

# Instruments and Equipment for Tooth Preparation

*By*

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# Operative instruments

- Attached to handpiece
- Mostly for cutting by burs
- Finishing and polishing burs

## Hand instruments

Cutting

Cutting hard tissue (enamel and dentin)

Non cutting

Mirror  
Tweezer  
Amalgam carrier

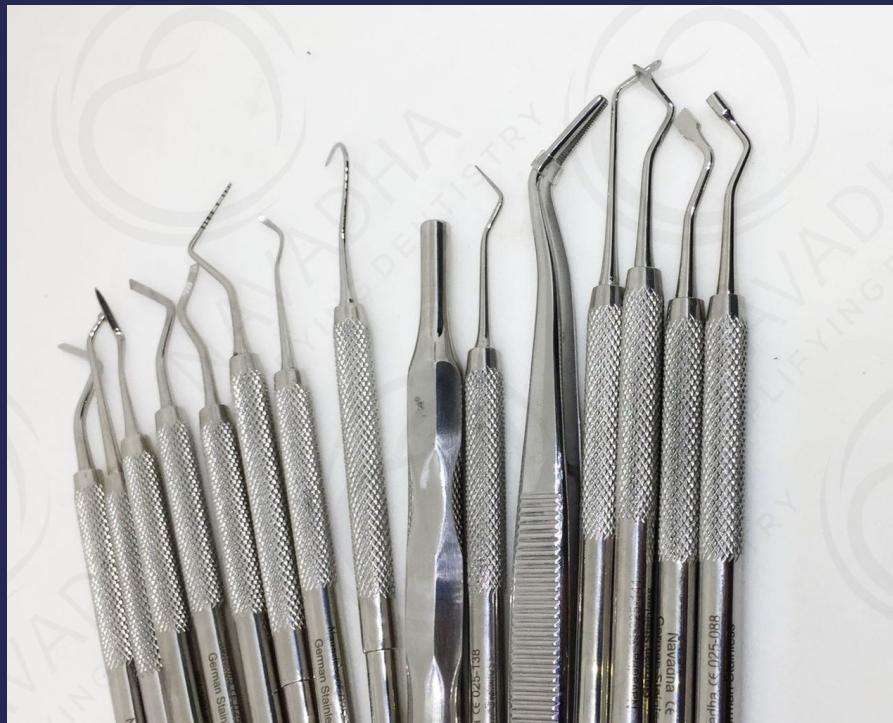
## Rotary instruments

Power cutting hand pieces

Rotary cutting instruments



# Hand instruments

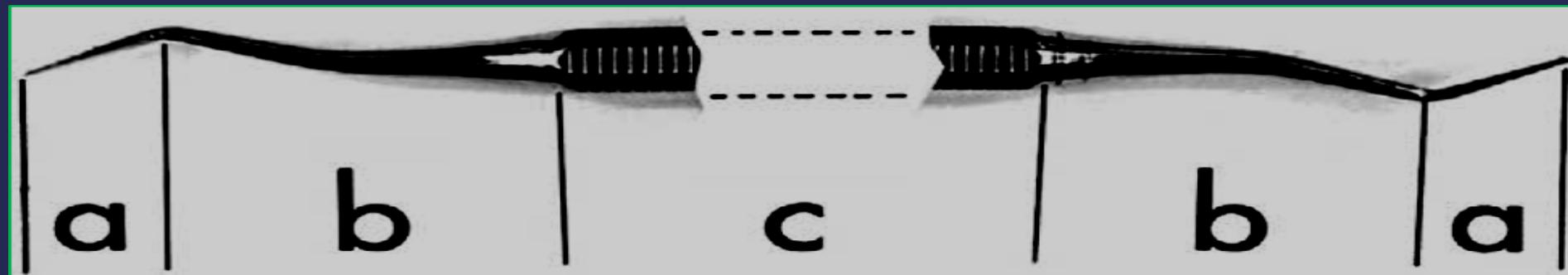


# Instrument Design

cutting  
↓  
blade

non-cutting  
nib/working surface/face

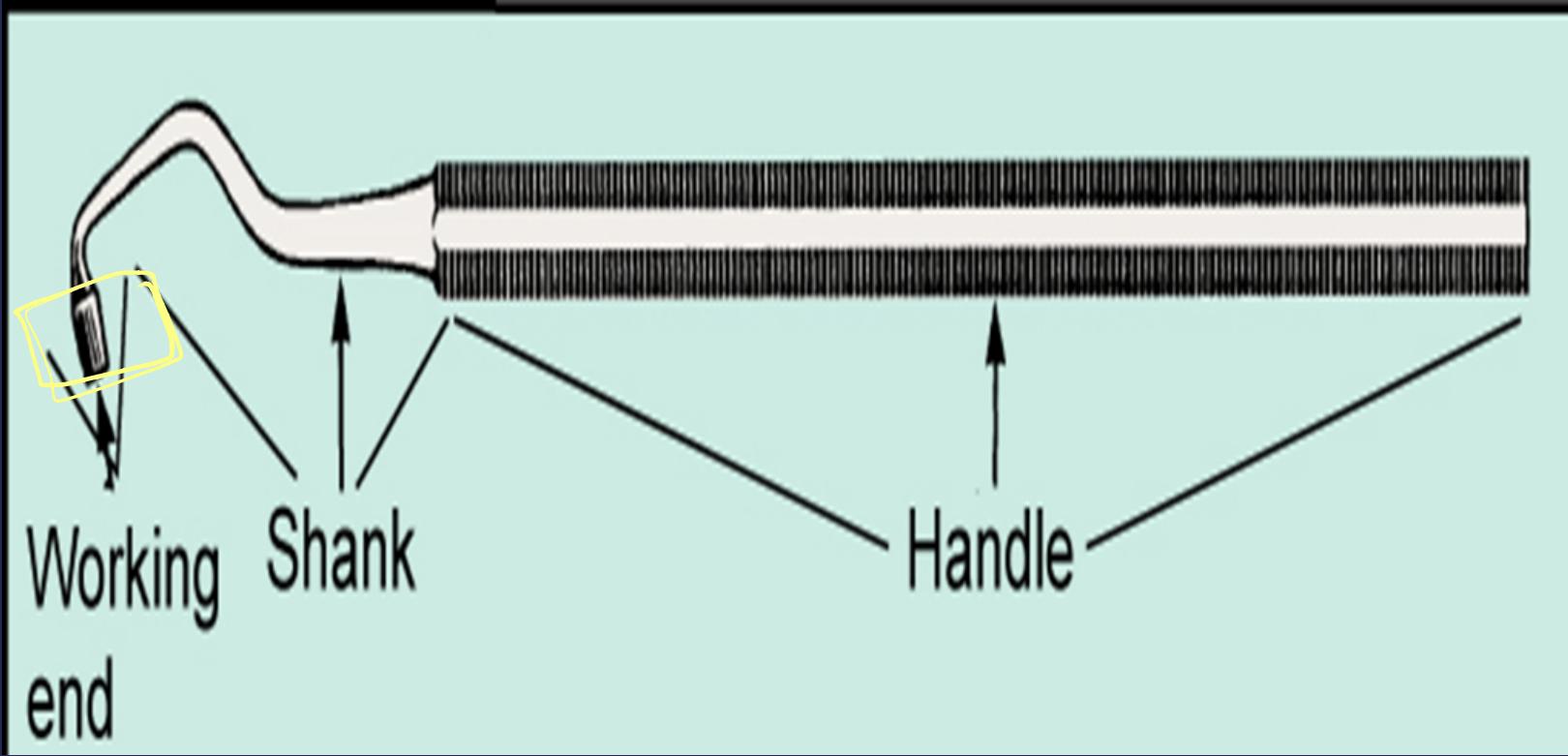
- Most hand instruments, regardless of use, are composed of three parts: handle, shank, and blade. For many non-cutting instruments, the part corresponding to the blade is termed nib. The end of the nib, or working surface, is known as face.



