

Māori glossary: Hangarau maitai/Tools

Cutting tools

Chisels – Whao

For cutting/removing timber in joints and also carving shapes

Coping saw – Kani ānau

Cuts thin wood into curved shapes

Crosscut saw – Kani tōpeka

Cuts across timber

Cutting knife – Naihi matarau

A small knife with very sharp replaceable blade for cutting and shaping small items of wood/paper/card

Drill – Tūwiri

Drill bits – Niho ore

Small tools of various sizes with spiral flutes that fit into drilling machines in order to put circular holes in wood

End cutting nippers – Kikini

Small hand tools for cutting off materials especially nails

Hack saw – Kani maitai

Cuts metal/plastic

Hole saw – Kani poka

Cuts various size holes in wood/walls

Jig saw – Kani piko

Panel saw – Kani papa

General purpose saw

Plane – Waru

A tool which we push along over timber to remove excess thickness

Rip saw – Kani aritahi

Cuts along the timber

Tinsnips – Kuti maitai

Strong small hand tools, like scissors, for cutting thin metal into shapes

Holding tools

Adjustable spanner – Wāwāhi

A metal tool that can be adjusted to fit a variety of different sized nuts, and tighten and loosen them

Apron – Ārai

A protective item made from strong cloth to protect the user from dust, shavings and other substances used in the workshop

Cramps – Kapiti

Strong metal items (in a variety of shapes and sizes) that are used to hold pieces of wood together whilst glue dries

Pliers – Kūmau

Hand tools that are used to grip, hold and cut metal items

Pop riveter – Pū rīwiti

A hand tool that works by squeezing two arms together to allow a small metal rivet/nail into metal (for joining metal together)

Rivets – Rīwiti**Socket set – Kohinga mauhuri**

A collection of different sizes of spanner-shaped attachments used to tighten and loosen nuts (They plug into a handle to allow leverage.)

Setting out tools**Butt gauge – Kārau kokopi**

A tool used for marking the width and depth of housings for hinges in doors

Carpenter's pencil – Pene rākau (Kāmura)

A special shaped writing instrument used for marking and measuring on timber

Chalk line – Aho tioka**Combination square – Ruri koki rua**

A tool for marking out 45° and 90° angles

Dividers – Tīwae

Used for marking circles and arcs on timber

Folding ruler – Ruri whakakopa

A wooden or plastic rule for measuring that folds to fit in a work apron

Measuring tape – Ruri pōkai

Used for accurate measuring of long lengths (It can be rewound after use.)

Mortise gauge – Kārau nihorua

Marking out tools for joints that enable repeated set measurements parallel to a face or edge of timber

Plumb bob – Tāwē

A device that hangs on a string to check that verticals are 90° to the horizontal

Sliding bevel – Ruri koki rau

A tool that is adjustable for marking any variety of angles on timber

Spirit level – Rēwara

A precision tool for checking horizontal and vertical surfaces

Steel ruler – Ruri maitai

Used for marking out work accurately with measurements

Steel square – Ruri koki maitai

A marking out tool set to 90°

Straight edge – Tapa tikarere

A firm metal strip to check for straightness of work

String line – Aho hoahoa

A special string line used for setting out foundations of buildings and for checking straightness in buildings

Try square – Ruri koki hāngai

A marking tool set at 90°

Impelling tools**Drill bit – Niho ore**

A spiral cutting tool, in a variety of sizes, for making circular holes in timber (held by hand drills, hand braces or power drilling machines)

Hammer – Hama

A device for driving in and removing nails, and also for hitting and bending materials to shape

Hand brace – Tūwiri ringa

Used to hold drills, of a variety of sizes, enabling holes to be drilled in timber

Hand drill – Tūwiri ringa

A device for holding different small- to medium-sized drills for making circular holes in timber

Mallet – Kuru

A wooden hammer used in conjunction with chisels

Maul – Titi roa**Nail punch – Tia whao**

A small punch, used with a hammer, for driving nail heads into the timber

Pinch bar – Whiti

A large metal tool for levering and moving heavy objects, and removing nails

Screw driver – Huriwiri

A tool for driving and withdrawing screws into and out of timber
(It can have a variety of different heads to suit different screw types.)

Sledge hammer – Tā

A large heavy hammer for big projects where force is required

Stapler – Tēpara

A tool that forces staples into materials for fixing