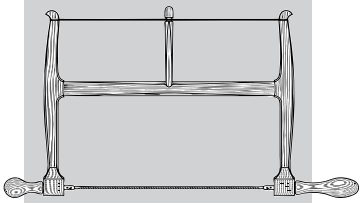
12" BOWSAW



Thank you for purchasing the Gramercy Tools bow saw. Please take a moment to review our safety instructions.

Using this saw correctly means having close control over the tension on the frame, paying careful attention to your length of stroke, and wearing eye protection

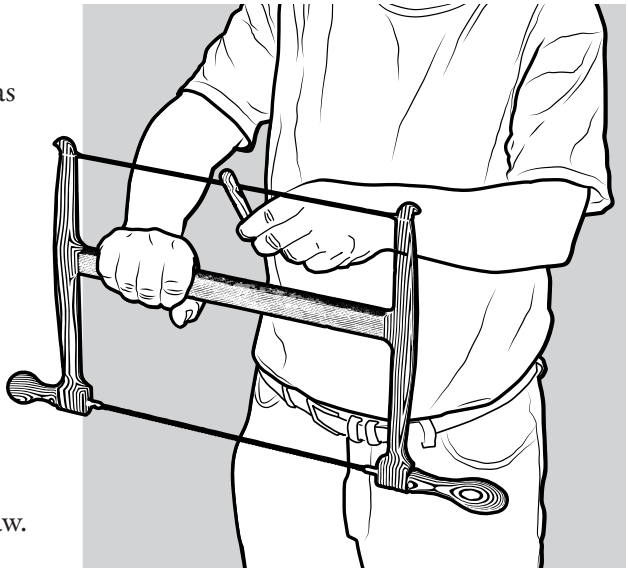
ALWAYS WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN USING TOOLS

Gramercy Tools are designed & manufactured by the good people at:

TOOLS FOR WORKING WOOD
112 26th St. Brooklyn, NY 11232
800.426.4613 & 718.499.5877
toolsforworkingwood.com

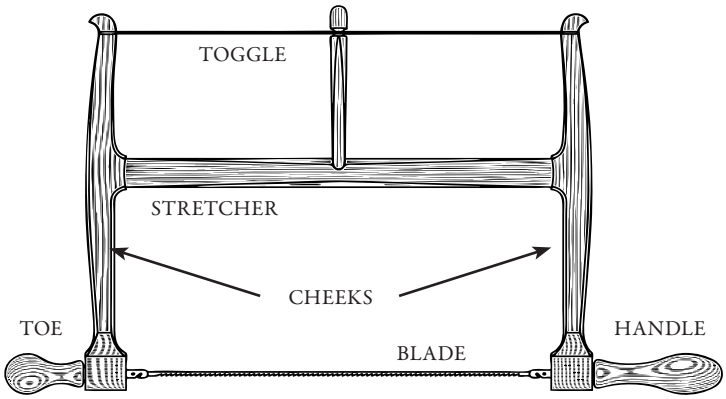
We hope you enjoy your saw. Please contact us if you have any questions.

TENSION: When this saw was assembled, it was tensioned, tested, and then loosened again for storage by two complete turns of the toggle. You'll need to restore those two turns of tension before using the saw. Our string and toggle configuration offers considerable leverage, making it very easy to over-tighten and even damage the saw.



Hold the saw away from yourself and others when tensioning. Always wear eye protection.

Generally, you want the saw to cut smoothly on the push stroke with just a bit of give in the blade. No amount of tension will keep the saw handles from turning in their frame. Likewise, no amount of tensioning will prevent a thin blade from twisting in the middle if you turn it in a cut. To avoid binding and twisting up the blade when cutting a curve, always take full strokes. A bow saw can cut very tight radii so long as you take full strokes.



- To tension the saw, grasp the saw with one hand by the stretcher.
- Hold the saw away from your body and point the saw's handles away from yourself and others (*see diagram above*)
- Proceed slowly, twisting the toggle with your other hand. With each turn of the saw, check the tension in the blade. The best way to do this is to try sawing.
- The blade should cut smoothly without excessive give. When the saw cuts well, stop tensioning it. The saw's cheeks could respond to over-tensioning by cracking or even breaking. This could result in serious injury long before the toggle and rope are too tight to keep twisting.
- No amount of tension will prevent the blade from twisting as you saw or keep the frame from turning under its own weight. Do not over tension the saw.
- When you are done for the day, release the tension on the saw so that the cheeks can rest.

