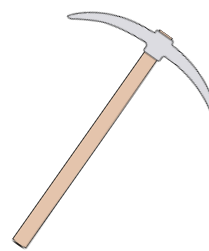


What?

- A mattock is a hand tool used for digging, prying and chopping. It has a long handle and a stout head which combines either a vertical axe blade with a horizontal adze (cutter mattock) or a pick and an adze (pick mattock).
- A pick axe is a hand tool used for prying. Its head is typically metal, attached perpendicularly to a longer handle, traditionally made of wood, occasionally metal, and increasingly fiberglass.

Why?

- Mattocks and pick axes are 'swinging tools' and for this reason extra caution needs to be taken when using them to prevent accidents to the user and those around.



Pick axe



mattock

Do ✓

- ✓ Check the site for dangers
- ✓ Use safety goggles, bits can break off and go in all directions
- ✓ Check the head is on securely. Do this by fitting the head to the shaft, then banging it on a firm, flat surface
- ✓ Ensure the use of the appropriate side of the mattock head for the task
- ✓ Keep a safe distance away from others – at least two tools distance
- ✓ Transport safely; clamp into the minibus and carry with the head downwards

Don't ✗

- ✗ Don't use the tool if the head is loose as it could slip off the shaft
- ✗ Don't use the tool if it is damaged
- ✗ Don't wear gloves with a swinging tool
- ✗ Don't forget to take a break; its hard work using a mattock or pick axe
- ✗ Don't carry the tools over your shoulder



Document Name	TBT Mattocks & Pick Axes	Document No.	OC/HS/TBT 28
Document Owner	David Shaftoe	Date of Issue	07.06.20
Related TBTs	Eye Protection; Path Work	Version No.	1