Double-ended instrument illustrating three component parts of hand instruments: blade (a), shank (b), and handle (c).

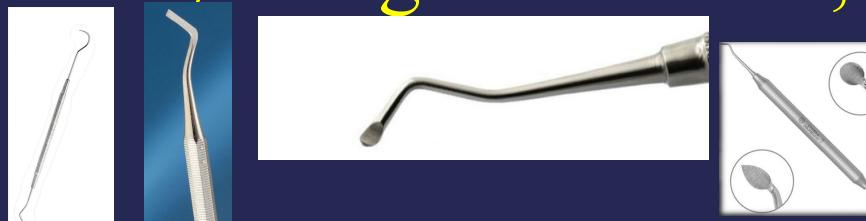


Condenser  
Amalgam

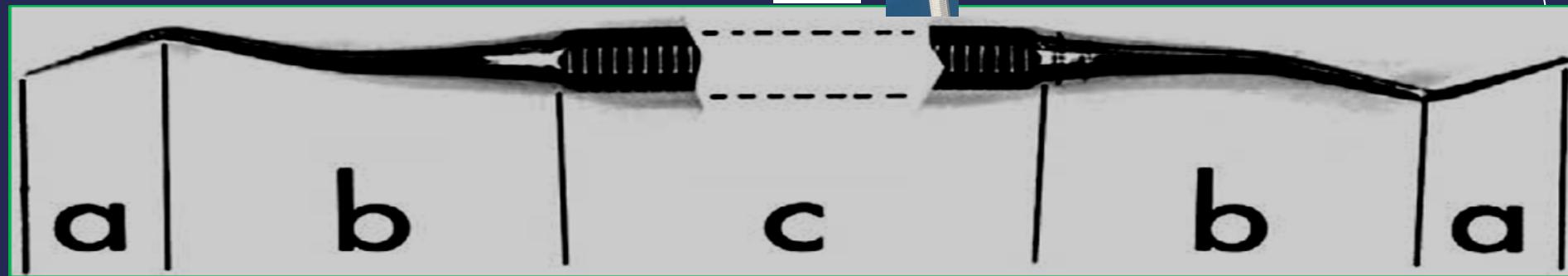


## WORKING END OF INSTRUMENT

The blade or nib is the working end of the instrument and is connected to the handle by the shank. Some instruments have a blade on both ends of the handle and are known as double-ended instruments. The blades are of many designs and sizes, depending on their functions



1 handle  
2 shanks  
2 working surfaces

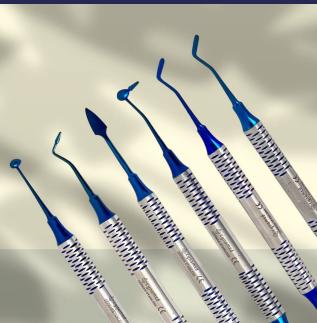


Portion of the instrument where the operator grasps.

## Handles

Handles are available in various sizes and shapes. Early hand instruments had handles of quite large diameter and were grasped in the palm of the hand. A large, heavy handle is not always conducive to delicate manipulation

Today's handles are smaller in size, smoother, serrated, light in weight and maybe shaped in a way that accommodate the grasp and fingers of the hand



Part of the instrument that attaches the working end to the handle.

## Shank of hand instrument

Shanks serve to connect the handles to the working ends of the instruments. They are normally smooth, round, and tapered. Shanks often have one or more bends to avoid the instrument having a tendency to twist in use when force is applied. Hand instruments must be balanced and sharp.

opposite to the handle.

