

Ergonomic Hand Tool Selection

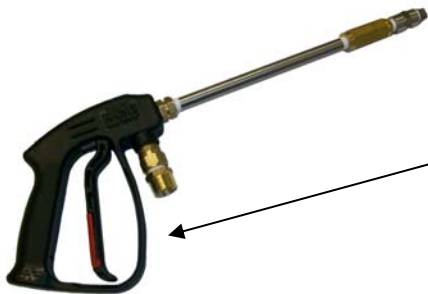
Handle

The handle should:

- Be non-slip.
- Be coated with soft material.
- Have a soft grip.
- Have an offset handle to keep the wrist straight.
- Be spring-loaded and automatically return to an open position. (This is especially true for pinching, gripping or cutting tools. With pressure washers, never use a clamp, grip or locking device to keep the wand engaged.)
- Not have sharp edges.
- Not have finger grooves. (These can cause a pressure point on fingers and palms.)

The handle grip span should be:

- At least 2 inches when closed for double-handle tools with high-force tasks.
- At least 1 inch when closed and no more than 3 inches when fully open for single action tools.



**Grip span:
1 inch when closed
3 inches maximum
when fully open**

Wrist Position

- Pick a tool that keeps the wrist straight.
- If you are applying a horizontal force, pick a tool with a bent handle (i.e., in the same direction as your straight forearm and wrist).
- If you are applying an upward or downward force, pick a tool with a straight handle.