OPEN-END WRENCHES

The most widely used Open-End wrenches are made with openings at a 15° angle, which permits complete rotation of hex nuts with a 30° swing by flopping the wrench. They are available in both single and double head patterns; double head patterns have different openings in each head.

In addition to the above popular patterns, Open-End wrenches are made for special types of service. Ignition wrenches are small, thin wrenches having openings at 15° and 60°. Tappet wrenches, both single and double head, have openings at 15° angles, and are longer and thinner. Construction wrenches have a single 15° opening and a drift handle for aligning bolt holes. Structural wrenches are similar to the Construction pattern except they have straight openings and an offset handle. Set Screw and heavy "S" wrenches have openings at a 22-1/2, rather than a 15° angle.

Proper Uses. Open-End wrenches are designed for a wide variety of work. Special patterns are intended for the type of service which their name implies; e.g., Tappet, Ignition, Set Screw, Structural, etc.

Abuse/Misuse. Do not use an Open-End wrench to free a "frozen" nut or to final tighten a nut. Use a box wrench because it is stronger. Never use a hammer on this type of wrench. Never use an extension on the handle.

When to Repair or Replace. Attempts to repair Open-End wrenches are not recommended. Discard any wrench with spread, nicked or battered jaws, or bent handle.