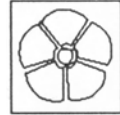
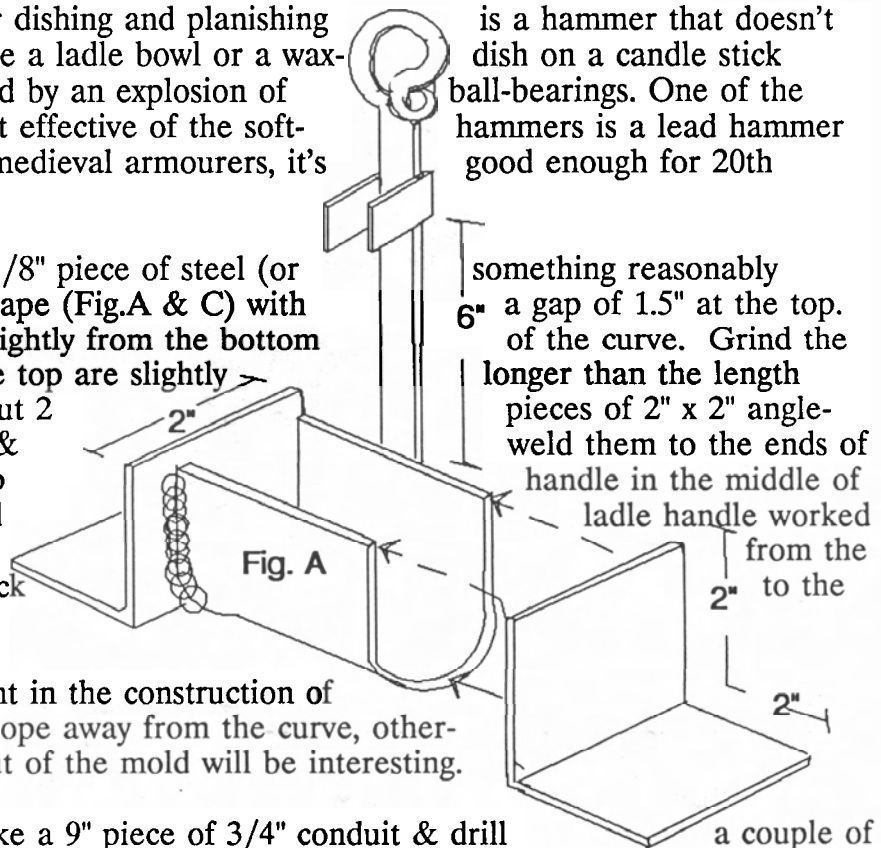


Lead Hammer Mold Steve Bloom



One of the tools needed for dishing and planishing leave marks - unless you like a ladle bowl or a wax that looks like it was created by an explosion of simplest, cheapest, and most effective of the soft- (if it was good enough for medieval armourers, it's century smiths!).

Start with a 2.75" x 5" x 1/8" piece of steel (or close). Bend it into a 'U' shape (Fig.A & C) with Note that the 'U' spreads slightly from the bottom ends so that the sides at the top are slightly at the curve (see Fig.B). Cut 2 iron approximately 2" long & the 'U' piece. Weld a scrap the 'U' (I found a discarded nicely). Approximately 6" 'U', weld a scrap of flat stock handle as a 0.75" wide clip.

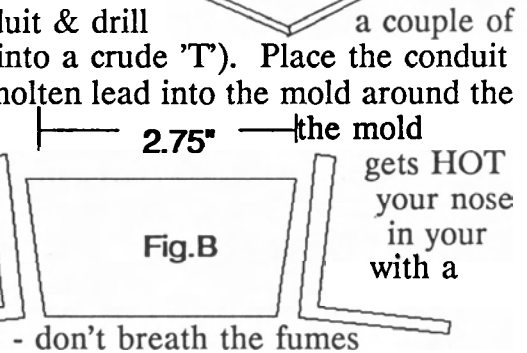


is a hammer that doesn't dish on a candle stick ball-bearings. One of the hammers is a lead hammer good enough for 20th

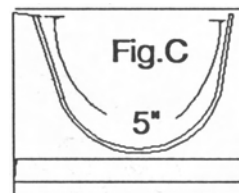
something reasonably 6" a gap of 1.5" at the top. of the curve. Grind the longer than the length pieces of 2" x 2" angle-weld them to the ends of handle in the middle of ladle handle worked from the 2" to the 2"

The most critical element in the construction of the mold is that the sides slope away from the curve, otherwise getting the hammer out of the mold will be interesting.

To make a hammer, take a 9" piece of 3/4" conduit & drill 1/4" holes in one end (or split an end & hammer it into a crude 'T'). Place the conduit in the clip with the modified end in the mold. Pour molten lead into the mold around the conduit. Wait a few minutes, then dip the bottom of in your slack-tub (use tongs to hold the mold - it & don't totally immerse the mold - unless you like being steam cleaned). Clamp the end of the conduit post-wise and gently strike upper surface of the mold hammer to free the lead-hammer's head. Take the usual precautions for pouring lead & don't pour molten lead into a wet mold!



When using the hammer, use one face to dish (and it will soon be rounded) and the other to planish (and it will soon be concave). You can always buy an antique lead hammer mold (at antique prices) or make one - but if you're dishing or planishing, nothing works like a lead hammer!



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