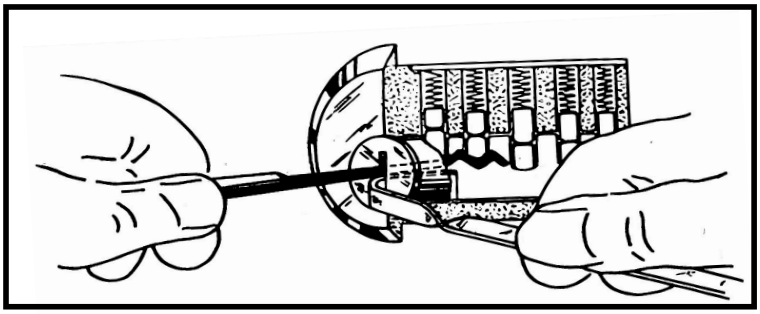
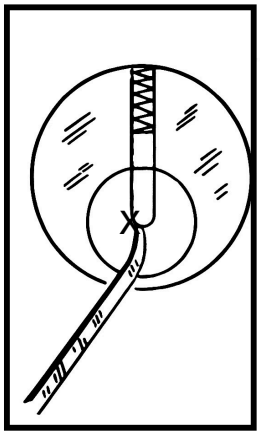
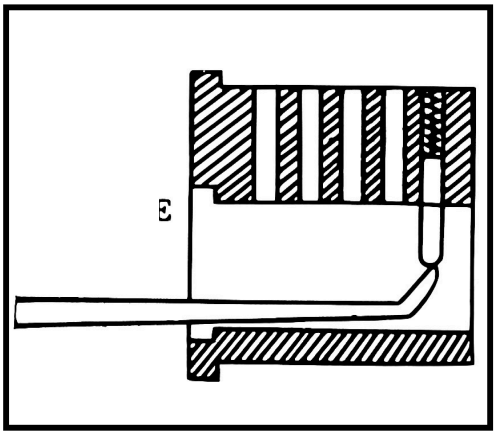
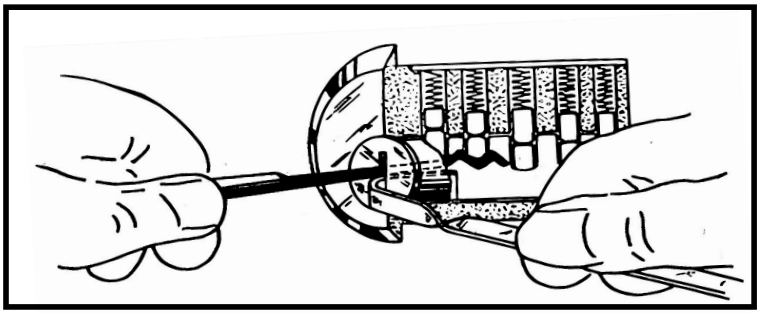


Picking Locks







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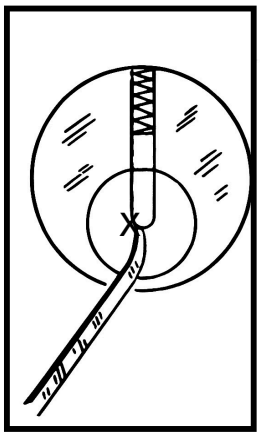

