

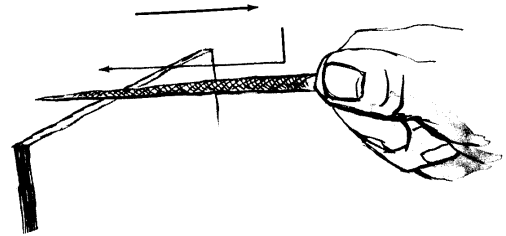
# Filing

Instructor : Deb Jemmott

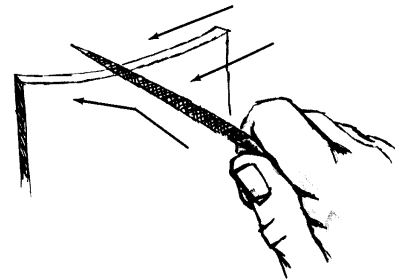
Files are designed to cut in only **one direction**:  
the forward stroke.

Proper filing technique is:

- \* Hold the file by the handle.
- \* File from tip to handle end while keeping the file perpendicular to the metal.
- \* Lift the file off the metal.
- \* Repeat.



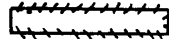
To hold work while filing, brace it against a benchpin. If the piece is small and difficult to hold, use a ring clamp. If the piece is too large to easily hold, put it in a vise. Be sure to protect the metal from being scratched by lining the vise jaws with leather pads.



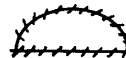
To file along an edge, use a long, even, sliding stroke. Sometimes it helps to file at a diagonal to the work.

The shape of the file should, as close as possible, approximate the shape of the surface being filed.

Large hand file



Large half-round file



Needle files:

Half-round



Barrette



Round



Square



Equaling



Files should be cleaned after each use with a file card or a wire brush.

Filing shapes and effects

