

# FARRIER TOOLS

Information from:  
Horse Industry Handbook  
Pages 530-1 – 530-4

Photos from:  
[www.valleyfarrier.com](http://www.valleyfarrier.com)

# Farrier or horseshoeing apron

- Designed to protect the legs from unfinished driven nails and hoof cutting tools which may slip while in use
- Also protects clothes from being burned by hot iron



# Hoof pick

- Used for cleaning out the bottom of a horse's foot
- Hoofs are picked out from heel to toe
- Frequent cleaning of the hoof helps prevent thrush



# Clinch cutter

- Consists of two parts – the blade and the point
- Blade, preferably an inch wide, used to cut or to raise the clinches
- Blade is placed under clinch and struck with driving hammer
- Point is used to punch nails and broken stubs out of the hoof
- Point can also be used to raise the head of nail from the creases of a shoe to enable the pull offs to grasp the nail head for removal
- Point can also be used as a hoof pick



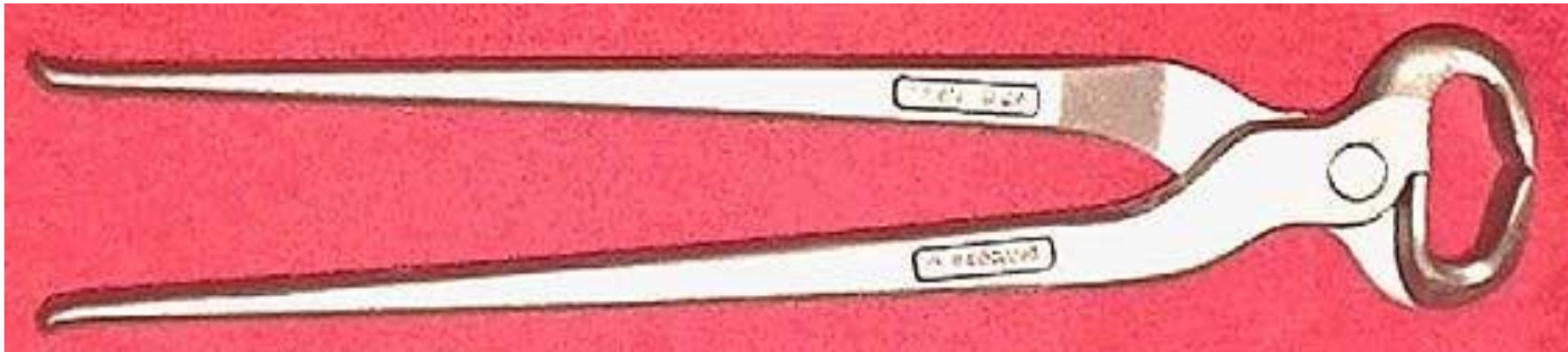
# Pull offs or pinchers

- Used to remove shoes, nail stubs and improperly driven nails
- Can also be used to turn the clinches
- Have knobs on the ends of handles to make them distinguishable from nippers



# Hoof Nippers

- Used to remove the surplus growth of the wall
- Should never be used on nails
- 14 and 15 inch nippers are used where more leverage is need on dry hoofs and on draft horses
- 12 inch nippers are used on show horses, race horses and foals



# Hoof knife

- Used to pare away the dead sole from the hoof, remove ragged parts from the frog, relieve pressure on corns and cracks, remove foreign bodies from the foot
- Available in right and left handed styles



# Sole knife

- Used to remove dead sole from hard, dry hoofs
- Held in one hand and struck with driving hammer



# Rasp

- Used to make a level bearing surface after the hoof has been trimmed with the nippers and to dress a distorted or flaring foot
- The 14 inch tanged rasp is the most popular, one side is coarse for rapid removal and the other side is fine for smooth finishing work



# Hoof gauge

- Used for determining the exact hoof angle and toe length so that a corresponding pair of feet can be trimmed the same length and angle
- Used extensively on show and racing horses, not widely used on pleasure horses



