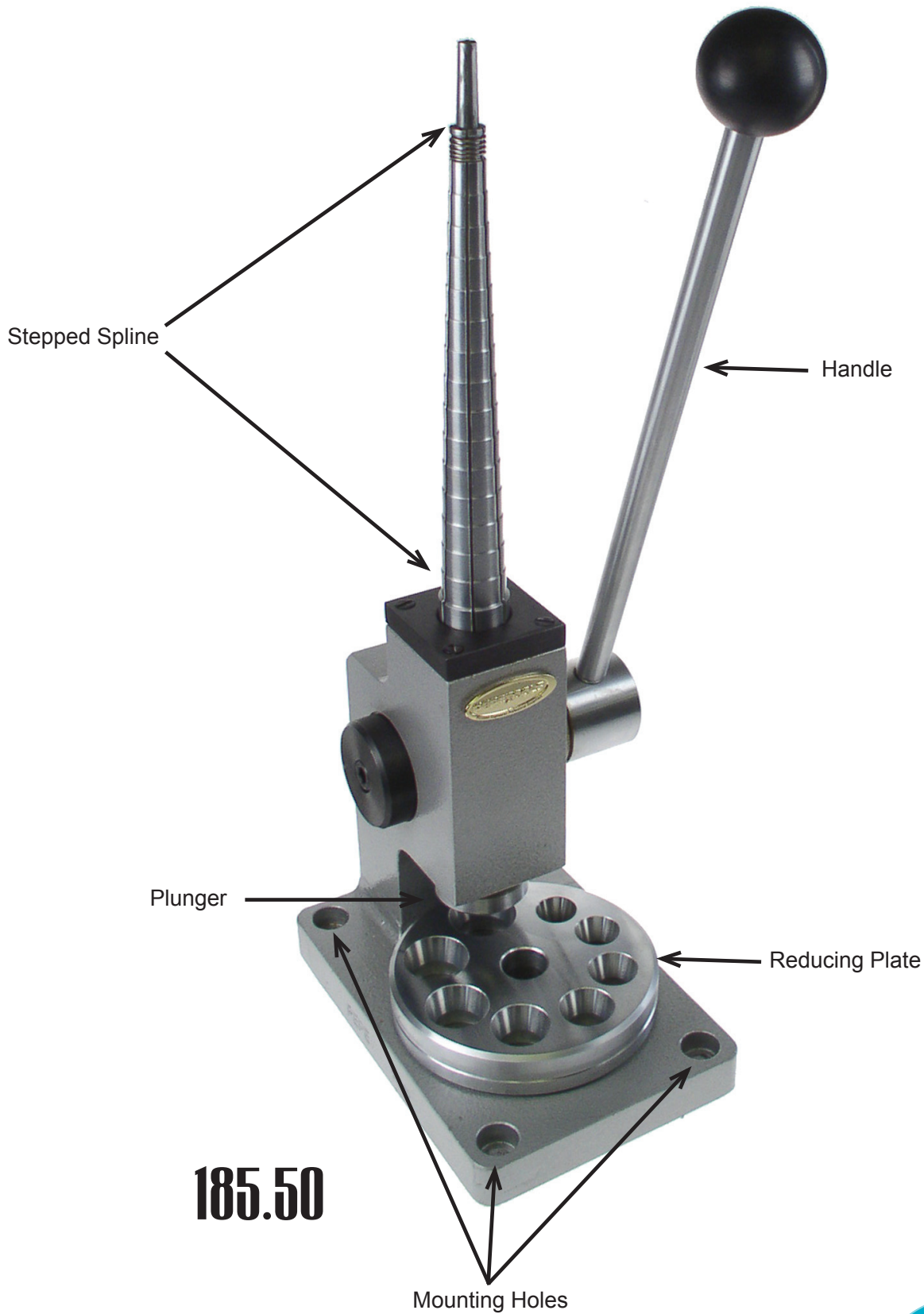


Stepped Ring Stretcher/Reducer

by Pepetools



The straight sided stepped mandrel has a multitude of user advantages:

- For manufactures this is an excellent tool for rounding the shanks of a cast or manufactured rings. Make slight adjustments in the size of cast rings, due to wax shrinking.
- Jewelers can use it as a standard ring stretcher without having to turn the ring over to compensate for the tapered mandrel.
- The stepped mandrel is also excellent for straightening customer's rings that are out of round.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Mount the Ring Stretcher to a sturdy workbench or table.

To enlarge a wedding band:

First check the size on a ring stick. Slip the ring on the spline of the stretcher. On each movement of the handle down, slightly turn the ring on the spline before the up movement of the handle. After two or three movements of the handle upward, turn the ring over. This will ensure that it is being evenly stretched. Note that the numbers on the spline are for reference only. Stretching of the ring is done in very small increments and it is important that the ring size is checked frequently.

How much a wedding band can be enlarged or reduced in size depends on the construction of the band and metal softness. As far as softness is concerned, the ring can be made softer by the annealing process. Most rings of average size, in reference to thickness, can be enlarged approximately one size.

Although it is a rare occurrence, after stretching a ring, it may be necessary to buff or polish the inside of the ring. This depends on how soft the metal is and or how much the ring was changed in size.

To reduce the size of a wedding band:

First choose a reduction depression on the two-sided reduction plate. Select a depression on which the ring will extend approximately 1 to 2 mm above the plate. Wrap the outer surface of the ring with masking tape and place the ring in the chosen depression. Move the handle down and the plunger above the depression will come down and push the ring down into the depression. Turn the ring over and repeat the procedure. This action will reduce the circumference of the ring. Be sure to check the size frequently.

Important Ring Enlargement Information.

Cast rings or rings with soldered shanks are likely to crack if stretched. The safest method for enlarging cast rings or rings with stones is to use the roller-type ring enlarger PEPETOOLS® item # 142.00 or 142.500, or to cut the shank and add a section of shank material.