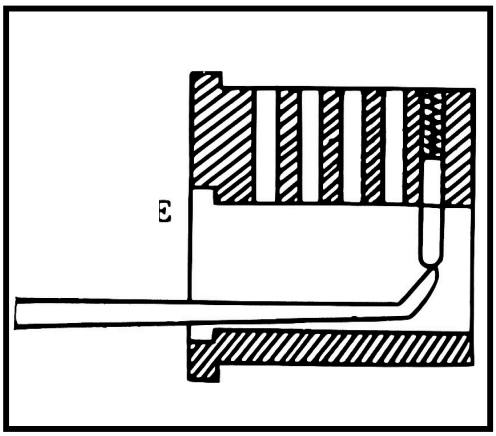

Author: Unknown
Date: Late 1960's
Source: *Roz Payne Sixties Archive*
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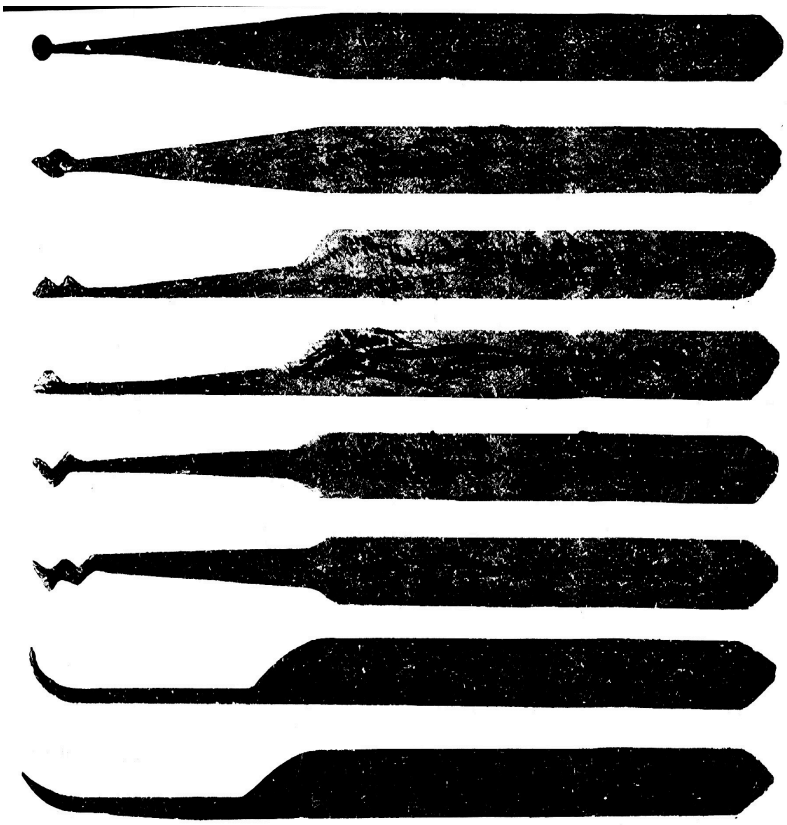
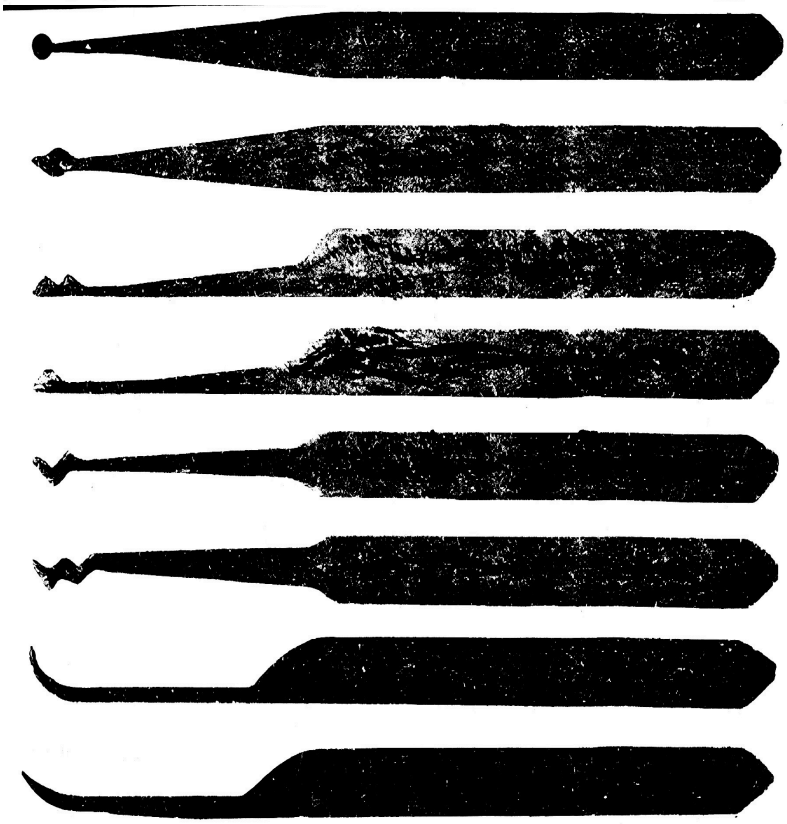


Using your grinder remove the excess metal around the outline of the pick to within 1/16th'' of the line. Avoid burning the steel by dipping it in water often.

