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## PRODUCT INFORMATION BULLETIN

### ***What is the difference between A Tire Bead Wedge and a Tire Hammer?***

A “bead breaking wedge” is a tool which, *when properly used per TIA (Tire Industry Association) guidelines*, is placed against the bead of a tire and struck with a “soft-faced tire hammer”, see photos below.

This is the case whether the wedge is hand-held or handled. Since a wedge with a handle is meant to be struck rather than swung, there is no need for the handle to be permanently fixed in the head. Whenever the head works its way loose, the tool is simply turned upside down and tamped on the floor to snug it up for continued use.

If a bead breaks easily with a powerful hammer blow, the wedge handle may sustain damage from hitting the rim of the wheel. It is easily replaced *because* it is not permanently fixed in the head. Since the wedge handle is the one that is subject to being damaged in this way, it’s important that it is easy to replace. Ken-Tool offers wood and fiberglass replacement handles for all of its tire hammers.

