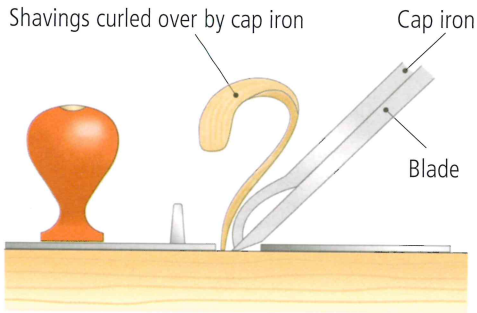
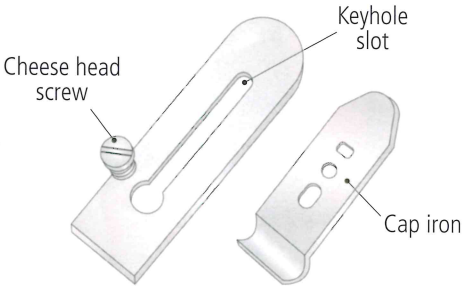
Smoothing plane

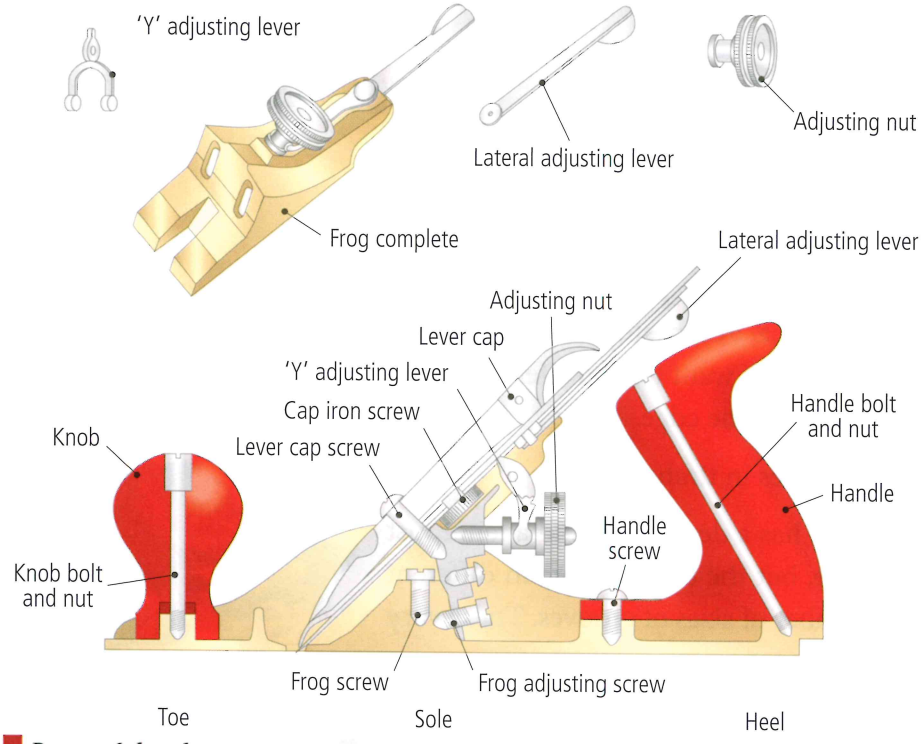
A smoothing plane is used to make surfaces ready for glass-papering and to even out any irregularities.





Plane cutting iron

Smoothing plane



Parts of the plane

Try-plane

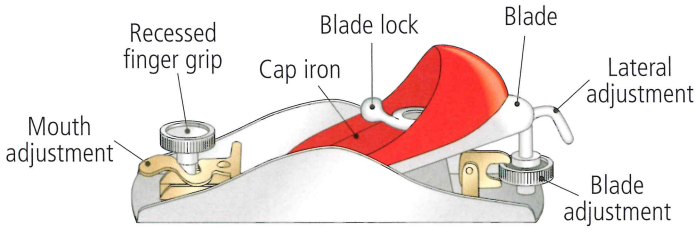
The try-plane is a long plane. It planes the high parts and spans the hollows, smoothing out the whole piece.

- **Uses:** Smoothing very long boards
- Preparing the edges of long boards for edge jointing

Try-plane

Block plane

The block plane is a short plane that fits easily in the hand. It has no cap iron so the blade is different from other bench planes.



