



Instruction and Maintenance Guide Ashman Drain Spade Shovel



A drain spade shovel is a specialized tool designed for digging trenches, particularly for installing drainage systems. Using and maintaining a drain spade shovel requires attention to specific details. Here's a guide to help you use and maintain a drain spade shovel effectively:

Using a Drain Spade Shovel:

- 1. Select the Right Shovel:**
Choose a drain spade shovel with a flat, narrow blade and a sharp point, specifically designed for digging trenches.
- 2. Check the Condition:**
Inspect the shovel for any damage or signs of wear, especially along the blade and the handle.
- 3. Wear Safety Gear:**
Use sturdy work gloves, closed-toe shoes, and eye protection to ensure your safety.
- 4. Position Yourself:**
Stand with your feet shoulder-width apart to maintain balance.
- 5. Grip the Handle:**
Hold the shovel handle with both hands, one hand on the grip and the other on the handle shaft. Ensure a firm grip for better control.
- 6. Digging Technique:**
Insert the shovel blade into the soil at a slight angle.
Use your foot to drive the blade into the ground and then lift and turn the soil.
Move the shovel in a back-and-forth motion to create a trench for drainage pipes.
- 7. Lift with Your Legs:**
When lifting the shovel, bend your knees and lift with your leg muscles to prevent strain on your back.
- 8. Repeat:** Continue digging the trench, periodically checking the depth and width to ensure it meets your drainage needs.



Maintenance Tips:

- 1. Clean the Shovel:**

After each use, remove any soil or debris from the shovel blade. Clean both sides and the point thoroughly.
- 2. Inspect the Blade:**

Check the blade for signs of wear or damage. If the blade is dull, sharpen it using a file or a sharpening tool.
- 3. Handle Care:**

Examine the handle for cracks, splinters, or any other damage. Sand down rough spots and consider applying linseed oil to protect the wood.
- 4. Store Properly:**

Store the drain spade shovel in a dry area to prevent rust. Wipe it dry if exposed to moisture before storing.
- 5. Tighten the Handle:**

Periodically check the tightness of the handle. If it becomes loose, tighten it to maintain stability.
- 6. Rust Prevention:**

Apply a thin layer of oil to the metal parts of the shovel or use a rust-resistant spray to prevent corrosion.
- 7. Inspect Regularly:**

Regularly inspect the entire shovel for any signs of wear, damage, or loose components. Address issues promptly to ensure the tool's longevity.

By following these instructions and maintaining your drain spade shovel, you can efficiently dig trenches for drainage systems and extend the life of your tool. Ensure you have the appropriate type of spade shovel for the task. There are different types, including flat, round-point, and square-point shovels, each designed for specific purposes.