PROSPECTING PICKS

These are special-purpose tools used by geologists and prospectors. The striking face is flat with beveled edges. The long pick is pointed and may be either round or square. Handles may be wood, solid steel or fiberglass, and may be furnished with rubber grips.

Proper Uses. Prospecting picks are designed for splitting rock and for digging and prying out rock with the pick. The pick is also used as an aid in climbing.

Abuse/Misuse. Never use these tools to strike metal or to drive struck or hammered tools. Never use a pick with loose or damaged handle.

When to Replace. Discard the pick if it shows dents, cracks, chips, mushrooming, excessive wear, or dulling. If handle only is damaged, replace it with an equivalent new handle.