging.

Be mindful of underground cables, pipes and other objects.

Use the Slammer like you would a crow bar to break up the soil. The blade is for cutting and chopping, not shoveling, so you will need a separate spade to remove the broken soil.

A helpful hint is to mark different depths on the female/blade part of the tool to know when you are deep enough or where to expect service lines (sewer, power, phone.)

If digging in sod, cut around the area you are digging, chop in two, then cut under to get perfect bits of sod using just the female/blade pipe/lower part of the Slammer (which can be used without the inner bar.)

When digging fence posts use the Slammer to break up soil then lift soil out with tool of choice eg. hand auger, post hole digger, post hole spade. (you can use the female/blade pipe/lower part of the Slammer but slow.)

When the blade is deeply lodged in the ground, rock tool from side-to-side to dislodge.

Tamp at the bottom of the hole with the male/inner bar/upper section by itself, upside down, handle to the bottom of the hole. Add the rammer and foot attachment to Slammer tool to pack soil even tighter.

(See website www.theslammertool.com for further details about rammer and foot attachments.)

TIP: When digging, deep slam from your knees and try not to use your back.

Slammer blade with rammer accessory attached.

The only time in life you start out on top is when you are digging a hole.
The bigger the hole the faster the tree/plant will grow. Use the Slammer to aerate the soil deep and wide.

Remove all existing plants, roots and rocks and loosen the soil. It’s not necessary to lift all the dirt out of the hole.

Mix in compost, fertilizer, blood and bone.

Once planted, pack well and stake if necessary. Add water to fill in gaps.
TRANSPANTING

Make sure the blade on the Slammer is sharp. Use the Slammer to cut around the root ball.

Find main roots and slam through. Continue to slam on an angle to form root ball.

Lift out rootball then place into fabric, pot, tarp or whatever will keep the root ball from breaking up.

**TIP:** Tie a ribbon/string to indicate north, then when replanting make sure this indicator is pointing north so the plant has the same aspect.

**CUTTINGS OF FLAX, BAMBOO OR LARGE GRASSES**

- Tie or cut back plant to gain access to main base of plant. Cut into root base the rock blade from side to side to walk out.

- Pry roots apart. Cut root ball around desired cutting and keep root ball together. Try to keep damp and replant as soon as possible. This cutting may need some pruning above soil to minimize shock. In dense bamboo roots you may have to cut multiple times when prying out.

- With extended bamboo work it is advisable to use two people with a slammer each to work and lift together.
With the Slammer’s sharp 5-sided blade locate main roots and obstacles. Do this with the female/bladepipe/lower section of the tool first.

Chop surface roots. If roots are too large, work further from the stump where the root narrows. Cut underneath root and saw, chop or slam completely. Work back to main stump using the Slammer to loosen soil under roots. Try to dig a hollow on one side so you can pry the main ball over.

Continue to cut and pry until the stump moves. Once stump is moving, remove material and cut taproot at bottom, then pry out of hole. Some stumps will require a large solid pry bar to do so. If the Slammer tool is bending, the stump is too heavy or there are still roots connected. There is a limit to the strength of the Slammer blade pipe. Be aware of it’s limitations and if it does bend it needs to be straightened (see maintenance instructions on page 22.)
BREAKING UP CONCRETE AND ROCK

Both the 9kg ad 6kg Slammer blades and the chisel point Slammer tool are very efficient at breaking up concrete.

Once cracked, follow the crack and break up into bits that you can carry. Works extremely well on asphalt to square up potholes for road repairs.

The Slammer is very good working in conjunction with a concrete cutter to remove concrete accurately. Ideal for plumbing, drainage, electric cable repair and digging with precision around dangerous areas where powered equipment cannot access.

The Rammer attachment with foot is great for tamping/compressing areas in corners and tight spaces where you cannot get a vibrator/compressor.

The male/inner bar/upper part of the 9kg slammer tool also fits the chisel point blade pipe.

“Nothing is forever”

TIP: Slammer tools are very useful in emergency first response and search and rescue situations such as earthquakes and rock falls.
As the Slammer blade is narrow it works best on hard wood. It can get jammed on soft wood.

Choose straight grain pieces for splitting and kindling. Save the knotty bits for the wood splitter or as long-burning, all night logs.