Hand file the rest of the steel away until the proper pattern and size is obtained. Polish the finished steel with a slightly oiled emery cloth. The picks should be tempered, but retain some flexability.

We put this manual together in a
spirit of revolutionary love
A passing on of skills for our people.
We hope that these skills are used
and passed on in the same spirit.
That they are used by sisters and brothers
as tools in our liberation
and not by people strung-out
on Amerika's materialist bullshit.
As we become stronger and more determined
to free ourselves, manuals like this
are more and more needed.
We have been denied information on every
part of our lives. Skills and information
must be moving and flowing among us.
Cars, machine shops, herbs, building, food,
magick, growing food: we must get a
working/living/loving knowledge
of these systems. Capitalism tells us
we need a locksmith or doctor or some
other specialist, but we are learning that
all we need is confidence in Ourselves
and some information
from loving sisters and brothers.



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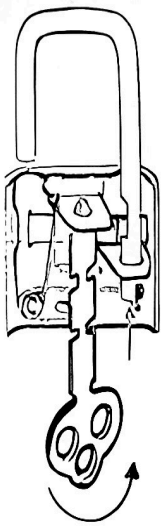


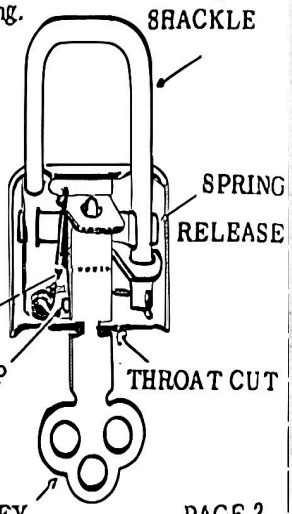
Ward Locks

The first mass produced padlocks in America were the WARDED PAD LOCKS.

In this type of padlock there are obstructions of 'wards' that prevent the turning of the key blank. If the key blank is notched so that it bypasses the wards, it is free to turn and operate the release spring. When this spring is released, the SHACKLE jumps up, being pushed by the SHACKLE SPRING.

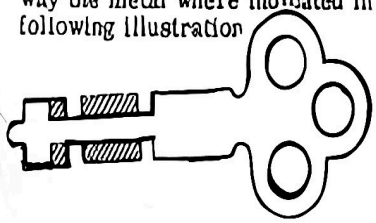
The following diagrams show the principle of the warded padlock:

Here cut key turns and spreads the release spring.



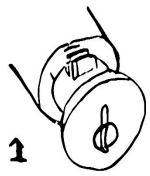
In this course the pass key is used for enabling the beginner to test a padlock so that one can tell if the padlock is of the warded type. Therefore the next step is to convert the key you just made into a pass key.

Place the key in a vise and file away the metal where indicated in the following illustration



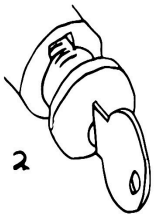
FILE AWAY SHADED SECTION

DISC TUMBLER



Electric vibrator picks are the most modern method used for picking locks. The vibrator acts like the gun pick but the needle is actuated electrically to bounce the cylinders apart. It is almost impossible to make your own tool, and equally as hard to get one.however.

DISC TUMBLER PICKING - IV



Disc tumbler locks are a cheap substitute for pin tumblers and are easily picked when the pin tumblers are mastered. The diamond shaped pick is the one most commonly used for these locks. See drawings below for the principle of the lock.

In drawing one the lock is locked. The spring loaded discs tumblers are pushed into shell slots. In drawing 2 the key forces the withdrawal of the discs. In drawing 3 the plug rotates.

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING PICKS

To make the picks shown on the next page you should have about 6 feet of spring steel, or ordinary steel wire (flat) 5/16" wide and .020" thick. This can be obtained from any locksmith supply jobber. A warding file, 3-corner saw file, and a coarse round file are also needed. A small amount of glue, rubber cement, fine emery cloth and bench grinder complete the list.