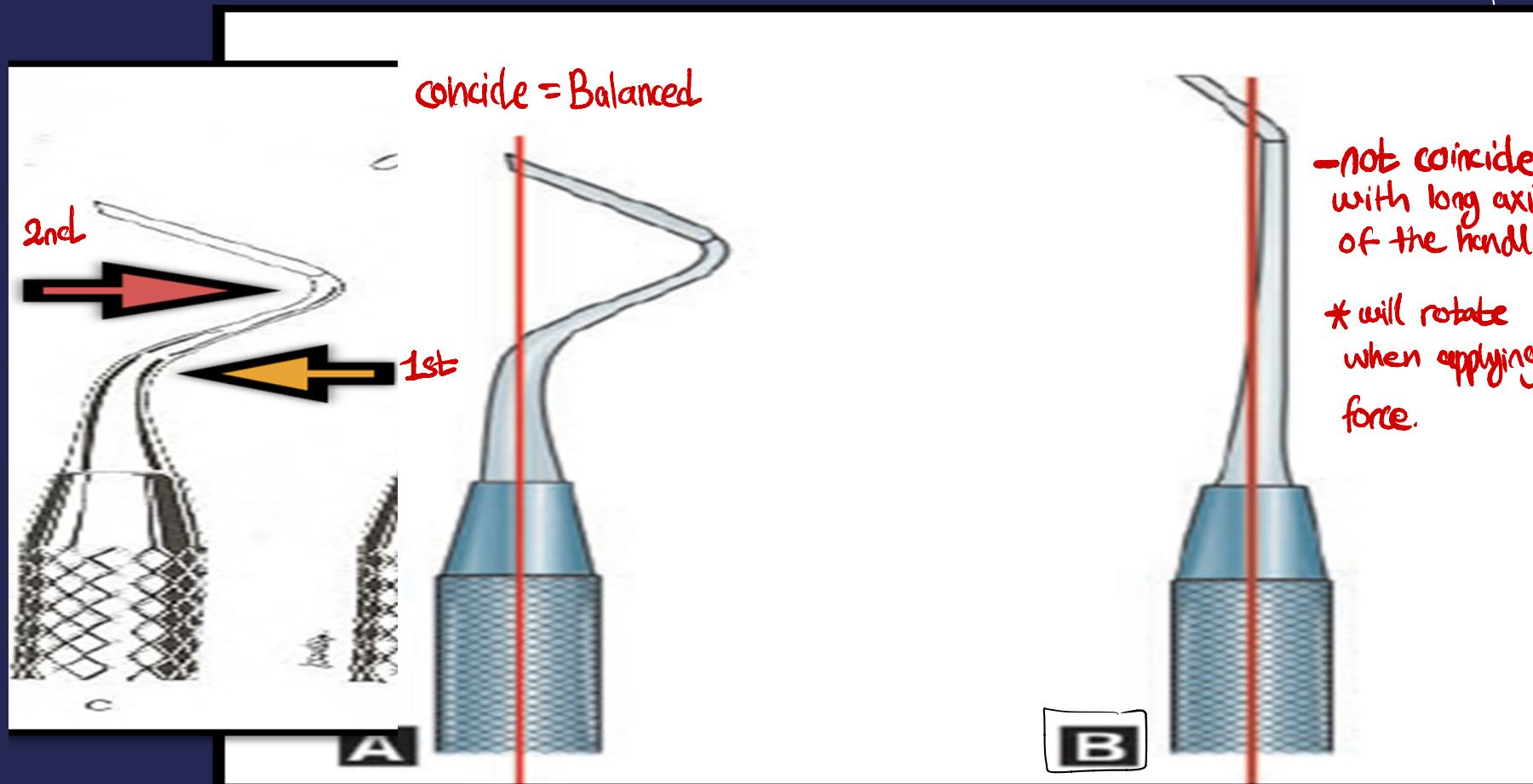
To prevent it of rotation while doing its function



**Balance** allows for the concentration of force onto the blade without **causing rotation** of the instrument in the operator's grasp.

This is accomplished by **designing the angles** of the shank so that the cutting edge of the blade lies within the diameter of the handle and **nearly coincides** with the axis of the handle.





## The balanced hand instrument: A, contra-angled, B, mon-angled.

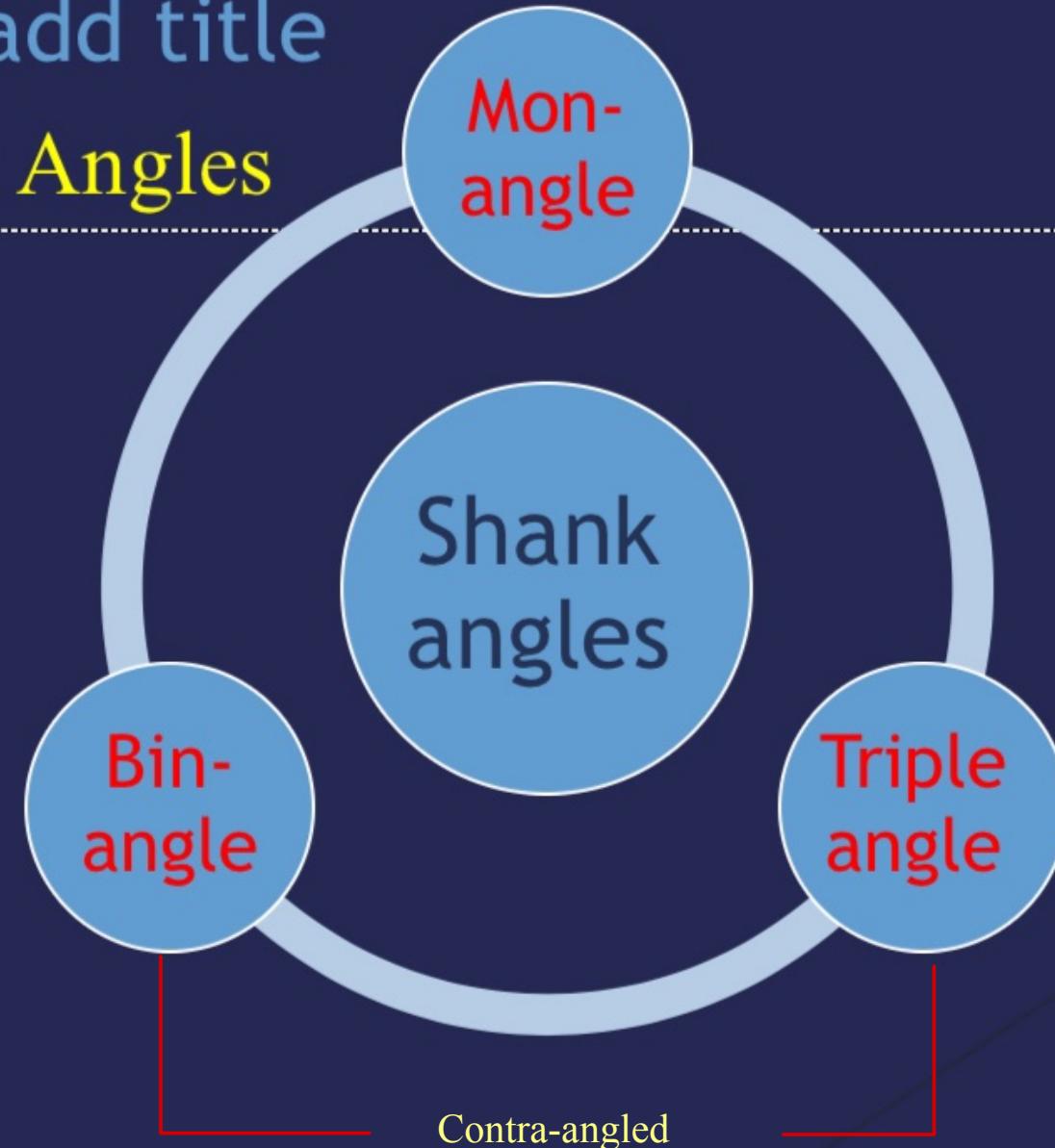
The double angles bring the blade to be at the level of the long axis of the handle to be balanced while in function

