

# MODEL T31648 METAL SHRINKER/ STRETCHER SET INSTRUCTIONS

For questions or help with this product contact Tech Support at (570) 546-9663 or techsupport@grizzly.com

#### Introduction

The Model T31648 Metal Shrinker/Stretcher Set is a handy pair of tools for sheet metal fabricators who need custom, curve-shaped metal straps, trim, and flanges for auto body repair and general sheet metal work.

## **Specifications**

Max Thickness, Aluminum	16 Gauge
Max Thickness, Mild Steel	18 Gauge
Max Thickness, Stainless Steel	20 Gauge
Smallest Radius Bend	3"
Jaw Depth	1"
Bolt Pattern	.21/2" on Center
Mounting Bolt Hole Size 3/8"-16	2

# **Inventory**

Description		Qty
Α.	Shrinker Body w/Dies	1
B.	Stretcher Body w/Dies	1
C.	Levers	2

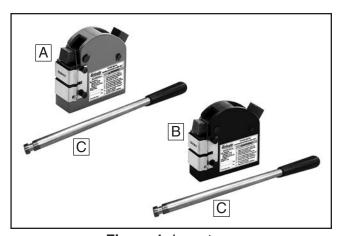
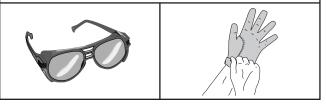


Figure 1. Inventory.

# **AWARNING**

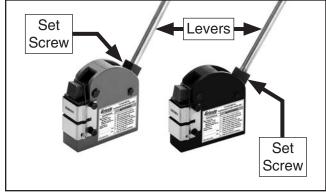
Damage to your eyes and fingers could result from using this item without proper protective gear, such as safety glasses and leather gloves. Be sure to use these items for personal safety.



# **Assembly**

The Shrinker/Stretcher Set comes from the factory almost completely assembled. To finalize assembly, install one lever in each tool body (see **Figure 2**) and secure with pre-installed M5-.8 x 8 set screws.





**Figure 2.** Levers installed in shrinker and stretcher.

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# **Mounting**

The shrinker and stretcher are portable and can be clamped in a vise for use. However, to take full advantage of the set and to get 360° access to your workpiece, you can mount these tools to a stand intended for a bench grinder. To prevent tipping, be sure to fasten the grinder stand to the floor.

#### To mount shrinker and stretcher:

- Clean and lubricate shrinker and stretcher as outlined in Setup.
- 2 Determine where you want to mount the tools.
- 3. At mounting location, center punch two points 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" apart, and drill two <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" diameter holes at these locations.
- 4. Secure shrinker/stretcher to workbench or grinder stand with two <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>"-16 bolts or cap screws of appropriate length to ensure that the fasteners thread into casting at least <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>".

### Setup

1. Raise handle, loosen (4) knob bolts, unclip die retainer from pressure arm, and slide die assembly away from casting (see **Figure 3**).

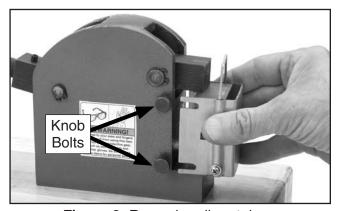


Figure 3. Removing die retainer.

**2.** Grasp die retainer clip and pull upper jaw from die housing.

Note: Be careful not to lose any springs.

3. Lay out die components, as shown in Figure 4.

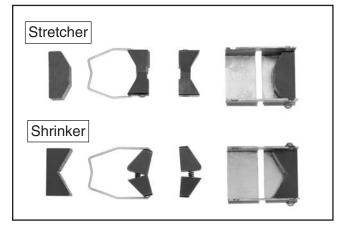


Figure 4. Die and jaw assembly order.

**4.** Clean grease, metal shavings, and debris off tool and dies, then lightly oil.

Note: Never use a wire wheel, buffer, sand blaster, or sandpaper on jaw teeth. Otherwise, tooth damage may occur. It is better to let jaws soak in mineral spirits overnight, then use a wire brush or a fine dental pick to remove debris.

**5.** Use **Figures 4–5** as a guide to arrange die parts in correct order and reassemble.

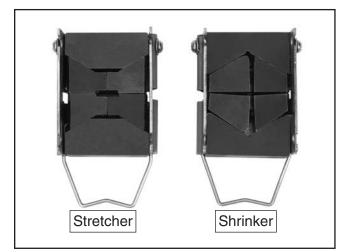


Figure 5. Assembled dies.

**6.** Shrinker/stretcher are ready for operation.



# **NOTICE**

When the tools are not in use or will be placed in storage for a period of time, we highly recommend removing the dies from the tools. If the lever is accidently used and the die jaws clamp down against one another instead of a workpiece, the gripping jaw teeth may be damaged.

## **Operation**

The Model T31648 Shrinker/Stretcher Set is designed to create long, compound-curved metal pieces out of a single strip of metal without multiple splice points. Operation consists of inserting a piece of metal in the tool and pulling down on the lever to compress or expand the metal at various points along the length of the metal strip, creating the bend or shape needed.

During the bending process, as you work along the strip of metal, the clamping pressure exerted by the lever can be adjusted to create curves with a nice smooth arch. The lever stop bolt (see **Figure 6**) can be adjusted with a 14mm wrench to allow the clamping lever to stop at the same location each time the lever is pulled down.

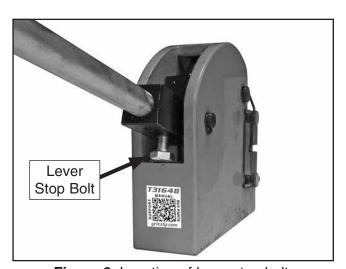


Figure 6. Location of lever stop bolt.

