

## Glossary of Terms

(for **Scissors**, **Shears** and **Cutters** by [FINIX](#) )

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**- A -**

**"A" Blade:** the top blade of a pair of scissors or shears that contains the thumb bow.

**Adjustable:** shears with an assembly (usually nut and bolt) that can be adjusted so that they open and close with the amount of effort preferable to the operator.

**Anti-fatigue:** refers to floor mat products sold by [FINIX](#) to reduce the fatigue of workers who have to spend most of the time on the job on their feet.

**Anti-static:** used to describe products that reduce or eliminate static; critical to electronic assembly areas and laboratories where static electricity could ruin the electronic components.

**Anti-wick:** a reverse-action tweezers used to prevent heat from melting the insulation on wire when soldering.

**Anvil Action:** found on pruning shears; the top cutting blade descends upon a flat "anvil" surface located on the bottom blade to produce the cutting action.

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### - B -

**"B" Blade:** the bottom blade of a pair of shears produced by [FINI X](#)

which has the bow in which one or more fingers are placed.

**Ball Point:** a ball forged on the tip of the "B" blade to assure that the point will not puncture the material being cut. Used principally in the poultry processing industry.

**Bent Trimmers:** scissors or shears manufactured by [FINIX](#) that have bent handles to allow the blades to cut materials on a flat surface and at the same time place the operator's hands up off the surface for operator comfort.

**Bows:** the "handles" on a pair of scissors or shears in which the operator's fingers are placed.

**Bypass Action:** found on most cutting tools; the top and bottom blades "pass" each other to produce the cutting action.

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### - C -

**Cast (Hand Cast):**

the process of pouring molten metal into a mold to produce shears by [FINIX](#) .

**Carbon (Cutlery Grade) Steel:**

the more carbon in the steel, the longer the life of the tool. High carbon cutlery grade steel usually means high uniformity and strict control of trace elements in the steel. Clauss USA-made scissors and shears are manufactured of high carbon cutlery grade steel.

**Clip Points:**

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usually found on office shears or shears for the garment industry. The "A" blade has a sharp point and the "B" blade has an angled end so that "clipping" can be done with the points.

### **Cold-Forged:**

shear blades are formed in high pressure hydraulic presses from carbon steel raw material that has not been heated.

### **Consumer (Market)**

a descriptive term for scissors and shears and other products produced for home and office use.

### **Curved Blades**

blades that are curved to the right or left on a die. Used principally in the poultry processing industry where it is necessary for the material being cut to fall away from the blades into a trough rather than falling straight down.

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**- D -**

### **Double-Plating:**

the process of plating tool blades with nickel for luster and then plating over the nickel with chrome for durability to assure a product that is rust and stain resistant.

### **Double Sharp Points:**

the points of both blades of scissors or shears are ground to a sharp point to provide close

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tolerance cutting capability. Used widely for embroidery work.

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### **Electronic (Market):**

a descriptive term for products, including wire strippers and tweezers, produced for the electronics manufacturing industry.

### **Enameled:**

scissors or shears that have handles with paint over the metal surface. Black enameled handles are the most common.

### **Extra Blunt Points:**

the points of both blades of a scissors or shears are extra rounded so that they will not puncture the material being cut. Usually found on sewing or school scissors.

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**- F -**

### **Fiberoptics:**

the latest technology for communications. Glass fiber instead of wire is installed to carry communications between two given points.

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### **Fiberoptic Cleaver:**

a tool used to process the terminating or adjoining ends of optical fiber to assure an accurate matching fit.

### **Fiberoptic Scribe:**

a tool used for nicking and breaking optical fiber.

### **Fiberoptic Stripper:**

a tool for removing the buffer coating from optical fiber.

### **Finishing:**

the art of making assembled scissors and shears cut properly throughout the full length of the blades.

### **Florist (Market):**

a descriptive term for products including scissors and shears, pruners, wire cutters and knives produced for the professional florist trade.

### **Florist Shears:**

heavy duty, high leverage shears manufactured by [FINIX](#) used in the floral industry.

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### **GSA:**

General Services Administration; a government agency that contracts with suppliers to procure products for use by various U.S. Government departments.

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- H -

### **Heavy Duty:**

wide thicker blades to help prevent spreading at the tips and give full cutting action when cutting thick, dense materials.

### **High Leverage:**

extra cutting power is developed by increasing the cutting leverage of the tool.

### **Hot-Forged:**

the process of heating rods or strips of steel in a furnace, then placing them into a drop hammer to achieve the desired shape and grain structure of the steel. Recognized as the most expensive but the best method to produce quality tools. Clauss U.S. made scissors and shears are hot-forged.

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- I -

### **Industrial (Market):**

A descriptive term for a variety of scissors and shears and other products produced for use in manufacturing facilities.

### **Industrial Shears:**

a variety of shears manufactured for and used in auto plants, rubber plants, apparel and textile plants, and numerous other industries.