Block plane

Using the block plane

- **Uses:** Light work
- Planing chamfers
- Planing end grain

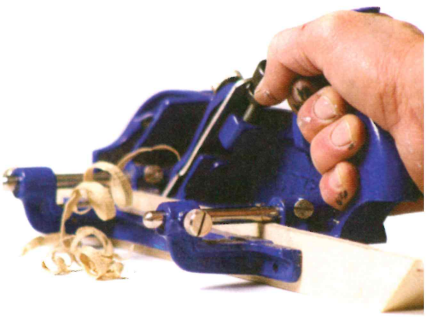
Rebate plane and plough plane

The **rebate plane** has a depth stop to prevent you planing off more than you want to, and a fence to stop you going too far in from the edge.

- **Use:** Forming rebates in timber

The **plough plane** has a depth stop and a fence just like the rebate plane, but the blades come in different widths to suit a number of sizes of grooves. These vary from 3 mm–15 mm.

- **Use:** Cutting grooves in wood



Rebate plane

These planes are generally not used as the electric router performs many of these functions with greater speed and accuracy.

Planing end grain

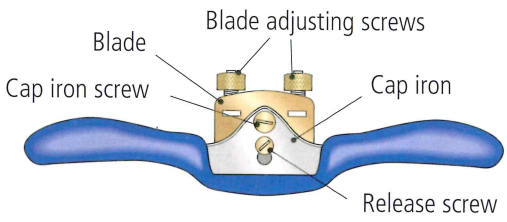
When planing the end grain of wood, take care to ensure that the fibres of the wood do not splinter or tear away from the piece at the edge. There are a number of ways that this can be achieved successfully.

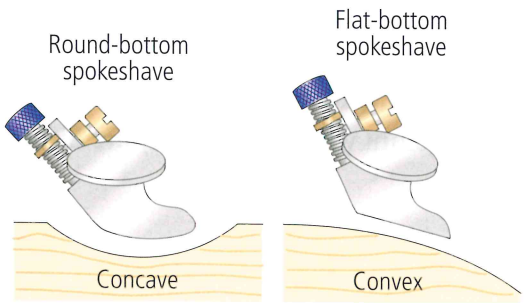
Spokeshaves

The spokeshave is designed to smooth curved surfaces. The blade is fixed in place by a locking cap and locking screw. There are two types of spokeshave:

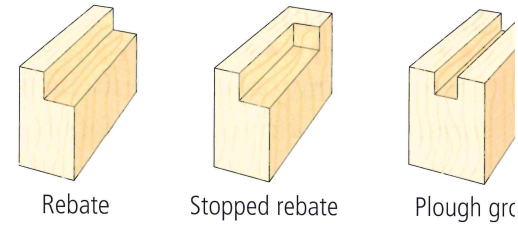
1. Convex (flat)
2. Concave (rounded): the shape of the body makes it suitable for the curves as seen in the diagram

Use: Smoothing curved surfaces

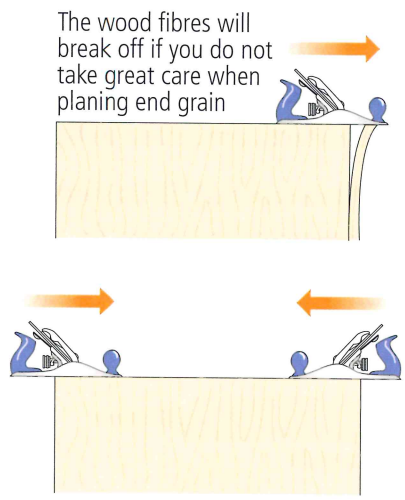




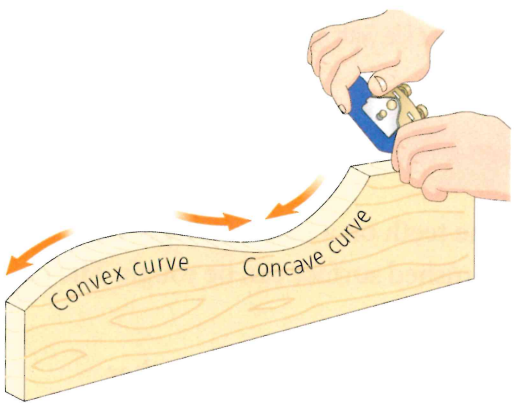
There are two types of spokeshave



Rebates and plough groove



Planing end grain



Always use the spokeshave in the direction of the grain