

Tools ...

Handles Need TLC, Too

Exposure to the elements can crack the wood handles on pioneer and engineer-type tools.

If the tool is stored outside the vehicle, paint the handle to protect it against weather. Follow the local SOP for paint color—which usually means the same color as the vehicle’s basic color, but no camouflage.

If the tool is kept inside the vehicle, forget the paint and rub the handle with linseed oil. This prevents drying, cracking and splintering. Order a gallon of linseed oil with NSN 8010-00-152-3245.

When a painted handle shows exposed wood, strip it and repaint it.

When an unpainted handle starts to feel dry, give it another rub with linseed oil.