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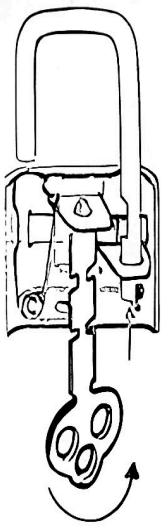
(continued next page)



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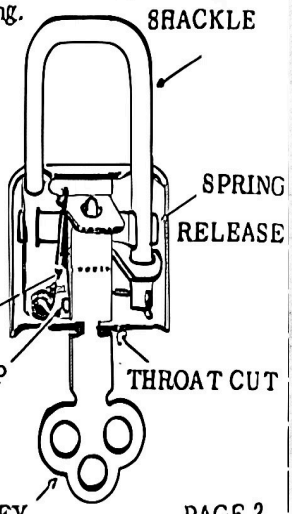

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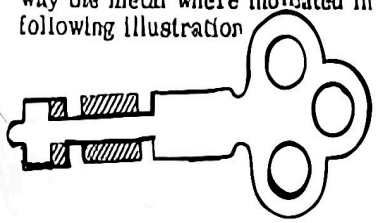

FILE AWAY SHADED SECTION

PAGE 2

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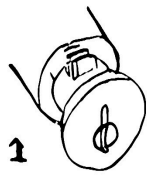

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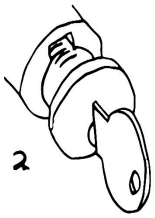

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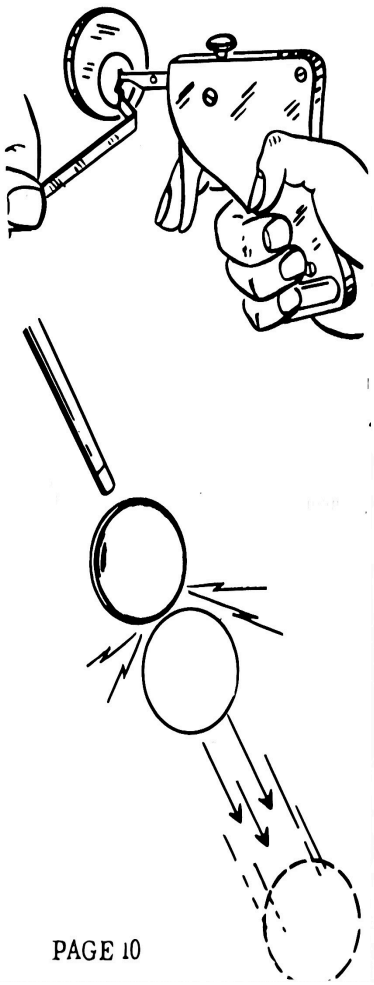
GUN PICKS - III

For an understanding of the way a gun pick works refer to the game of billiards. No doubt you have seen how when the cue ball hits the other ball they immediately separate as shown in the drawing. The same action occurs when the pick of the gun hits a bottom pin. The upper pin is driven upward as the two parts separate.

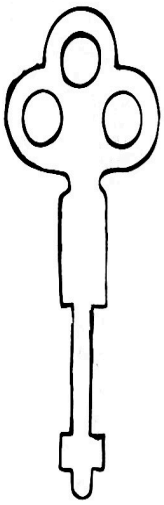


The function of the gun pick is to strike all the bottom pins in the cylinder at once and bounce the upper pins into their chambers, while the lower pins remain in the lower chambers. When this happens there are no pins blocking the shear line and the plug is free to turn.

In theory the lock should open on the first "bounce". But there are various other factors to consider. Pins vary in length, springs vary in pressure and strength, & often the designs of keyways make it difficult to hold the needle in a positon where all of the pins can be struck equally as hard at the same time. Many locks are designed with high ridges, that is short and long pins following wach to prevent picking. They can be picked but not with a gun pick.

The pass key can be used to test padlocks with the following keyways to find out if they are of the warded type.

Please refer back to the open diagrams of a warded padlock at the beginning of this lesson In looking at the diagrams, can you see how a key with just one long cut on each side of the blade would be able to open the padlock? Can you see how such a key, with most of the metal cut away would not engage any of the wards? Here's a diagram of it.