Gentle function



Double tap to add title

## Instrument Shank Angles

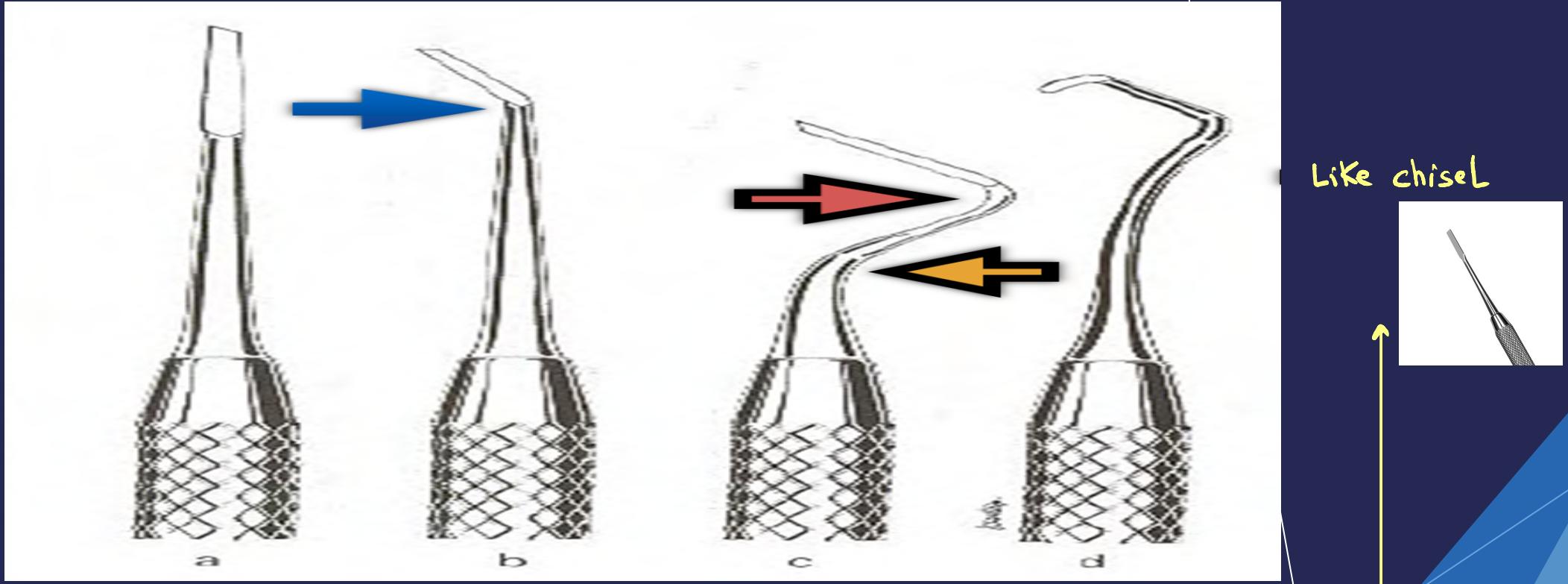


Instruments with **small, short blades** may be easily designed in mon-angle form while confining the cutting edge within the required limit. No need for high forces to be balanced

Instruments with longer blades or more complex orientations may require two or three angles in the shank to bring the cutting edge close to the long axis of the handle. Such shanks are termed **contra-angled.**

These instrument work hard





Instruments classified by the number of angles in the shank: a, straight, b, mon-angle, c, bin-angle (contra-angled), d, triple-angle (contra-angled).

chisel  
with short  
blade



# Hand Cutting Instrument Formulas

Cutting instruments have formulas describing the dimensions and angles of the working end. These are placed on the handle using a code of three or four numbers separated by dashes or spaces (e.g., 10-8.5-8-14).

- Three- number formula: describes instruments in which cutting edge is at right angle to blade's long axis.

