***Caution: Always** wear safety glasses when using a chisel. Blade is **extremely** sharp. Handle with care. Cover blade when not in use.*

Butt chisels are similar to bench chisels in their general utility, but their shorter length and generally wider blade make them ideal for job-site applications. The Veritas® butt chisels have wide, thick blades that make them suitable to be driven with a mallet for chopping work, such as wasting out a butt hinge mortise. They also have bevelled edges, allowing them to be used for fine paring of joints and sockets to ensure a close fit.

The blades are made of PM-V11, a tough, wear-resistant alloy that retains its edge longer when used on dense, abrasive woods, yet sharpens as easily as A2 tool steel. The blade faces are lapped flat. The handles are caramelized hard maple to withstand mallet work, and the ferrule is stainless steel.

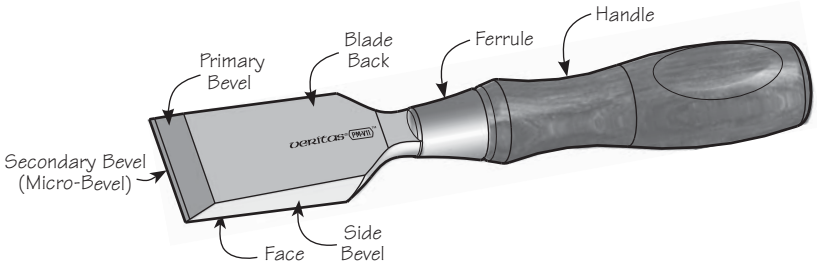


**Figure 1: Veritas butt chisel.**

## Construction

These butt chisels are a hybrid construction, combining the features of a tanged blade with that of a socket blade. The tang creates a solid connection that won't come loose in storage, while the tapered ferrule progressively tightens the joint as force is applied.

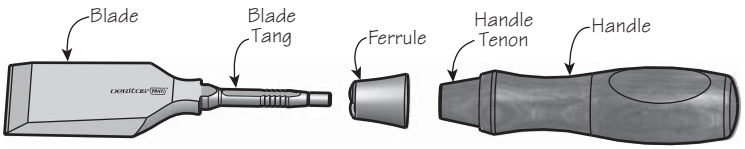


**Figure 2: Chisel construction.**

## Blade Bevels

All butt chisels have a primary bevel of 25°, with a micro-bevel of 27°, delivering a good balance between edge retention and cutting action.

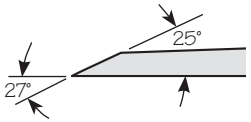


**Figure 3: Bevel angles.**

The bevel angle can (and should) be changed to suit the type of work being done and the wood being worked. Work that is predominantly mallet driven may require a higher bevel angle, while careful paring work may benefit from lower bevel angles. In most cases, opting for the lowest possible primary bevel and adjusting the cutting characteristics by changing the micro-bevel give the best results for the least amount of effort.

Please refer to references, such as *The Complete Guide to Sharpening* by Leonard Lee (The Taunton Press, Inc.), for more information regarding sharpening chisels.

As noted above, the faces of the butt chisels are factory lapped to be flat within 0.0005″. As such, no lapping is required by the user. At most, a fine polishing to remove the burr created by sharpening is all that should be done to this surface. Note that the flatness of these chisels is well within the tolerance of most commercially available straightedges.

## Breaking the Side Edges

The lapped face of the chisel blade is perfectly smooth and, as a result, the side edges of the chisel blade will be fairly sharp. Depending on how you grip the chisels, you may find these edges uncomfortable, particularly if you generally choke up on the blade for fine paring. If desired, you can break (i.e., round over) the square edges with a file or a fine stone. However, **do not** ease the side edge all the way to the cutting edge. It is important to leave about 3/4″ from the cutting edge as is, not only to preserve the full width of the cutting edge, but also to ensure a sharp corner on the chisel.

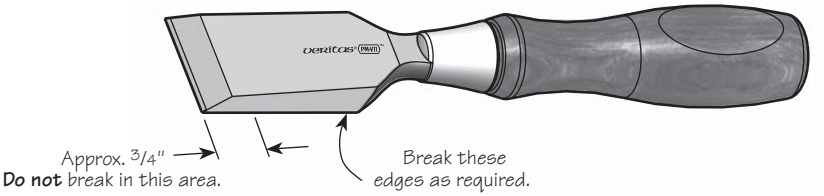


**Figure 4: Breaking the side edges.**

## Care and Maintenance

Chisels should always be properly stored to protect the blade edge from damage, as well as to protect the user. The included plastic tube packaging is ideal for this; however, a dedicated tool roll or box to store the complete set may be more practical.

While PM-V11 has excellent corrosion resistance, it is still a good idea to protect the blade from rust with a coat of silicone-free paste wax or other corrosion inhibitor.

## Accessories

**05S26.04** 1/4″ PM-V11 Butt Chisel
**05S26.08** 1/2″ PM-V11 Butt Chisel
**05S26.12** 3/4″ PM-V11 Butt Chisel
**05S26.16** 1″ PM-V11 Butt Chisel
**05S26.24** 1 1/2″ PM-V11 Butt Chisel
**05S26.32** 2″ PM-V11 Butt Chisel

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