Such a key is called' PASS KEY' or 'SKELETON KEY'. Most locksmiths carry such keys for emergency openings, or for testing a padlock to see whether it is a warded lock or not.

Warded locks are usually the cheap or made locks. Most heavy duty or security padlocks are of the pin and tumbler variety next described. You can usually tell if the lock is a pin and tumbler variety by seeing whether the key hole is round and has a pin in it.

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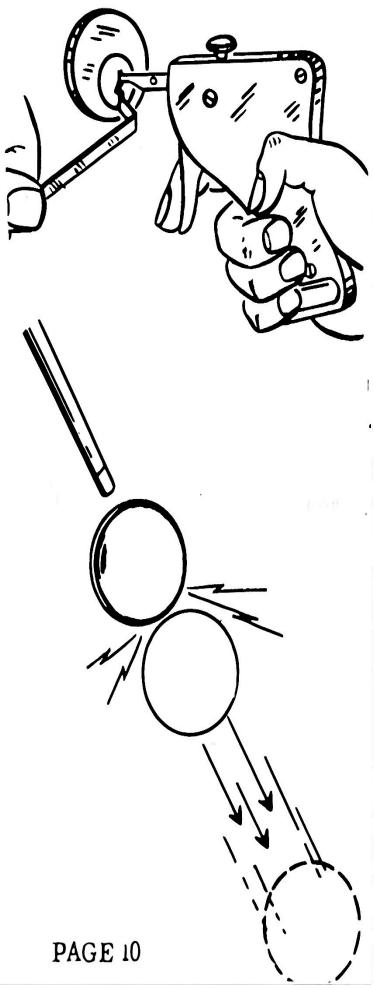

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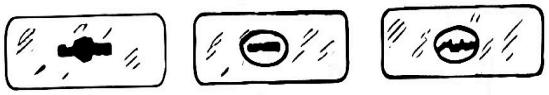

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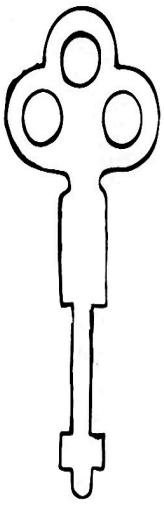

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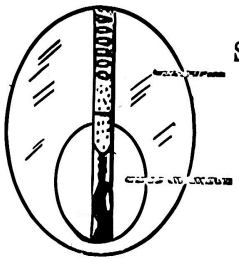
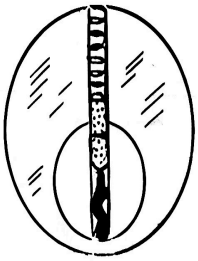
PAGE 3

PIN & TUMBLER - COMMON LOCKS

The plug in a pin tumbler cylinder will not turn in the shell unless the correct key is inserted. To understand stand why, let us look into a cylinder.
In the following cross-section view we see a section of a key in the keyway. The key is supporting two small pins while a small coil spring is pressing down upon them from the top. In this position the plug cannot turn because the lower pin is half-way between the plug and the shell.



In the next illustration, however, the section of the key is much shorter & now it is the upper pin that is preventing the plug from turning.



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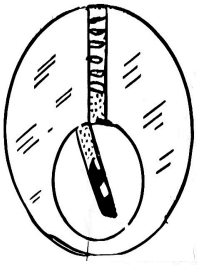
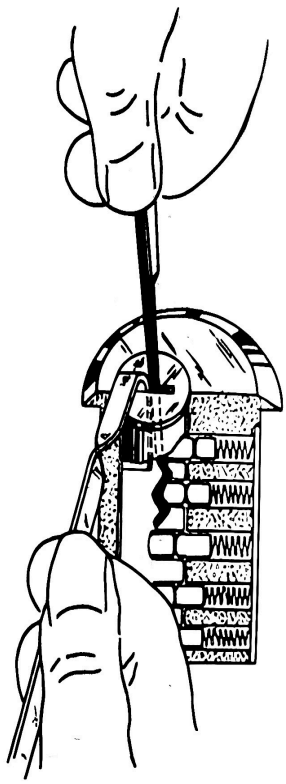


MORE LOCK PICKING

RAKING METHOD - II

Some locksmiths use what is commonly known as the "raking method". Although it is not as scientific or as sure as the feel method, it is often used as aashort cut. A locksmith tries this methos first on the cylinder. If it works you don't have to bother with the feel method.