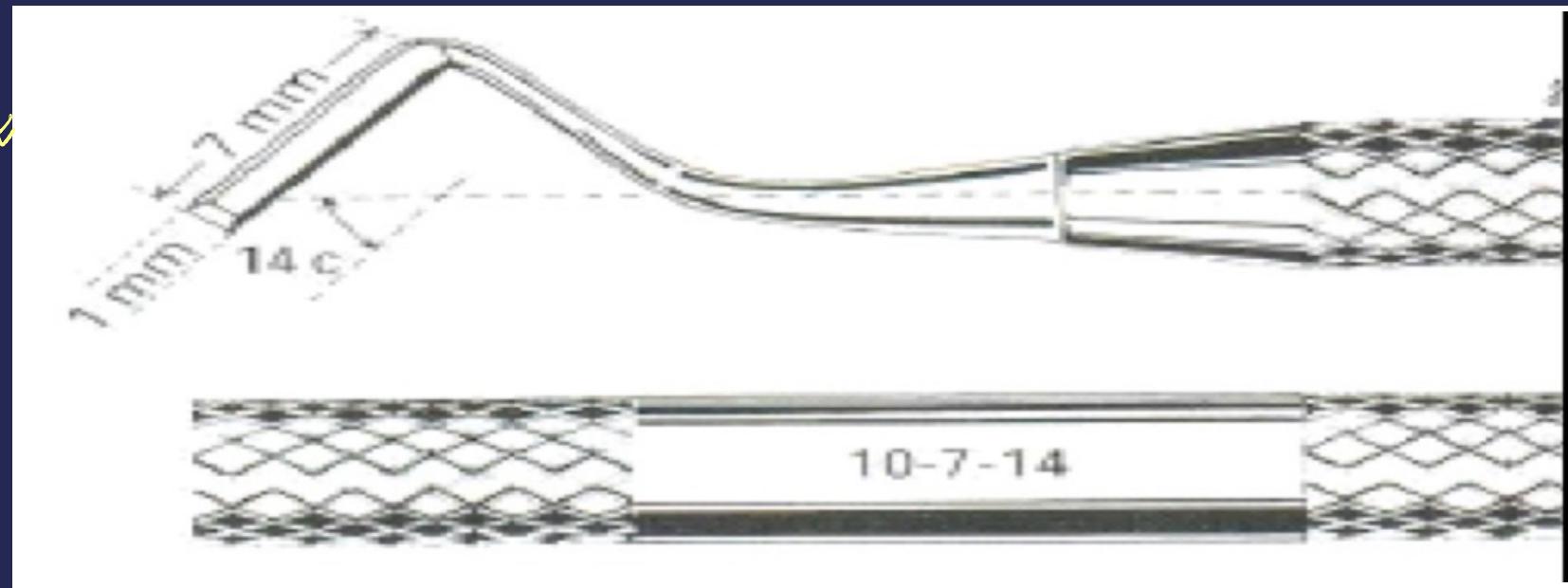
The first number indicates the width of the blade or primary cutting edge in tenths of a millimeter.



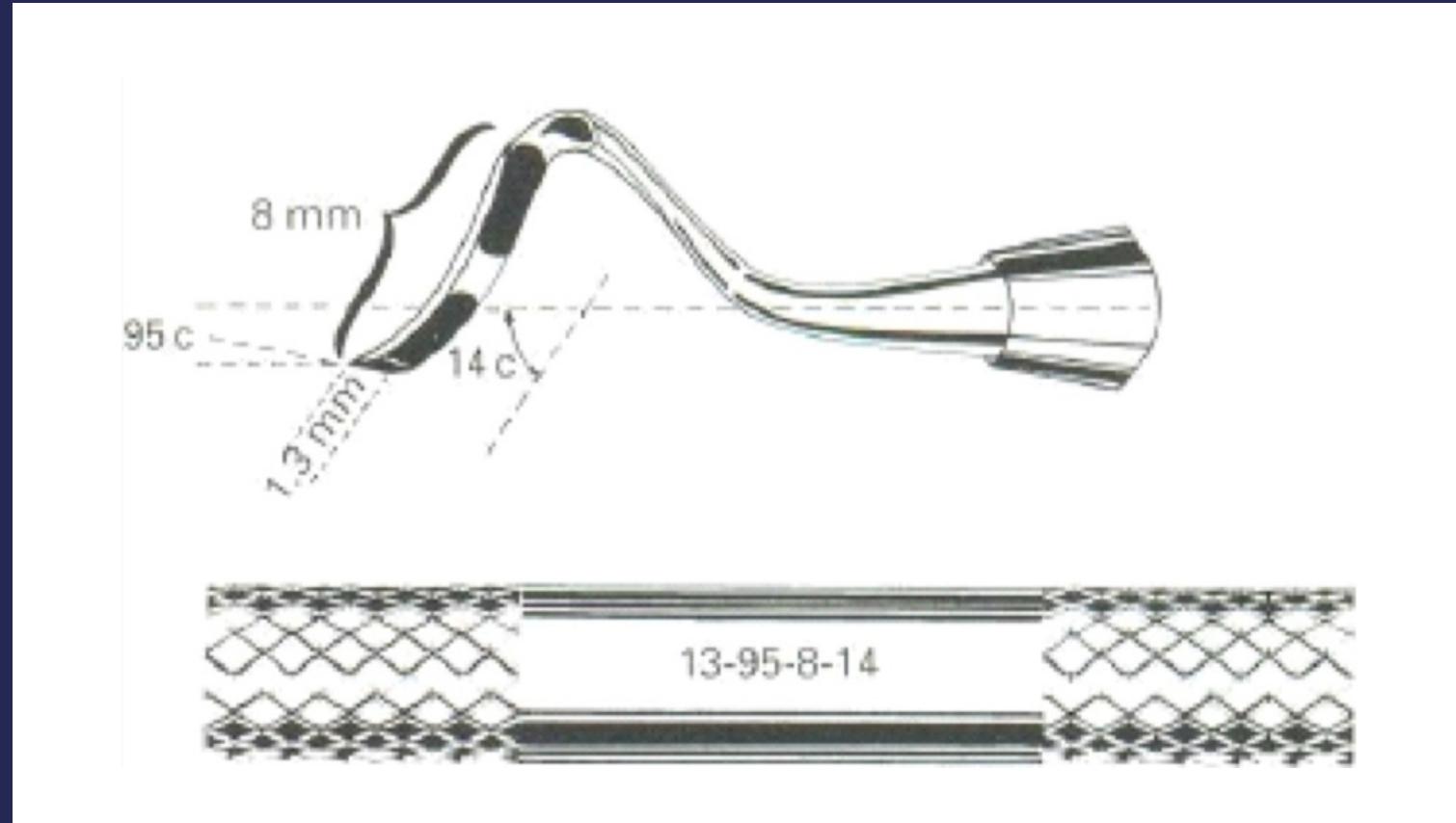
The second number indicates the blade length in millimeters (e.g., 8 = 8 mm).

The third number indicates the blade angle, relative to the long axis of the handle in clockwise centigrade.

Enamel  
Hatched



- Four- number formula: describes instruments in which cutting edge is not at right angle to blade's long axis (e.g., 13-95-8-14).

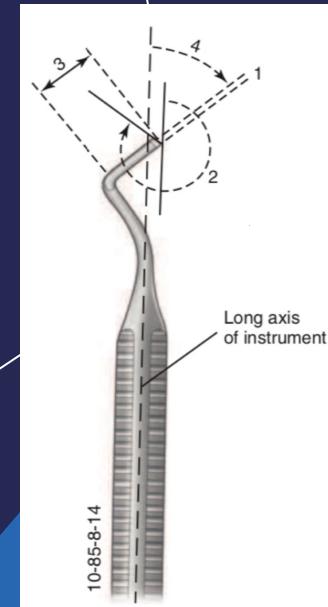


The **first number** indicates the width of the blade in tenths of millimeter

The **second number** indicates the primary cutting edge angle, measured from a line parallel to the long axis of the instrument handle in clockwise centigrade.

