Tool Talk

Tools that every gardener should know about.
There is a huge variety in tools sold for gardening.

In the end, it comes down to personal preference...

Today’s presentation:
• Basic tools and uses (with demos)
• The short list of tools every gardener should own.
• Unusual Tools
• Uses for Old Tools
• Sources for Buying Tools
Basic Tools: Hoes – pull (more common)

- **General purpose Hoe**
- **Stirrup or Cultivator Hoe**
- **Vee Hoe**
- **Field Hoe**
- **Hoe Dag**

**Purpose:**
- Break up soil
- Chop weeds
- Move soil
- Make rows
Basic Tools: Hoes — push or “Dutch” style

“Dutch scuffle” – not a dance

Royal Dutch Hoe (made by SneeBoer)

Main purpose:
• Eliminate weeds
Basic Tools: Garden Fork

Flat tines

Purpose: Turn soil

Less surface area of tines make its easier to use in dense soils than shovel.
Basic Tools: Shovels

- **Shovel**
  - Purpose: Digging

- **Spade**
  - Purpose: Digging; turning soil; breaking up clods

- **Trenching Spade**
  - Purpose: Digging deep; turning soil

- **Scoop Shovel**
  - Purpose: Moving soil, compost, etc... NOT FOR DIGGING
Basic Tools: Garden Rakes

Bow Rake
Purpose: Smooth out beds

Leaf Rake
Purpose: Collecting Leaves
NOT FOR MOVING SOIL!

Totally different beasts!
Not so Basic: Broad Fork

TreadLiteTools – $105 + 40 shipping from Appleton, WI
Basic Tools: Hand Tools

**Weeder**
Purpose: Can penetrate soil to loosen roots during weeding

**Hand Trowel**
Purpose: Local Digging; Planting; Weeding

**Hand Rake**
Purpose: Reaking and loosening soil;
Basic Tools: Hand Pruners and Saws

Anvil Style – Best for cutting dead shoots and branches

Bypass Style – Best for cutting live plant material. Can jam with dead wood.

Folding Hand Saw

Purpose:
Cutting large woody branches
Short list –
Tools every gardener should own

• One Preferred Digging Tool: Spade, Garden Fork or Shovel
• Multi-purpose Hoe
• Bow Rake
• Hand Trowel
• Hand Pruner

There are lots of other useful tools too....
Unusual Tools

These cross the line with culinary tools
Unusual Tools

Scary looking
Turning old tools into art
Turning old tools into furniture
Sources

- Earth Tools: http://www.earthtoolsbcs.com
- Rogue Hoe: http://www.roguehoe.com
- Green Heron Tools: http://www.greenherontools.com/ (tools for her)
- Garden Tool Company: http://www.gardentoolcompany.com
- TreadLite Tools: http://www.treadlitebroadforks.com/