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DEVICE FOR POINTING LEAD PENCILS

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The present invention relates to a device for sharpening the point of lead pencils and to a process for producing a sharpener.

At present, the lead pencils of the type having replaceable lead are not provided with any suitable means for pointing the lead. Also, in the case of the common wood pencils, it is frequently desirable to provide a point on the lead of the pencil without having to resharpen the pencil.

It is a general object of the present invention to provide a device and method of producing same of very simple construction for the purpose of sharpening the point of a pencil.

In accordance with the present invention, a sharpening device for the lead of the pencil is formed from a solid rod of metal by making a plurality of saw-cuts along the axis of the rod and at intersecting angles producing sharp cutting edges at the points of intersection of the saw-cuts. These cutting edges are brought to a proper tapering condition to allow pointing of the lead of the pencil by a suitable bending of the stock of material. The resulting sharpening device formed is susceptible of being readily mounted in various holding means which may be associated with the pencil to be sharpened.

A description of a preferred form or example of sharpening device and method of producing the same embodying the present invention will point out various additional objects and advantages of the invention. I have, therefore, hereinafter described in connection with the accompanying drawing the preferred form or forms of the invention.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a rod of metal such as may be used in the process of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a similar perspective view showing one of the initial steps in the process.

Figure 3 is a similar perspective view showing the formation of the intersecting saw-cuts.

Figure 4 is a similar perspective view illustrating the bending operations.

Figure 5 is a similar perspective view of the device turned upside down.

Figure 6 is an enlarged elevation showing the sharpening action of the device.

Figure 7 is a top view of the finished device.

Figure 8 is a bottom view of the finished device.

Referring to the drawing, the sharpener of the present invention is formed out of a rod of hard metal, indicated at 2 in Figure 1. The first step in forming the sharpener of the present invention is to suitably countersink the rod of metal, as indicated by the countersunk recess 3 in the end of the bar, as shown in Figure 2. The bar of metal is then reversed, and from its opposite end a plurality of intersecting sawcuts, such as 4 and 5, are made along the axis of the rod of a suitable depth to meet the bottom of the countersunk recess 3 in the opposite end of the bar of metal. Such cuts produce sharp cutting edges 6 at the intersections between the cuts 4 and 5. The cuts 4 and 5 should be made of a width to permit the desired amount of divergence to the cutting edges of the sharpener after the sharpener has been treated as hereafter described for spreading the sharpening edges.

As illustrated in Figure 4 of the drawing, one method of suitably positioning the cutting edges so that they lie at an angle suitable for pointing the edge of the pencil is to bend together the end of the rod until the faces formed by the cutting operations at the end of the rod meet in lines.

The result of such an operation is to produce a sharpening device in which the lead of the pencil to be sharpened is inserted through the countersunk recess 3 until the same engages the sharp and now divergent cutting edges, then by relative rotation between the lead sharpener and the lead of the pencil, as indicated at 7 in Figure 6, through contacting the cutting edges 6 can be brought to a desired fine point.

I have indicated the preferred sharpening devices, holders therefor, and methods of producing the sharpening devices of the present invention, but it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that numerous modifications may be made, and this invention is not limited to the specific form shown but includes all such changes and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

A sharpening device for the lead of a pencil, comprising a body of metal having a countersunk recess in one end thereof and a plurality of tongues formed by intersecting axial cuts beginning at the opposite end of the body and meeting such countersunk recess, said tongues having interior sharp cutting edges, the faces of the tongues meeting at the end opposite to the countersunk recess to position the cutting edges at angles to the axis of the body.

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