



TECH TIPS

Free Technical information from Cook's Sharpening Service to help you get the most out of your cutting tools.

Running Cutting Tools Too Long Costs You Money

<p>Sharp cutting edge shown at 50X magnification</p>	<p>Dull cutting edge at 50X taken out of service before extra damage occurs.</p>	<p>Dull cutting edge on a tool that has been extremely over run.</p>

How do tools get dull? How are tools sharpened?

As a tool is used, the cutting edge is constantly being worn down. Heat created by friction breaks down the carbide and creates a radius on the cutting edge. Sharpening tools simply involves grinding away the radius created in the dulling process.

How does running a cutting tool longer than suggested cost you money?

The duller the tool gets, the larger the radius that is created, which means we have to grind more of the tool away to reproduce the cutting edge. As a result, the tool can be sharpened fewer times, and you buy more tools.

If you run your tool longer, you cut more material right?

As a tool dulls (creating a larger radius), it produces more heat and dulls at a faster rate. A dull tool will reduce the quality of your cut causing burning, chipping, or splintering which can cause more work later in your process. A dull tool will also put more strain on your machine which can cause bearing or spindle damage. Using dull tools on table saws, hand routers and other such tools will increase the likelihood of injury to your employees.

Conclusion:

Using the proper tool for the job, and changing tools before tool damage occurs will increase your tools life, improve the quality of your product, increase machine life, reduce chance of injury, and **SAVE YOU MONEY.**

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