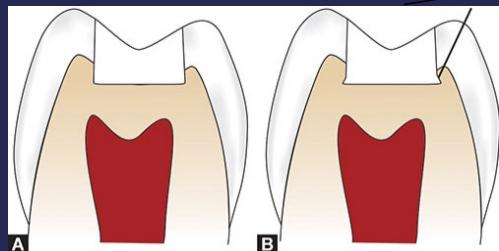
The **third number** indicates the blade length in millimeters (8 = 8 mm).

The **fourth number** indicates the blade angle (14



# *Hand cutting Instrument classification*

## *Hand cutting instrument*



### Excavators

→ Mainly for caries removal

### Chisels

Mainly used to cut tooth structure (Enamel + Dentin)

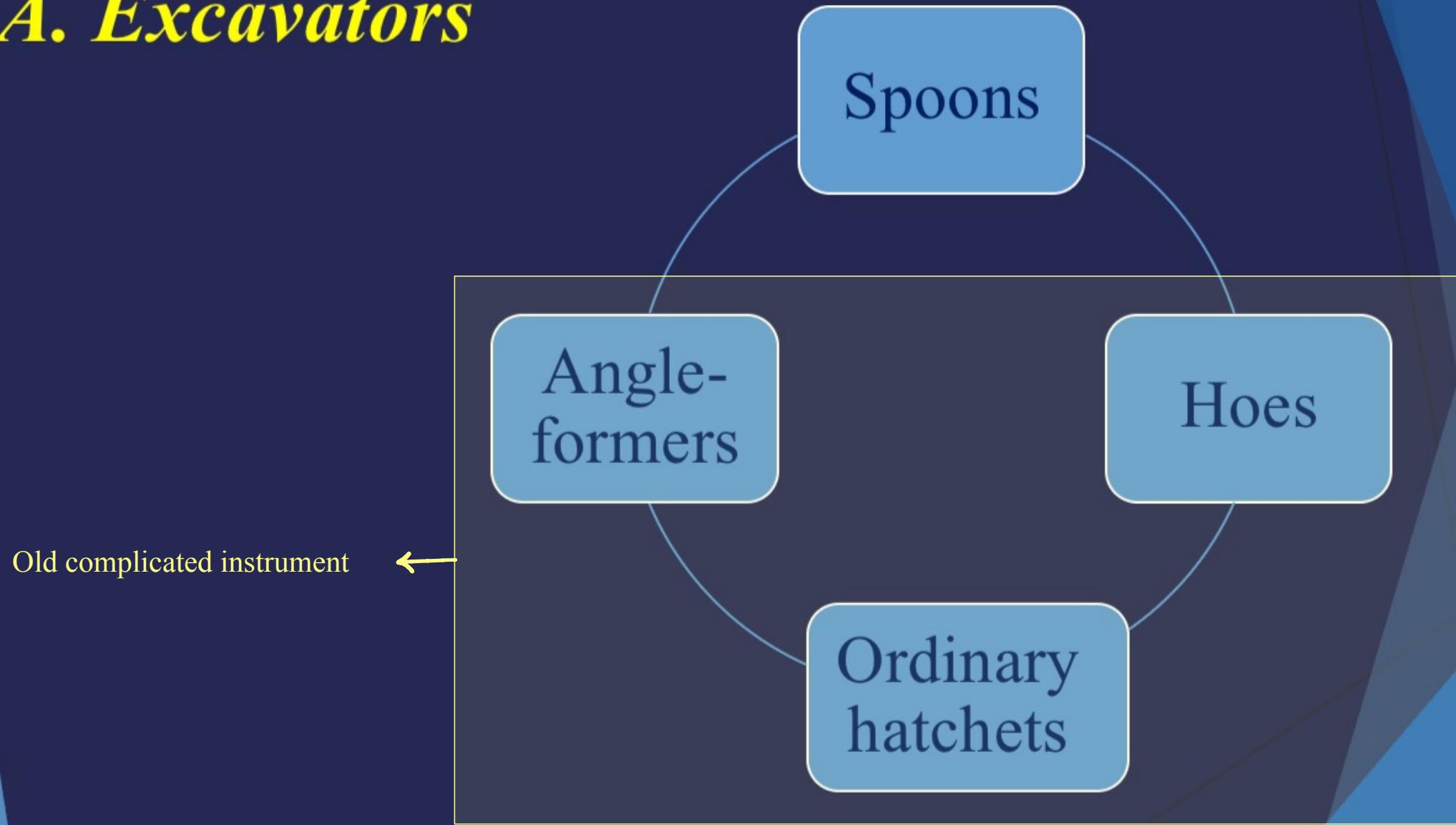
→ Mainly for cavity preparation, cleaving and scraping

### Other cutting instruments

Mainly to cut restorative materials (composite + Amalgam ...)

