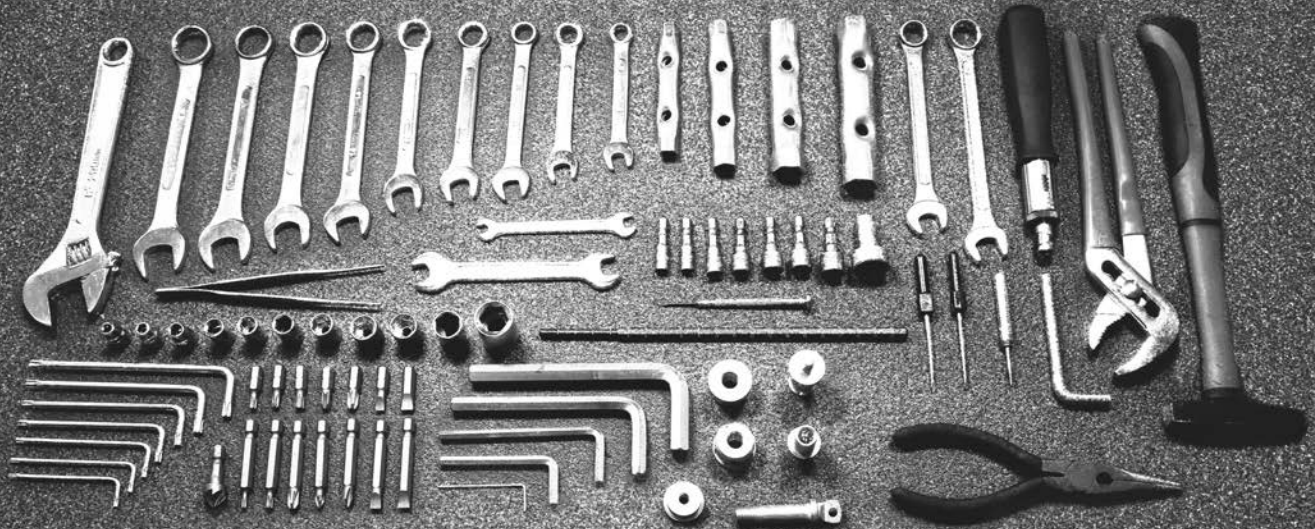


5 Steps to Better TOOL ORGANIZATION

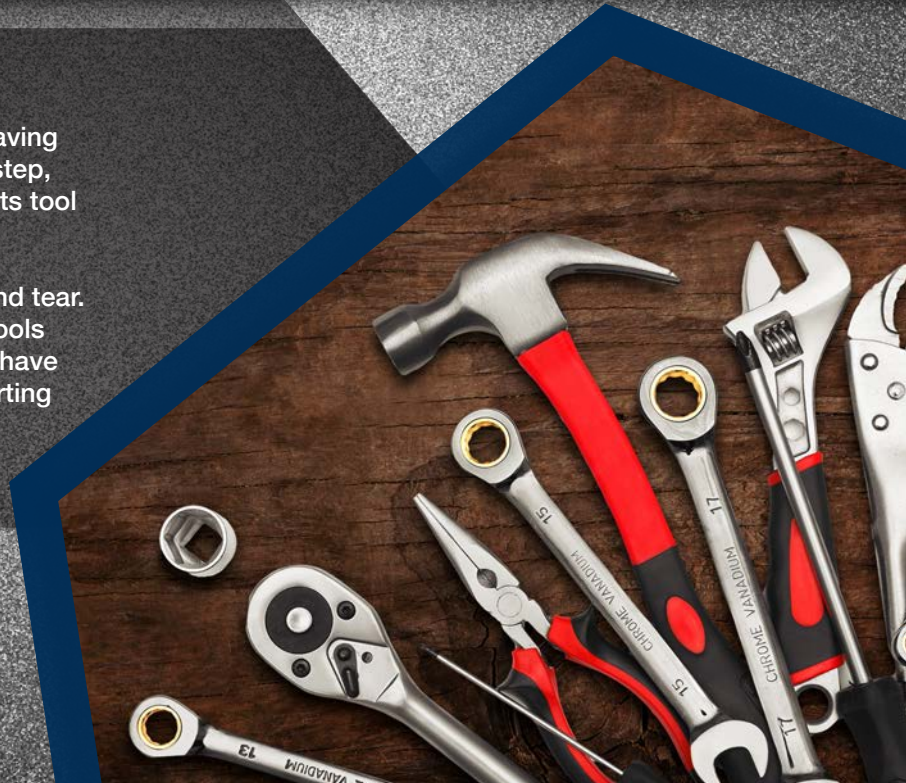




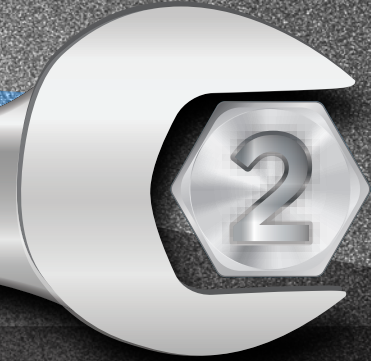
Invest in the Best Tools

As a professional millwright, you know that having the best quality tools helps to simplify every step, but you may not realize that quality also affects tool storage and organization.

Well-made tools are more resistant to wear and tear. Compared to cheaply made tools, high-end tools are much simpler to store because you don't have as much risk of damage when you're transporting your gear.



Prioritize and Categorize



Once you have purchased all of the best quality tools, it's time to carefully consider exactly what tools you have and when and how you use them. Set all of your tools out and group them into categories based on the typical job you handle.

Often, it's necessary to keep tools in multiple toolboxes and chests in order to make them easier to carry up ladders, through commercial buildings and through industrial plants. By grouping tools together, you can see which ones make sense to store together. You can further categorize your tools into groups that you use on every job and tools that you use less frequently and may be able to leave behind.





Purchase the Right Storage Solutions

Now that you have a clear picture of just what you need to store, you're ready to invest in the right tool storage solutions. Most choose to have a large truck toolbox for holding power tools and to keep smaller tools like wrenches, welders, and specialty tools in their own containers.

For tool boxes that you'll be taking off of the truck, make sure to consider not just size but also weight. Metal options last longer, but look for less weighty inserts that can be quickly removed.



Fill and Label your Tool Boxes

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Once you have your tool storage boxes purchased, take the time to fill them in an organized way, keeping the groupings that you made in Step Two in mind. After everything is in place, use self-adhesive stickers and put a guide to where to place the tools on the inside lid of the box.

This will help you quickly put tools back after you've finished a job and make it easier for other people to do the same when you choose to share your tools.



Make Organizing an Ongoing Job

It's amazing how fast tools can end up a disorganized mess even if you spend plenty of time setting up the best organization system. That's why it's important to view organizing your tools to be equally as important as cleaning them. At the end of every shift, take the time to put tools back where they belong.

It may take a few extra minutes to get the job done right, but that means less time needs to be spent hunting for tools tomorrow. It also helps to keep tool loss to a minimum as you are more likely to find a missing item if you know to look the day it goes missing.





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