Bricklayers' hammers are special-purpose tools. The striking face is flat with beveled edges. The blade has a sharp, hardened cutting edge. Handles may be wood, solid steel or fiberglass and may be furnished with rubber-type grips.

**Proper Uses.** Bricklayers' hammers are designed for setting and cutting (splitting) bricks, masonry tile and concrete blocks, and for chipping mortar from bricks.

**Abuse/Misuse.** Never use these tools to strike metal or to drive struck tools (including brick sets and chisels). Use a hand drilling, blacksmith or engineer's hammer.

**When to Replace.** Discard any hammer if it shows dents, cracks, chips, mushrooming, excessive wear or dulling. If handle only is damaged, replace it with an equivalent new handle. Cutting edge may be redressed. See instructions in section V.