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Slotting LP 1040



APPLICATION NOTE



Explanations of the slotting file by Adrien Aubriot,
manufacturer and repairer of wood parts of very large luxury guns

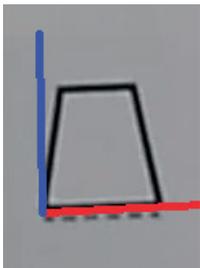


Slotting files

Slotting file (LP1040) is one of the most used file in gunmaking. Especially for belgian gunmakers, and french gunmakers (after belgian ones showed them how to use it).

We can use this file in pretty much every case. The 6" size is pretty usefull when it comes to small pieces, but you won't find any photo of this one here. You're not making them anymore, so I focused on the ones you are making.

What is the most interesting with the slotting is his shape. His edge are clear with an angle. That allow us to file without damaging the side of the piece we are working on.



As you see, when we're filing the red face, we're not touching the blue one, that's a thing a lot of gunmakers like about this file. Some pictures will show you some examples of his use.



Flat surface

When you have to file on a flat surface, or like the example, a screw head, some gunmakers use a flat file. For finish, it would be ok, but only for finishing (by using the front part of the file). But with the slotting, it's easier and you don't need to modify his shape for working. If you use a flat file, you can damage and touch other parts.



As you can see, I was filing the screw, but I also touch another part. And I was at the beginning of the work. But with a slotting :
Here I could file the screw till the end without making any scratch.





To make this flat surface, the slotting was perfect. With a flat one I would have done something « round ». This piece is a gun parts I did to restore an old gun (as an example).

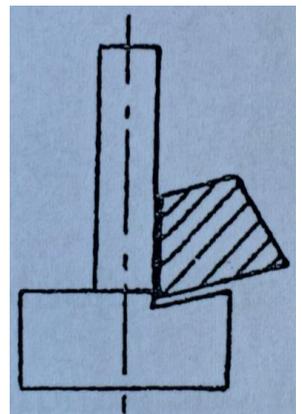


Hollow on a surface

As I wrote before, you can have a perfect flat surface with the slotting (0.01mm error by hand).



Enough for adjusting.
 By his shape, it's possible to make like a « hollow » instead of something flat. It's not something everyone manage to do, but with a little bit of training it become easy. It's possible to give the piece the same shape as the slotting.





Other uses of the slotting

Previously, I showed you some different ways to use the slotting. With this type of use, you can work on almost every gun part. Its edge combined with its «round» shape are perfect to make flat surfaces (small and big ones). And when it's a big one, it's easier to make a «hollow» and finish with a flat file to lower the edges for a flat surface.

It's a file we use for almost everything. And when they're too old, we change them in other tools. Employees of the FN Herstal are using a lot of them. For precision adjustment, it's the one we prefer.



This one needs perfectly flat faces to cut as good as we want, the use of the slotting makes it easier.



Conclusion

I could show you a lot more pictures of the slotting application, but it would be every time to show another gun part. For every flat surface their is a use for your slotting. And in a gun they are many.

For me the problem with this one is just a miscomprehension of gunmakers and other workers. To use the slotting you need some times to control it, and when it's done work become easy.

In this paper I tried to show you how we're using it so you can imagine better everything we can do with it.

LP1040

Slotting



Cut			L = " / mm	A = mm	
000	00	0	8 / 200	7.5	12
	LP1040-8-00	LP1040-8-0	10 / 250	9.5	12
	LP1040-10-00-10	LP1040-10-0-10			



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