# Driving hammer

- Sometimes called the shoeing hammer
- Used to drive horseshoe nails and to turn over or wring off nails after they have been driven to the proper height
- Weights generally used are 6-10 ounce on race horses, 12-14 ounce on saddle horses and 16 ounce on show and draft horses



# Clinch block

- Used to turn the clinches
- Many use just a block of steel, some use their pull offs as a clinching block



# Nail cutters or nail nippers

- Used to cut off clinched, turned-over or wrung off nails to an equal length
- Also used when removing nails from worn shoes being prepared to be reset



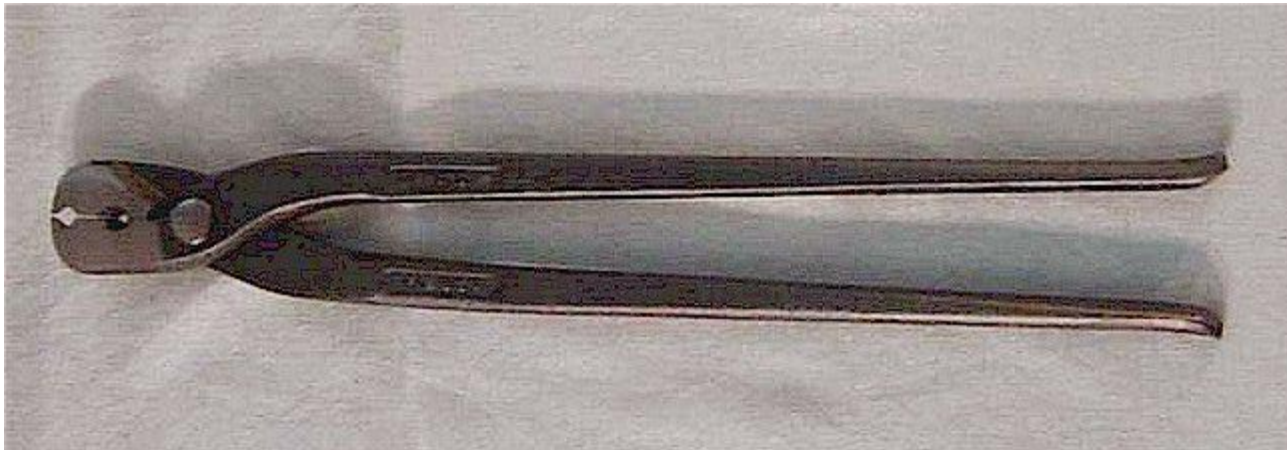
# Clinchers or clinching tongs

- Used to draw down the clinches
- Were designed for use on horses bothered by hammer and block clinching
- Three general types: saddle horse clinchers, gooseneck clinchers, draft horse clinchers



# Crease nail puller

- Designed for easy removal of driven nails from creased or fullered shoes
- Can also be used to pull nails from pads on show horses



# Hoof tester

- Used to determine the location of a painful area in the foot of a lame horse
- May be used to locate bruised or punctured areas of the foot or to diagnose foot bone diseases or injuries





# Shoeing box

- Should be difficult to tip over, contain no sharp edges, make tools readily accessible and be light weight so that it can be easily moved
- Only those tools regularly used on the foot should be carried in the box



# Anvil

- Should be light weight (about 70 lbs) for shaping cold, manufactured shoes
- Should be heavier (about 125 to 150 lbs) for making handmade shoes



# Rounding or turning hammer

- Used to shape and make shoes
- Should weigh from 2 to 2 ½ pounds
- Handle should be shaped to fit your hand



# Pritchel

- Used to open the nail holes on the shoe to receive the nail
- Should be shaped like the shank of the nail and lubricated with soap or wax