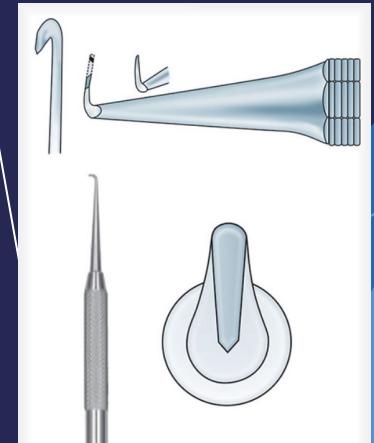
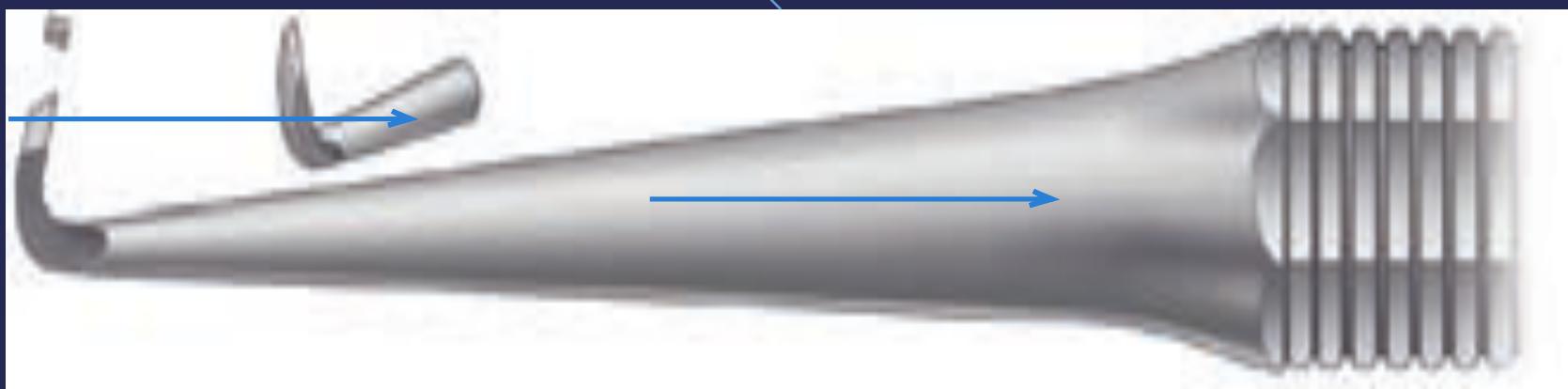


## *A. Excavators*



## *(1) Ordinary hatchets*

An ordinary hatchet excavator are used primarily on **anterior teeth** for preparing retentive areas and sharpening **internal line angles**, particularly in preparations for **direct gold** restorations.



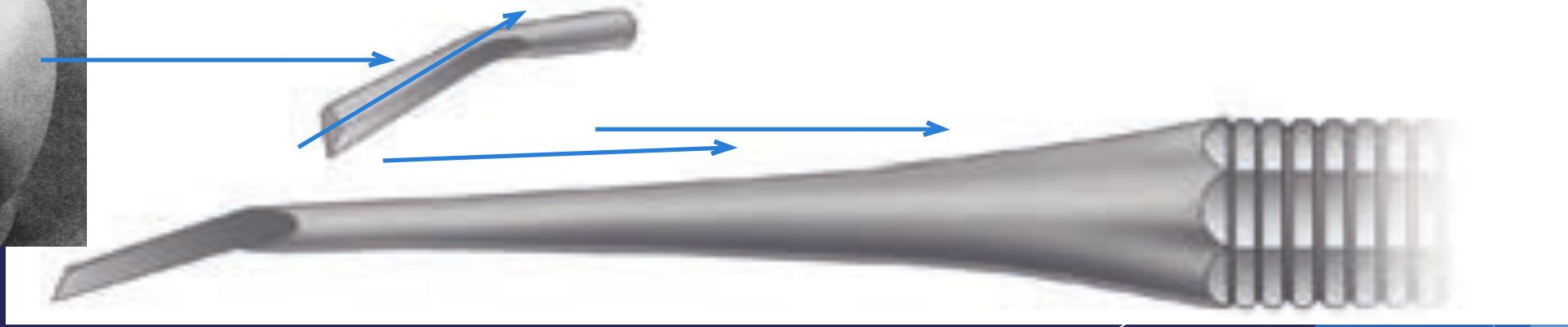
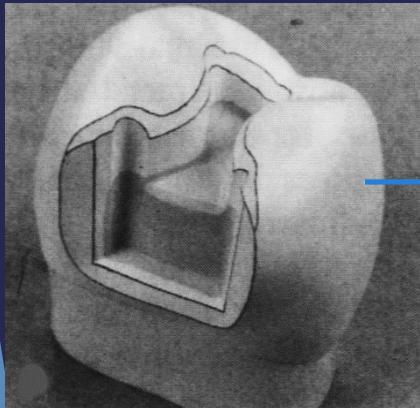
## (2) Hoes

This type of instrument is used for **planning** tooth preparation **walls** and for forming **line angles**. It is commonly used in **Class III** and **V** preparations for **direct gold restorations**.



### (3) Angle-formers

It is used for sharpening line angles and **creating retentive features** in dentin in preparation for gold restorations.





## (4) Spoons



Waxing.

They are used for removing caries and carving amalgam or direct wax patterns.

The blades are slightly curved, and the cutting edges are either circular or <sup>claw</sup>~~claw~~-like. The circular edge is known as a discoid, whereas the claw-like blade is termed cleoid.

The shanks may be bin-angled or triple-angled to facilitate accessibility.

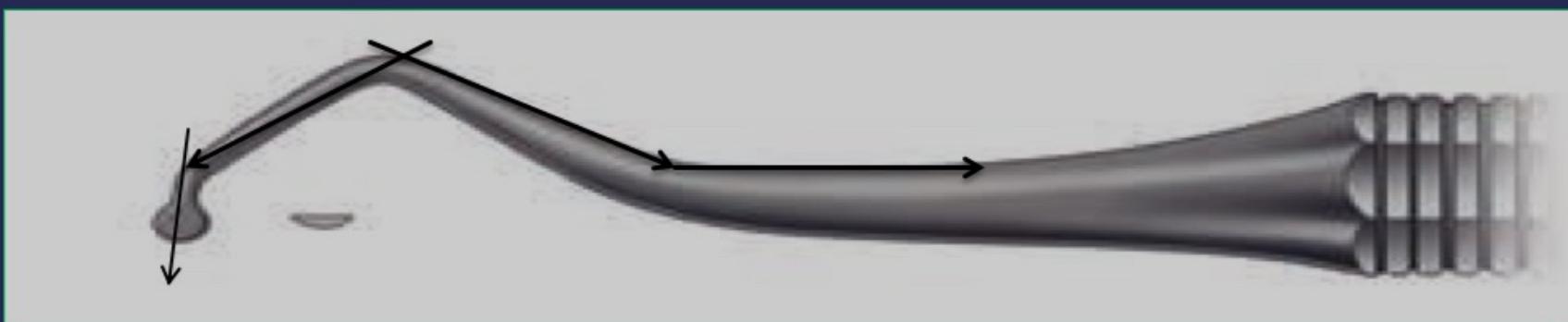


Cleoid





**Bin-angle spoon excavator**



**Triple-angle spoon excavator**

\* The increase in angles give us more accessibility with balanced grasp.