In the following drawing you see a rake pick being worked in a cylinder. The idea is to run the rake quickly under the bottom pins. This action often causes the bottom pins to bounce up to the shear line and hang there as the plug is turned out of alignment with the upper pin holes. The time that it takes to open a lock this way depends on the speed of the wrist as one manipulates the rake in and out.



Take the practice cylinder with at least three of the pins in place and practice. The raking method can become come quite a knack. Practice is the key to this method, but one muxt remember that security locks and the better made locks with mushroom pins or well machined locks won't open with this method. Jiggling is often the term used instead of the raking method.

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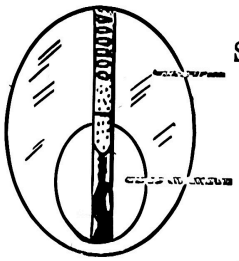

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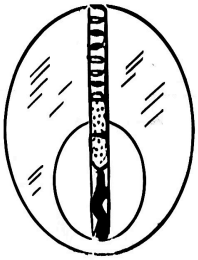

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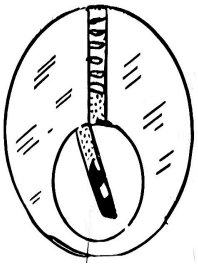

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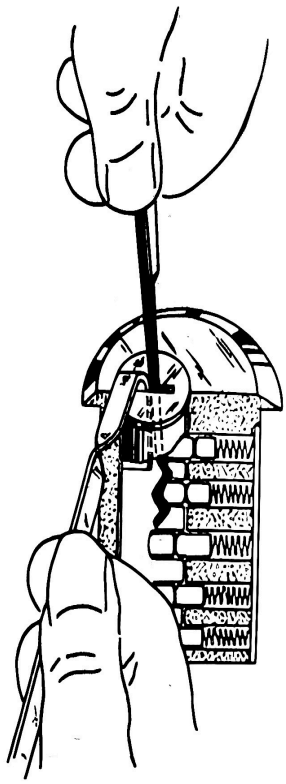

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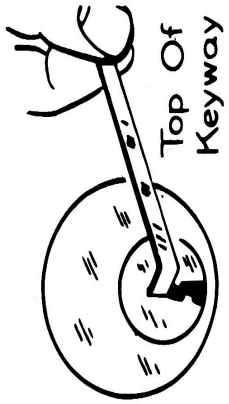
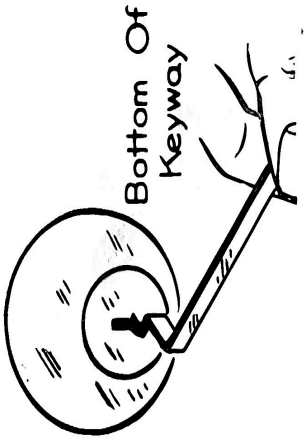
Now reverse the position of the wrench by placing it at the top of the keyway as shown in the illustration. Practice raising the pin to the shear line with the pick with the wrench in tee shown position.

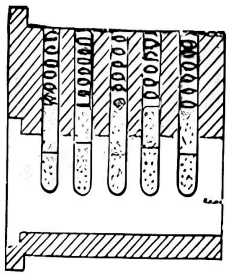
The reason for these two positions is a very simple one. In some plugs the turning wrench fits very snugly into the keyway. In fact it "crowds" the space and this prevents the pick from working freely. In working both positions, you will be able to tell which is most practical and comfortable.

When picking under normal conditions one should start either at the front pin or the rear and work your way forward or backward in order. One should use the turning wrench to keep the pins that have been raised in place. In some cases the pick can do this also. Some locks are machined such that they will stick when you raise the pins. This depends on the quality of the lock.