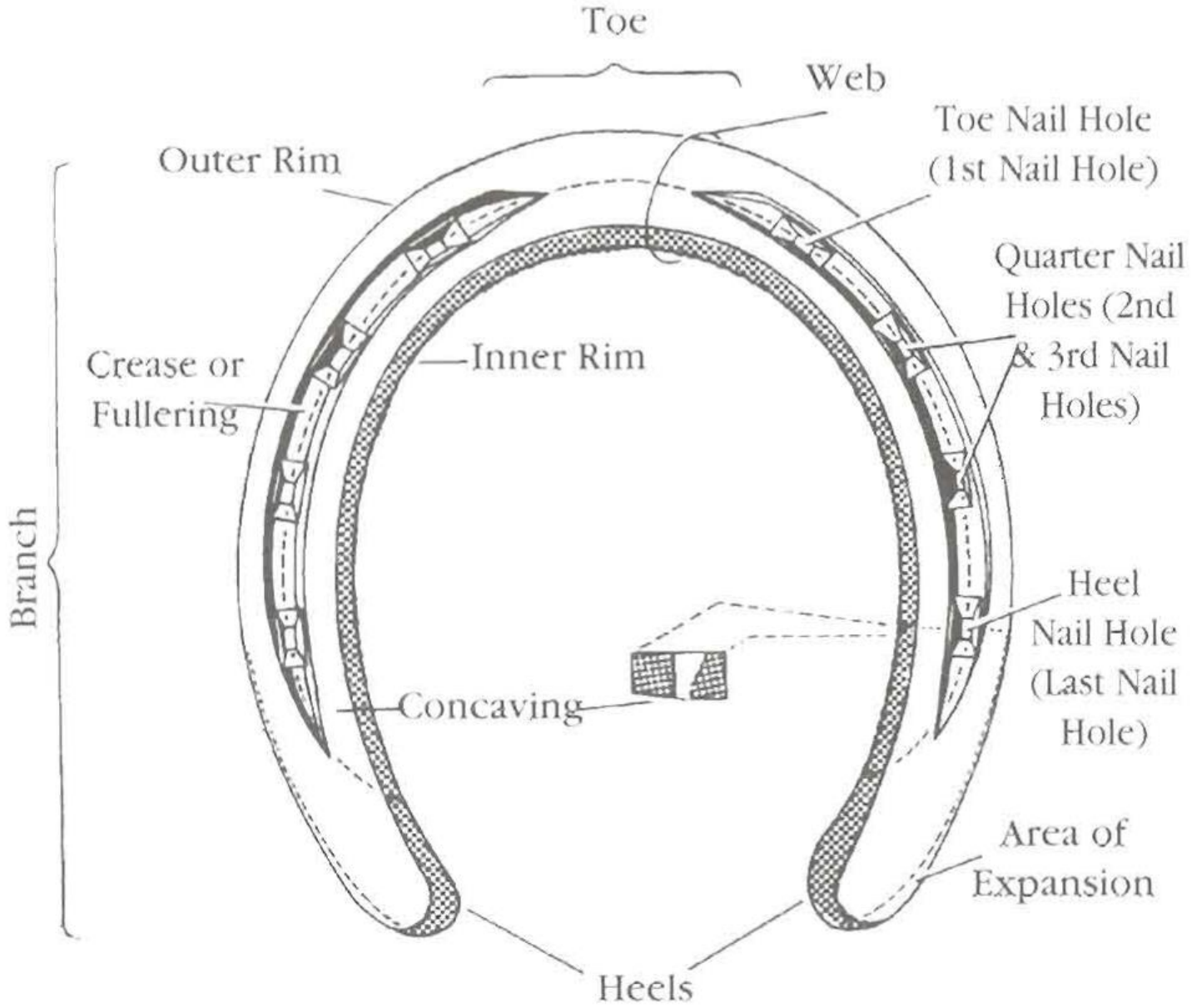


# Fire tongs

- Used to hold hot shoes while shaping
- Some farriers also use them for holding cold shoes for shaping



# Parts of a Horseshoe



# Parts of a Nail

