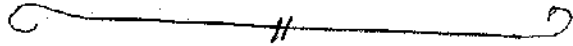


COOKING TONGS

BASED ON 18TH C. PIPE TONGS

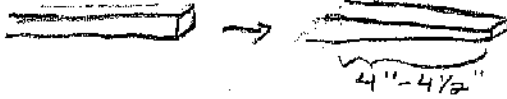
B. HOLMBERG, NOVEMBER 2005 ©



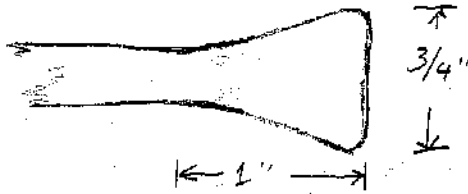
STOCK: 30" 3/8" SQUARE H.R. STEEL

① FORGE JAWS

• TAPER THICKNESS TO 1/2 OF ORIGINAL, OVER 4" OF LENGTH.



• SPREAD THE LAST 1" TO ABOUT 3/4" WIDE AT THE END -



→ MAKE ALL YOUR TRANSITIONS NICE AND PLEASING!

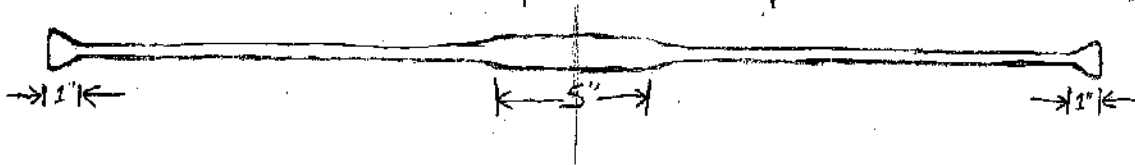
→ SHAPE CAN BE Δ, □, O... DESIGN IT YOUR WAY!

• MAKE 2ND JAW JUST LIKE THE FIRST...

② FIND CENTER AND MARK IT WITH A PUNCH ON THE (FUTURE) INSIDE.

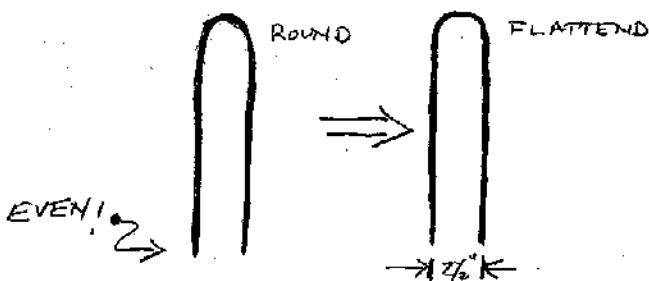
③ FORGE CENTER SPRING TO 1/8" THICK AND A NICE EVEN WIDTH FOR AT LEAST 2 1/2" ON EACH SIDE OF THE MARK (5" OVERALL). MAKE THE TRANSITION TO SQUARE GRACEFUL.

→ MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS STRAIGHT AND EVEN!



④ BREAK THE EDGES ANYWHERE IT MIGHT BE GRIPPED IN USE - MAKE SURE IT WILL BE COMFORTABLE TO USE!

⑤ HEAT CENTER AREA AND BEND TO A U-SHAPE OVER THE HORN. ADJUST LEGS TO BE EVEN, AND THEN HAMMER THE TOP OF THE CURVE GENTLY FLATTEN IT.



• INSIDE BEND SHOULD BE 2 1/2"

• LEGS SHOULD BE ~ PARALLEL.

⑥ BEND JAWS UP

- JUST THE LAST INCH
- JUST A SMALL BEND

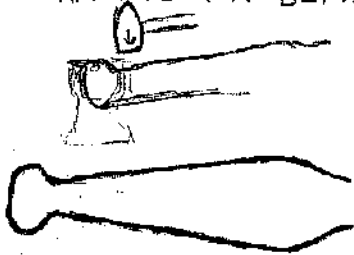


⑦ BEND LEGS ABOUT 3" FROM JAW ENDS, TO GET JAWS JUST TOUCHING.



→ MAKE SURE JAWS MEET NICELY!

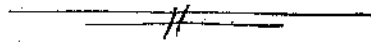
⑧ HEAT BEND AREA, COOL FLAT PART IN WATER, THEN HAMMER A BEND IN THE LEGS JUST BELOW THE U-BEND.



ADJUST TO GET:

- JAWS OPENING 2-2 1/2"
- JAWS ARE ALIGNED
- BEND SHAPE IS PLEASING!

⑨ FINISH BY BRUSHING WELL, HEATING TO ~400°F, AND WIPING WELL WITH OLIVE OIL.



VARIATIONS

- USE 1/2" x 1/4" OR 3/8" x 1/4" STOCK -
- USE UP TO 40" OF STOCK TO START -
- MAKE U-BEND VARIED SHAPES, SIZES
- ADD THUMB PRINT, TWISTS, OR OTHER DETAILS TO LEGS
- DESIGN AND HAVE FUN!