Instead of putting wood on a block, put wood on a hard surface with a piece of plywood underneath, then step up so that the Slammer blade is level with your feet.

“Ye who works to get the wood gets warm twice.”

Split from the outside using the blade with the grain for large rounds and in half for small rounds.

The Slammer can be used to gain leverage when sawing logs so that rounds fall away from logs. It is also helpful for turning big logs over and un-jamming stuck saw-blades.

TIP: Get an old tyre, put around wood so as the wood splits, it stays standing to be split again.
REMOVING TILES, ADHESIVES, ICE AND HARD-TO-REMOVE SURFACE COATINGS.

Taking up/removing tiles, linoleum, adhesive, ice and other types of surface coatings can be a tough job. The Slammer tool blade does a great job of getting underneath tiles and breaking them up. However, the tile and ice blade is even better with its 45 degree straight edge blade and larger surface area. It works to remove floor coatings without damaging the concrete underneath. The blade is made from abrasion resistant steel and keeps a good edge for hard adhesive.

The male/inner bar/upper part of the 9kg slammer tool also fits the tile and ice blade pipe.

TIP: Works well for ice, dried mud, effluent, linoneum and other hard to remove surface coatings.
Your Slammer is very strong but only as strong as the ground that it is driven into.

The blade must be perpendicular to the load being pulled. Angle the Slammer away from the load and drive deep for hard soils. For soft soils (mud, sand, loam and the like) a plate must be used.

Monitor bending, if tools begins to bend, stop! Straighten the tool by bending it back in the opposite direction, then anchor better using a larger surface area (eg. plate, log, spare tyre or anything that improves the surface area perpendicular to the load.)

We recommend a plate 50cm x 50cm square, 5mm thick with a 10cm x 20cm rectangular hold in the meddle to shackle through. (This plate can also double up as a cooking plate over an open fire.) With the plate you are displacing the weight with surface area. The Slammer is used to dig out the area that the plate will be placed.

Then the Slammer is slammed in behind the plate so that the shackle/winch rope is attached to the Slammer.

Remove by rocking the Slammer tool from side to side to work the blade out of the hole.
MAINTENANCE OF YOUR SLAMMER TOOL

- Brush dirt off after use and wipe it with a penetrating oil. Keep dry. The outside may show rust spots but the metal will not structurally rust.
- Lightly grease the inner bar/male section and wipe off excess
- Slammer tools have a noise-dampening, shock absorbing woollen baffle inserted at base of the shaft of the blade pipe. With use over time, the woollen baffle wears down and the noise will get louder (metal hitting metal.) You can use a 25cm by 3cm strip of woollen blanket or purchase a pack of 10 at www.theslammertool.com. To replace the woollen baffle, roll up the strip of wool and insert into the blade pipe. Use the inner bar to push the baffle to the bottom of the pipe.
- If the inner bar of the Slammer ever gets stuck in the blade pipe, the woollen baffle may have become worn, damp or dislodged. Secure the blade, twist and pull out the inner bar. Remove the old wool by using some number 8 wire to twist and hook it out. You can also flip the blade pipe upside-down and hit it so the debris falls out.
- When sharpening the blade, use a grinder with a grinding disk (not a cut off disk.) Hand files are good for removing burrs. Angles depend on use. Standard rule - for hard concrete, rock or stone use a broad angle. For cutting roots, bone, wood use a sharp angle. The Slammer has a sharp angle when first purchased.
- Over time, with lots of use, the bottom tip of the inner bar (male section) may “mushroom” slightly and could start to jam. To prevent this, grind down the tip.
- Under incredibly heavy loads, the Slammer may bend. It can be straightened again. Find the apex of the radius and apply pressure in the opposite direction. (ie flip it over and apply same force that bent it but in the opposite direction.) Or you could take the tool to a local engineer to straighten with a large heavy press.

USES FOR THE SLAMMER TOOL:
vegetation maintenance, transplanting, tree roots and stump removal, tree-planting, fencing, landscaping, construction, demolition, cutting stone and concrete, splitting wood anchor point for 4WD, emergency first response, ditch-digging, drainage, underground cable repair, flag/fishing-pole holder, tent pole…and many more.

For further information see our instructional maintenance videos on the Slammer tool YouTube channel or email us at info@theslammertool.com. You can also follow the Slammer tool on social media.