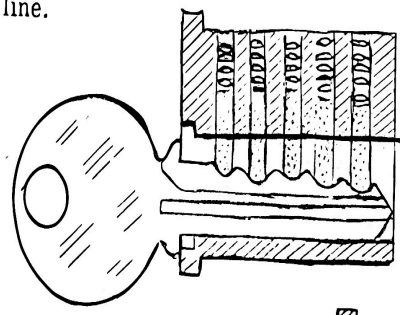




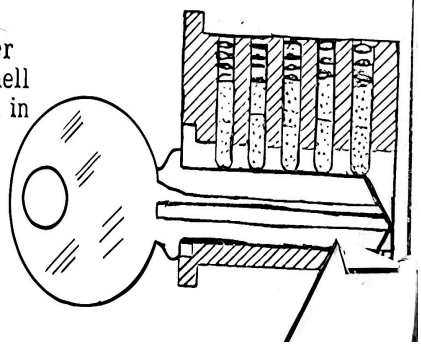
The following side view of the lock without the key inserted shows how all of the upper pins have been pushed into tee plug, thereby locking it.



This illustration shows how the correct key "lines up" the lower pins so that all of the upper and lower pins meet at the top of the plug, which is known as the shear line.



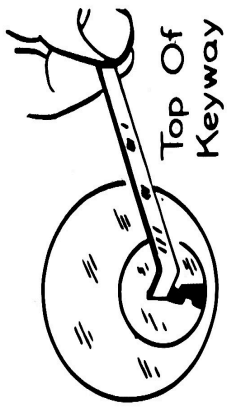
Here we see how all of the lower pins are locking the plug to the shell when a plain key blank is inserted in the lock.

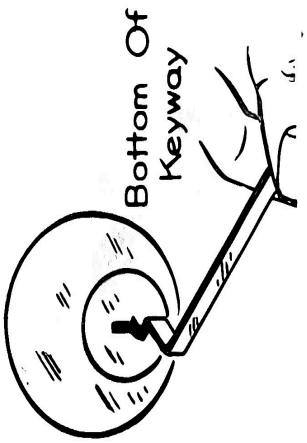


Now reverse the position of the wrench by placing it at the top of the keyway as shown in the illustration. Practice raising the pin to the shear line with the pick with the wrench in tee shown position.

The reason for these two positions is a very simple one. In some plugs the turning wrench fits very snugly into the keyway. In fact it "crowds" the space and this prevents the pick from working freely. In working both positions, you will be able to tell which is most practical and comfortable.

When picking under normal conditions one should start either at the front pin or the rear and work your way forward or backward in order. One should use the turning wrench to keep the pins that have been raised in place. In some cases the pick can do this also. Some locks are machined such that they will stick when you raise the pins. This depends on the quality of the lock.





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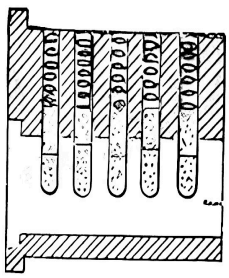

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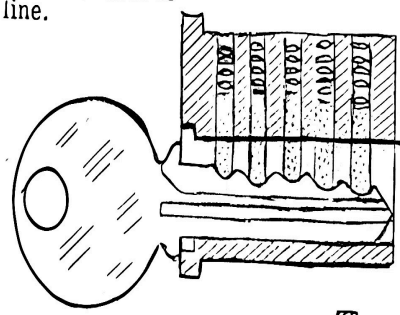

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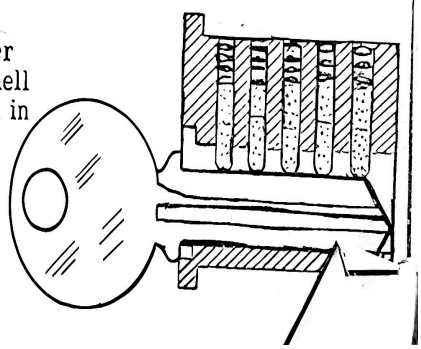


LOCK PICKING

Lock picking is a necessary skill in servicing locks as well as having freedom of access. Many locks can not be taken apart that easy and it is best to pick them inorder to open Often the quickest way to turn the plug is by picking. But picking is not a universal answer to opening all locks. Contrary to the movies or other such educational tools there are many locks that can not be picked and often it isn't just a flick of the wrist with a small tool that will open the lock.