**Discoid blade excavator**

For Amalgam carving



**Cleoid blade excavator**



## *B. Chisels*

(1) Straight slightly curved, or bin-angle

(2) Enamel hatchet

(3) Gingival margin trimmers

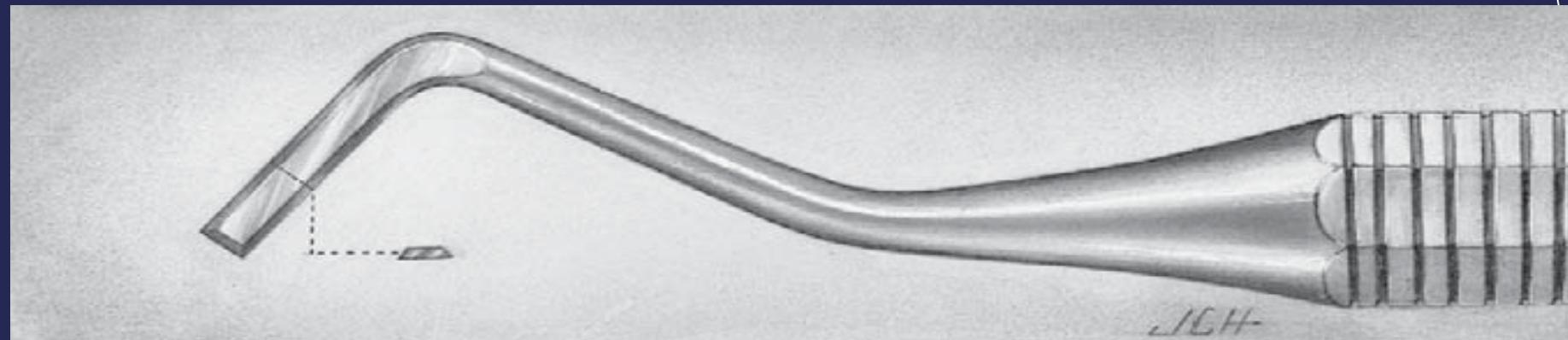


*(1) Straight slightly curved, or bin-  
angle*



## *(2) Enamel hatchet*

The It is used for cutting enamel.

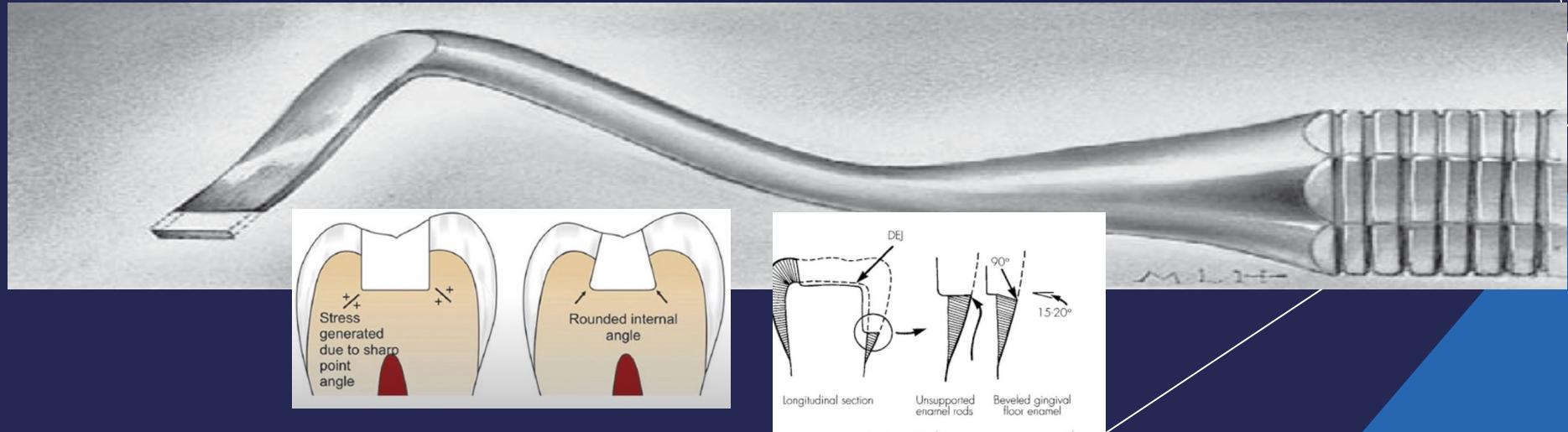


important / used mainly in the proximal box  
of class II cavity



### (3) Gingival margin trimmers

The gingival margin trimmer is designed to produce a proper bevel on gingival enamel margins of proximo-occlusal preparations. Among other uses for these instruments is the rounding or beveling of the axiopulpal line angle of two surface preparations



## *C. Other Cutting Instruments*

Other hand cutting instruments such as the **knife**, **file**, and **discoid-cleoid instrument** are used for trimming restorative material rather than for cutting tooth structure.



## *1. Knives,*

known as finishing knives, amalgam knives, or gold knives, are designed with a thin, knife-like blade that is made in various sizes and shapes. Knives are used for trimming excess  
restorative material

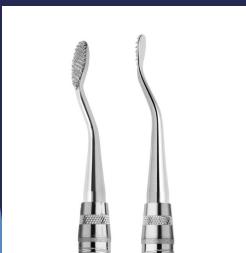


class 5 restorations

## 2. Files

can be used to trim excess restorative material. They are particularly useful at gingival margins. The blades of the file are extremely thin, and the teeth of the instrument on the cutting surfaces are short and designed to make the file a push instrument or a pull instrument

serrations



Bone file



### 3. *The discoid-cleoid instrument*

used principally for carving occlusal anatomy in unset amalgam restorations. It also may be used to trim or burnish inlay–onlay margins. The working ends of this instrument are larger than the discoid or cleoid end of an excavator



# Questions

Define:

Balance and sharpness of hand instruments

Blade of hand instruments

Shank of hand instruments

Write on the following:

Shank of hand cutting instruments

Excavators

Hand instruments formulas