**Note:** If metal splits during shrinking/stretching procedure, it is typically because too much bend is trying to be achieved with just a few heavy pulls of the lever. To avoid splitting, make pulls lighter and increase number of pulls on lever. If metal still splits, radius of desired bend may be too small for the metal, or the metal is of the incorrect type.

#### To use shrinker/stretcher:

- 1. Verify jaw teeth are free of debris.
- 2. Determine job requirements:
  - Using the shrinker, a curve in the metal is created by compressing the *inside* radius of a curve (see **Figure 7**).
  - Using the stretcher, a curve in the metal is created by expanding the *outside* radius of the curve (see **Figure 8**).

**Note:** Shrinking/stretching will create small teeth marks from the jaws and cannot be avoided. Limit depth of teeth marks by making more, lighter pulls with the lever.

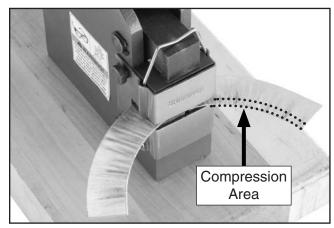


Figure 7. Shrinking a workpiece into a bend.

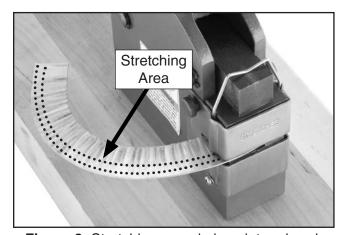
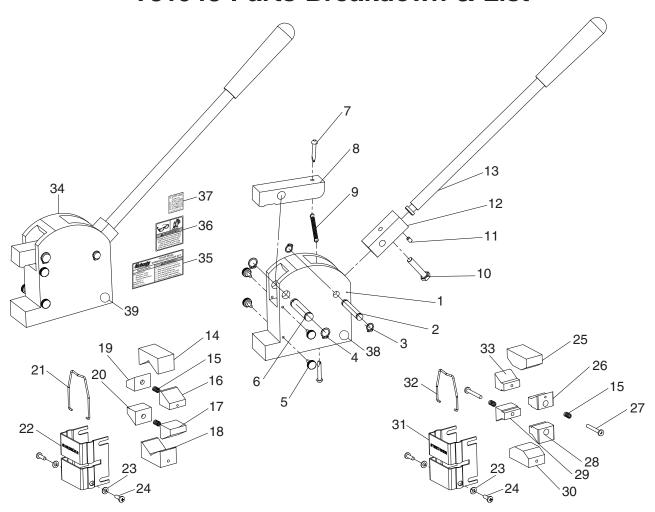


Figure 8. Stretching a workpiece into a bend.



# T31648 Parts Breakdown & List



REF PART#	DESCRIPTION
BEE PARI#	DESCRIPTION

NLF	FANI#	DESCRIPTION
1	PT31648001	STRETCHER BODY (BLACK)
2	PT31648002	FULCRUM ARM PIN
3	PT31648003	EXT RETAINING RING 10MM
4	PT31648004	EXT RETAINING RING 12MM
5	PT31648005	KNOB BOLT M58 X 8, D12, ROUND KD
6	PT31648006	PRESSURE ARM PIN
7	PT31648007	CLEVIS PIN 5 X 30
8	PT31648008	PRESSURE ARM
9	PT31648009	EXTENSION SPRING
10	PT31648010	HEX BOLT M8-1.25 X 35
11	PT31648011	SET SCREW M58 X 8
12	PT31648012	FULCRUM ARM
13	PT31648013	LEVER
14	PT31648014	UPPER V-BLOCK (SHRINKER)
15	PT31648015	COMPRESSION SPRING
16	PT31648016	UPPER JAW (RIGHT, SHRINKER)
17	PT31648017	LOWER JAW (RIGHT, SHRINKER)
18	PT31648018	LOWER V-BLOCK (SHRINKER)
19	PT31648019	UPPER JAW (LEFT, SHRINKER)
20	PT31648020	LOWER JAW (LEFT, SHRINKER)

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REF PART	#	DESCRIP	TION
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21	PT31648021	RETAINER CLIP (SHRINKER)
22	PT31648022	DIE RETAINER (SHRINKER)
23	PT31648023	FLAT WASHER 4MM
24	PT31648024	PHLP HD SCR M47 X 12
25	PT31648025	UPPER V-BLOCK (STRETCHER)
26	PT31648026	UPPER JAW (RIGHT, STRETCHER)
27	PT31648027	PHLP HD SCR M47 X 30
28	PT31648028	LOWER JAW (RIGHT, STRETCHER)
29	PT31648029	LOWER JAW (LEFT, STRETCHER)
30	PT31648030	LOWER V-BLOCK (STRETCHER)
31	PT31648031	DIE RETAINER (STRETCHER)
32	PT31648032	RETAINER CLIP (STRETCHER)
33	PT31648033	UPPER JAW (LEFT, STRETCHER)
34	PT31648034	SHRINKER BODY (GREEN)
35	PT31648035	MACHINE ID LABEL
36	PT31648036	EYE/HAND WARNING LABEL
37	PT31648037	QR CODE LABEL
38	PT31648038	TOUCH-UP PAINT, GRIZZLY GREEN
39	PT31648039	TOUCH-UP PAINT, GRIZZLY BLACK

Please Note: We do our best to stock replacement parts whenever possible, but we cannot guarantee that all parts shown here are available for purchase. Call (800) 523-4777 or visit our online parts store at www.grizzly.com to check for availability.