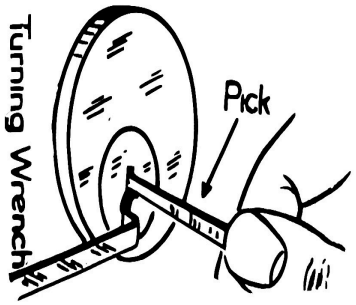
Picking skill is very much a matter of practice and patience. But one must be aware of the fundamentals first. Here we will give SOME basic info on picking the pin tumbler and the disc tumbler locks.

WARNING: MANY OF THE STEPS MAY SEEM VERY SIMPLE TO YOU BUT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU FOLLOW THEM TO THE LETTER ADD SKIP NONE.

FEEL METHOD - I

Review the principles of the pin tumbler lock. Be sure that you underztand it before proceeding.

A lock pick is nothing more than a thin, stiff piece of hardened steel tha will enter the keyway of a lock and manipulate the tumblers. On another page you will find the most common picks used depicted. Examine them. The irregular shaped ends are formed to enable the locksmith to raise and lower the tumblers in the lock. Also described and drawn is a "turning wrench" a short piece of steel with short lugs bent at an angle. It is used in the keyway of the lock to put a turning pressure on the plug in the same way that a key is used.



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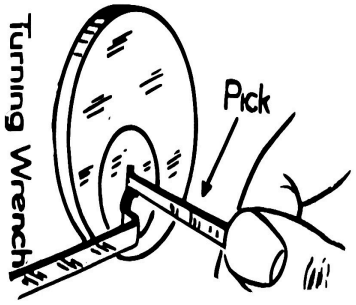
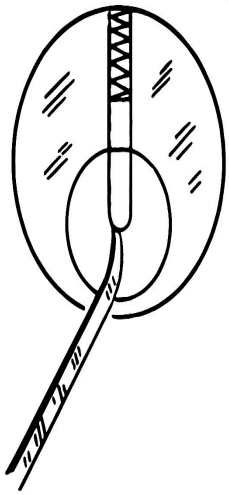
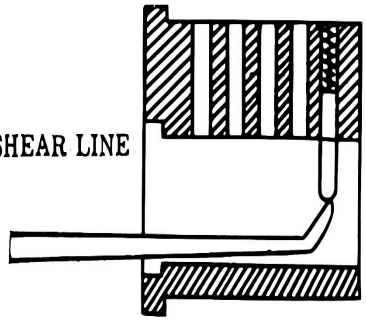


To practice obtain a pin tumbler cylinder of a mormal lock. Remove all the pins and springs as well as the plug retainer plate and plug.

Place the cylinder in a vise so that you can conveniently insert the turning wrench and pick in the keyway. Select the pick that resembles the one in the illustration. Apply a turning pressure on the plug with the wrench and try to raise the botton pin up to the shear line SEE DRAWING. KEEP PRACTICING.



You will notice that the harder you turn the wrench, the more difficult it is to raise the pin. However, you will also note that when the bottom pin has reached the shear line, the plug will turn immediately.



Practice this little exercise 25 times using less and less pressure each time on the turning wrench. You will soon get the "feel" of a pin tumbler when it reaches the shear line under the lightest possible turning pressure.

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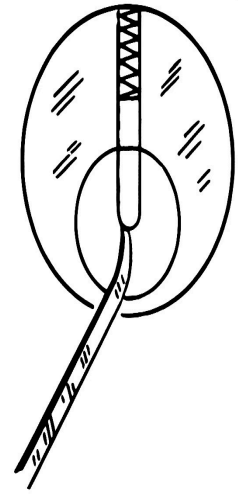

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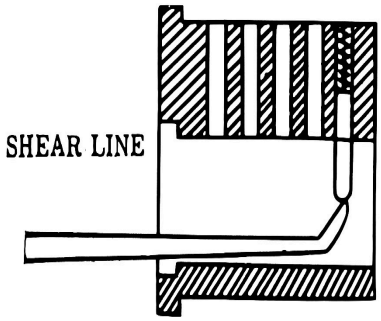

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