IMPORTANT:

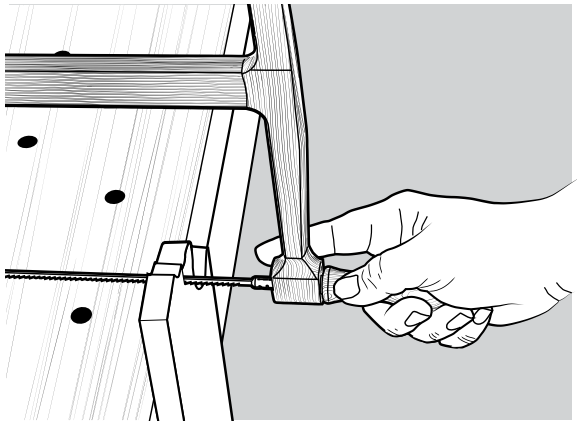
Wood is an organic material. Your saw has been stressed and tested, and Hickory is one of the best woods for this application, but there is still a possibility that the wood could crack under stress from over-tensioning or hidden irregularities in the grain.

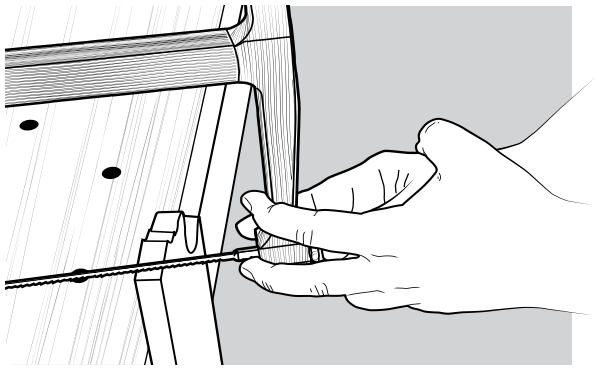
Always wear eye protection when using tools.

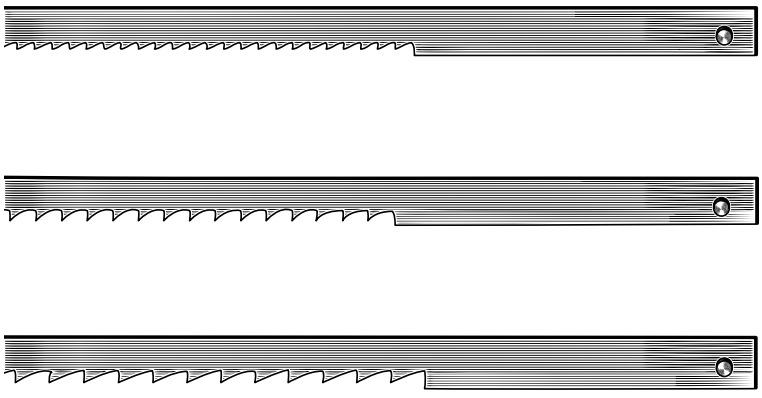
USE: The standard way to hold a bow saw is to grip the handle in your dominant hand, cutting on the push stroke, with your forefinger extended for control. The end of the handle should nestle into the palm of your hand. This will put your forearm in line with the blade and will enable you to cut straight and fast. Or course, a lot of times you will be cutting curves so you might need to turn the blade in relation to the frame mid-cut for clearance or comfort.

To change the orientation of the frame as you work, reach forward with your non-dominant hand and grasp the toe (the smaller of the two handles). Then nudge the frame with the thumbs or forefingers, all without letting go of the handles. If you find your blade/frame relationship slipping, another common grip is with your non-dominant hand over your dominant hand, it's fingers used to control the weight of the frame.

When cutting tight curves or otherwise delicate profiles, people tend to tighten up and saw in short strokes. This doesn't work. The blade will twist up in the middle and wander. As you turn the handle to cut a curve, continue taking full, even strokes. A little paraffin or beeswax can be used to lubricate the blade when sawing hard or difficult material, and is especially useful when cutting along curves.







STORAGE: The single most important thing you can do to preserve the life of your saw frame is to de-tension the frame after use. One or two turns of the toggle is all you need. The cheeks will get a chance to rest and not become permanently bent. Care for your bow saw in this fashion will ensure your continued enjoyment for many years.

BLADES: Three different blades are included, and the saw comes with the all-purpose, 18tpi blade installed. For rough work or thick material, change to the 10tpi (teeth per inch) blade. The 24tpi blade will be the most useful on thin stock and fine, slow cuts. To change a blade, loosen the tension on the saw by unwinding the toggle, then simply unhook the blade and hook on another. Position the blade so that it will cut on the push stroke.

Since our blades are cross-pinned, they are easy to change, and great for swinging in and out of pierced work. If you'd like to use drilled blades, the brass blade mounts are supplied with 1/16" holes so that you can pin them in place. The slot for the blades is .030".

After changing blades, re-tension the saw as appropriate. With a new or unfamiliar blade, be sure to test cut as you tension the frame, and stop as soon as you saw straight and comfortably. Over-tightening the saw can potentially crack the frame.

If you have any questions please contact us. For lots more information on our research and how we designed this saw please visit our website: www.toolsforworkingwood.com