

Instruction and Maintenance Guide
Ashman Short Handle Digging Round Shovel

Using a Short Handle digging shovel, also known as a mini round point shovel, is a fundamental skill for various outdoor tasks like gardening, landscaping, and construction. Proper usage and regular maintenance will ensure the longevity and efficiency of the tool. Here's a guide to using and maintaining a digging shovel:

Using a Short Handle Digging Shovel (Mini Round Point Shovel):

1. **Select the Right Shovel:**
   Choose a round point shovel with a curved, pointed blade for versatile digging tasks.

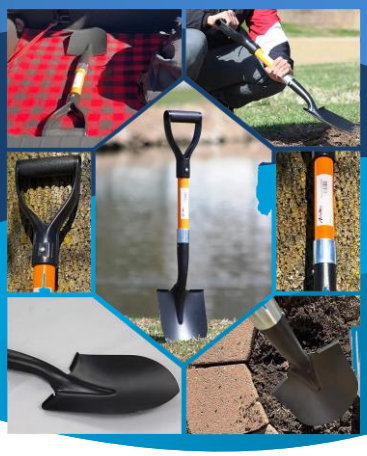
2. **Check the Condition:**
   Inspect the shovel for any damage, such as bent or cracked blades, and ensure the handle is secure.

3. **Wear Safety Gear:**
   Always use sturdy work gloves, closed-toe shoes, and eye protection for safety.

4. **Position Yourself:**
   Hold the shovel handle with both hands, one hand on the grip and the other on the handle shaft. Keep your hands spaced for better control.

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.

6. **Digging Technique:**
   Insert the shovel blade into the soil at a slight angle, using the pointed end to break through the ground.
   Step on the blade with your foot to drive it into the soil, and then lift and turn the soil.
   Use a rocking motion to loosen the soil and create a hole or trench.
7. **Lift with Your Legs:**
   When lifting the shovel, bend your knees and lift with your leg muscles rather than your back to prevent injuries.



8. **Repeat:**
   Continue the process, periodically checking the condition of the teeth and adjusting your technique as needed.

Maintenance Tips:

9. **Clean the Shovel:**
   After each use, remove any dirt, mud, or debris from the shovel blade. Clean both sides and the point thoroughly.

10. **Inspect the Blade:**
    Regularly check the teeth for signs of wear, breakage, or dullness. Sharpen the blade using a file or sharpening tool as needed.

11. **Handle Care:**
    Inspect the handle for cracks, splinters, or any other damage. Sand down rough spots and apply linseed oil for protection.

12. **Store Properly:**
    Store the shovel in a dry area to prevent rust. Wipe it dry if exposed to moisture before storing.

13. **Tighten the Handle:**
    Periodically check the tightness of the handle. If it becomes loose, tighten it to maintain stability.

14. **Rust Prevention:**
    Apply a thin layer of oil to the metal parts of the shovel or use a rust-resistant spray to prevent corrosion.

15. **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 round point shovel properly, you can ensure it remains a reliable tool for your digging and gardening needs.
Adapting your technique and maintaining your shovel appropriately will help you complete your tasks efficiently while ensuring the tool remains in good condition.