



#20 Tubular Lock Pick Instructions

Your A-Pick has been tried and tested before delivery. The unusual manner of picking the tubular lock will require practice before you obtain the feel, but do not be surprised if you pick the first one you try!

Preliminary Steps

1. Make sure the lock is clean, and all tumblers are free. If in doubt, flush lock with a cleaner.
2. Before using the pick after it has been idle for some time, slide each finger back and forth 2-3 times to free it.
CAUTION: Be very careful not to pull the fingers out from under the retainer. If one should get pulled out, it cannot be put back unless you remove all the fingers and slide the retainer forward to the front end (not off of the shaft).

Now insert the fingers into the slots under the retainer ring. With the fingers in the proper position, slide the retainer back toward handle until the front edge of the retainer is $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the very front end of the shaft. Be careful not to damage the thin front end of the shaft.

3. The structure of the tumblers in a tubular lock is basically the same as any standard pin tumbler cylinder; that is, it consists of a spring, top pin, bottom pin; an upper chamber for the top pin, a lower chamber for the bottom pin, and a shear line dividing the two. There are seven bottom pin lengths. The shortest, the number one pin or depth, is .016 inch. The remaining are in .016-inch increments, making number seven .112 inch in length.

Picking the Tubular Lock

1. With all fingers flush with end of pick, insert pick into lock until it bottoms. (No torquing pressure should be applied during this entry.) With the pick inserted into the lock in this manner, it is in essence the same as a blank key in the lock. All tumblers have been moved up to their extreme height; all bottom pins have been moved past the shear line of the bottom chamber and have entered into the top chamber. All pins now must move down to reach their individual shear line.

The method employed to pick the tubular lock is: Drift the pick out from the bottom position only a few thousandths (no more than the depth of a one cut, .016 inch), allowing all pins to move toward their shear line. Apply tension to bind the bottom pins at the shear line by torquing the pick to the right or left and then bottoming the pick. The pins bound by this action force the pick fingers back. Repetition of these movements will move the pick fingers back until the bottom pins are trapped at the shear line, allowing the lock to be opened.

2. Pick action. Insert pick into lock to the "bottom" position. Keep pick perpendicular to the lock throughout all operations. Drift pick out from bottom very slightly and apply torquing pressure to the right. (Torquing action should be firm to bind pins, but easy does it!) Bottom pick again. Drift pick out and torque to the left. Repeat until lock opens.
3. If, after 45-60 seconds of picking, the lock has not opened, withdraw pick and inspect fingers. If any one of the fingers has moved all the back to the edge of the cut-away recess at the end of the pick, your drifting movement is too great or the pick is not being held perpendicular, causing the pick fingers to rub the edge of the keyway. If this is the case, move all fingers flush with the end of the pick and start anew.
4. When the lock is opened, withdraw the A-Pick. Pin depths may now be read by the use of the decoder block.

**USE THE HERTY GERTY AND A-1'S TUBULAR PICK
TO CODE-CUT KEYS FROM PICKED LOCKS**

A-1's Herty Gerty is a compact, hand-operated tubular key machine. Code cuts # 137 standard tubular blanks - offset left, offset right, and even pin within a pin (requires accessory #CS). Cuts any spacing 0 to 360°. The Herty Gerty may also be used to duplicate by using the tubular key decoder which is included. Herty Gerty with standard cutter, dial, decoder & case **#HG1**

MADE IN U.S.A.



A1 SECURITY MANUFACTURING 3001 WEST MOORE STREET, RICHMOND, VA, USA

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