### **Inserted Nut:**

a pivot assembly in shears that joins the two blades and enables the user to adjust the run of the shears to fit the individual's preference.

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### **Kevlar® Shear:**

a shear used for cutting DuPont Kevlar® Aramid fiber and cloth, a very difficult material to cut, used widely in fiberoptic communications and the aircraft manufacturing industry.

### **Knife Edge:**

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an angle more acute than normal is placed on the cutting edge to make cutting thick, dense materials easier and place less stress on the operator.

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**- L -**

### **Left-Hand Shears:**

shears that are manufactured especially for left-handed people and have a cutting action opposite of that for right-handers.

### **Lightweight:**

a term usually used to describe scissors or shears with stainless steel blades and plastic handles.

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**- M -**

### **Molybdenum Steel:**

a high grade cutlery steel that, when hardened, forms a very durable, tough and uniform grain structure and prolongs the useful life of the tool. Used to manufacture tools for heavy duty cutting needs.

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**- N -**

### **NASSM:**

National Association of Scissors and Shears Manufacturers.



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### **Nickel-Plated:**

the process of covering scissors or shears blades with nickel to produce a shiny surface, such as the wire formed surgical littauer scissors by [FINIX](#) .

### **Nipper:**

a chisel-type cutter used in electronic assembly areas to trim wire leads and printed circuit boards.

### **No-Nik® :**

a proprietary trademarked name for Clauss fiberoptic and wire strippers because the blades will not nick the conductor material when removing insulation from wire or buffer coating from optical fiber.

### **Nut and Bolt Assembly:**

the assembly of shears with a nut and bolt rather than a screw or rivet. Usually found in heavy duty shears.

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**- O -**

### **Office Shears:**

A variety of shears produced for multiple uses in the office, such as the [FINIX](#) office stainless steel scissors.

### **Offset Handles:**

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Handles that are bent perpendicular to the scissors or shears to allow the operator's fingers to be up and over the material being cut. Usually found on carpet cutting shears.

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**- P -**

**Pattern:**

the basic shape of a pair of scissors or shears or other hand tools.

**Pinking Shears:**

shears used in the sewing industry to cut a ravel-free decorative edge on textile materials, such as the item [FX37983-8.25"](#) by [FINIX](#) Industrial.

**Plastic Handles:**

Scissors and shears handles made of acetate, polypropylene, or acrylic.

**Polished Blades:**

blades that are buffed only and not nickel and/or chrome-plated.

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**Ratchet Action:**

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the use of multiple levels of effort on pruning shears to cut through materials; duplicates the action of a car jack to reduce cutting stress for the operator.

### **Ribbon Shears:**

shears used to cut and shape decorative ribbon, such as the golden plated dressmaker scissors [FX37876B-9.5"](#) by [FINIX](#) Industrial.

### **Ring Bows:**

two bows on a pair of scissors that are oval-shaped and the same size.

### **Run:**

the "feel" you get when you cut with a pair of scissors or shears. A "good run" gives you an even, clean cut for the full length of the blades without hesitation or roughness.

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## **- S -**

### **Scissors:**

usually 6 inches long or less; both bows are the same shape and size.

### **Serrated:**

fine "teeth" are produced along the cutting edge of one or more of the blades because some materials and round objects tend to slip ahead of the cutting blades while being cut and need to

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be held by serrated edges.

### **Shears:**

Usually 6 inches long or longer with one bow for the thumb and one elongated bow for two or more fingers.

### **Snip(s):**

a tool used for cutting sheet steel or light metal into various configurations. Basic to the heating and air conditioning trades and sheet metal industries.

### **Spring-Action:**

the use of a spring in a tool for extra cutting action and to open the tool automatically when the cut has been completed.

### **Stainless Steel:**

cutlery grade alloy steel - usually 410 to 440 grade.

### **Stamped Stainless:**

blades that are cold blanked from a strip of stainless steel.

### **Straight Trimmers:**

shears with a thumb bow and an elongated bow in-line with the cutting blades.

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### - T -

#### **Tempered:**

the process of heating treating cutting tools until they are harder than some striking tools, then treating the steel until it is as pliable as spring steel and in its most desirable state for grinding.

#### **Thermal Stripper:**

an electrically powered tool that uses heat to remove the insulation material from conductive wire.

#### **Thread Clip (Thread Cutter / Thread Snips):**

a tool used for rapid, short cuts of thread or string; usually spring-loaded, visit the [FINIX](#) web site ( [Thread Snips and Cutters](#) ) to find more info for thread clip / thread cutters, thread snips.

#### **Through-Hardened:**

the process of hardening cutting tool blades throughout the entire thickness of the blade as opposed to case-hardening which only hardens the surface.

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### Wire Stripper:

a tool for removing the insulation from wire in order to work with the conducting material.

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