

HAND SHEARS...

Burgon & Ball of Sheffield UK, are one of the world's oldest manufacturers of blade shears, having been making shears since 1730. They are now one of the last shear manufacturers in the world who still hand-finish all shears, and know all there is to know about shear making. One of their most well-known brands is the TUS, marketed widely in Australasia and South America. TUS stands for Trade Union Shear, and was the standard for the shearing industry in these regions for decades, until the advent of mechanical shearing in the late 19th century. Blade shearing still has a firm place in modern sheep farming, particularly in high country areas where blades can leave more wool on the sheep to reduce hypothermia.



B&B 3.5"

23cm 203 502 \$65.95

Smallest size B&B shear, ideal for dagging and trimming of lambs. But also very useful for any clipping work on other animals - dogs, cows, horses. Length 23cm o.a. Blades 9cm long.



B&B 5" TUS

30cm 203 503 \$74.95

These shears are ideal for dagging and trimming of all sheep. Also useful as general purpose clippers on other animals. Length 30cm o.a. Blades 13cm long.



Hand Shears B&B 7" TUS

37cm right hand 203 505 \$79.95

37cm left hand 203 504 \$84.95

This is the TUS shear used in Australasia over the last century. The gold-standard, so to speak. Specially manufactured for the professional blade shearer. The 'left-hand' shear is for left hand use, having the left side blade on top. Right-hand is right side blade on top (the conventional pattern for most shears). Length 37cm o.a. Blades 18cm.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD SHEAR

Burgon & Ball have written the book on blade shearing. Here are some tips for choosing shears:

1. *One-piece blade and handle:* B&B shears have the blades hot-forged onto the handles for maximum strength.
2. *Hot-forged blades:* forging the steel gives strength and hardness to the blade and cutting edge etc. B&B forge their blades to 56-58 Rockwell. But also imperative is that both blades are of equal hardness, otherwise one will cut into the other, or they will wear unevenly.
3. *Hollow ground cutting edge:* this is only found on top-quality shears. It ensures that just the actual cutting edges touch to ensure clean but easy cutting. Making the final edge is about 65% of the manufacture process at B&B.
4. *Double Bow:* as compared to single bow shears, the double bow gives a lighter and much smoother squeeze, and produces less fatigue.
5. *Ground underside:* B&B shears are also hollow-ground on the underside of the blades. This ensures only the cutting edges contact, and they do not drag across the back of the opposing blade as they cut.
6. *Hot-rolled bow:* This can be difficult to see on a shear, but this is when the bow is actually hot-rolled out of the handle, reducing the thickness, but creating tensile strength that will not collapse or crack under hard use.
7. *Setting of blades:* this is the gap that appears at the handle end of the blade, when the tips are closed. It is important geometry to ensure the blades are not grinding into each other as they are being used, wasting energy and causing wear.

Most of what goes into a blade shear is difficult to see if you are not a skilled metallurgist. So you just need to rely on a manufacturer's good name. Most of the qualities of B&B will not be apparent in the store, but will become so after half a day of dagging or trimming with a less perfectly manufactured shear. A quick and simple test of a shear is to work it a few times in the air. A good shear will 'sing' a nice tune!

CARE OF YOUR B&B SHEARS

Use the Burgon & Ball sharpener for a quick touch-up each time you start work, and at periods through the day. At the end of work wipe the shears down with an oily rag, and store safely where blades will not get dented or damaged.



Sharpener Burgon & Ball

sharpener cpt 203 525 \$16.95

repl't stones pair 203 526 \$12.50

This Burgon & Ball tool is designed specifically to sharpen hand shears. (It will also sharpen garden shears and scissors exceptionally well.) Pocket size, ready for quick use on the job. Long life silicon carbide stone. Sharpens 45° or 60°. Use the sharpener to touch up your blades, each time you use them. Stone is safely encased in drop-proof clip-up holder. A spare stone is supplied with each sharpener. Rejuvenate your old shears with this handy tool. Instructions for use included.



ON SPECIAL



Economy w Pouch

30cm cpt 203 518 \$34.95

33cm cpt 211 176 ~~\$39.95~~ \$29.95

Without a doubt these are the best value for money we have. The shears are stainless steel with the blades teflon coated and the handles plastic coated. Very smooth cutting, and easy on the hand. Nice to grip in the wet. And supplied complete with a reinforced weather-proof belt pouch. Dimension is length o.a.



Black-Blue

29cm right hand 203 509 \$29.95

34cm right hand 203 511 \$32.95

Famous in Europe, the Black Blue shears are of good quality, but very reasonable in price. Made from hardened and tempered steel, these shears retain a good edge. The handles feature a double bow for smooth and even opening power, and rubber stops to take the jar out of closing. Your hand will appreciate the difference after prolonged use. The handles are powder coated to prevent rust. Length is o.a. Blades are 14cm on 29cm and 16cm on 34cm shears.



ON SPECIAL

Due Buoi

27cm straight 203 513 ~~\$37.95~~ \$36.95

29cm straight 203 514 \$41.95

29cm angled 203 515 ~~\$44.95~~ \$32.95

32cm straight 203 516 \$44.95

34cm straight 203 517 ~~\$49.95~~ \$47.95

Due Boi shears are manufactured in Italy, and they are proud to put their brand on them. This is about as good as 'economy' hand shears get. If it wasn't for our Burgon & Ball range, we would call them 'quality'. Angled shear has 'bent up' handles. Dimension is overall length. Blade lengths are: 27cm = 13cm, 29cm = 13cm, 32cm = 14cm and 34cm = 16cm.