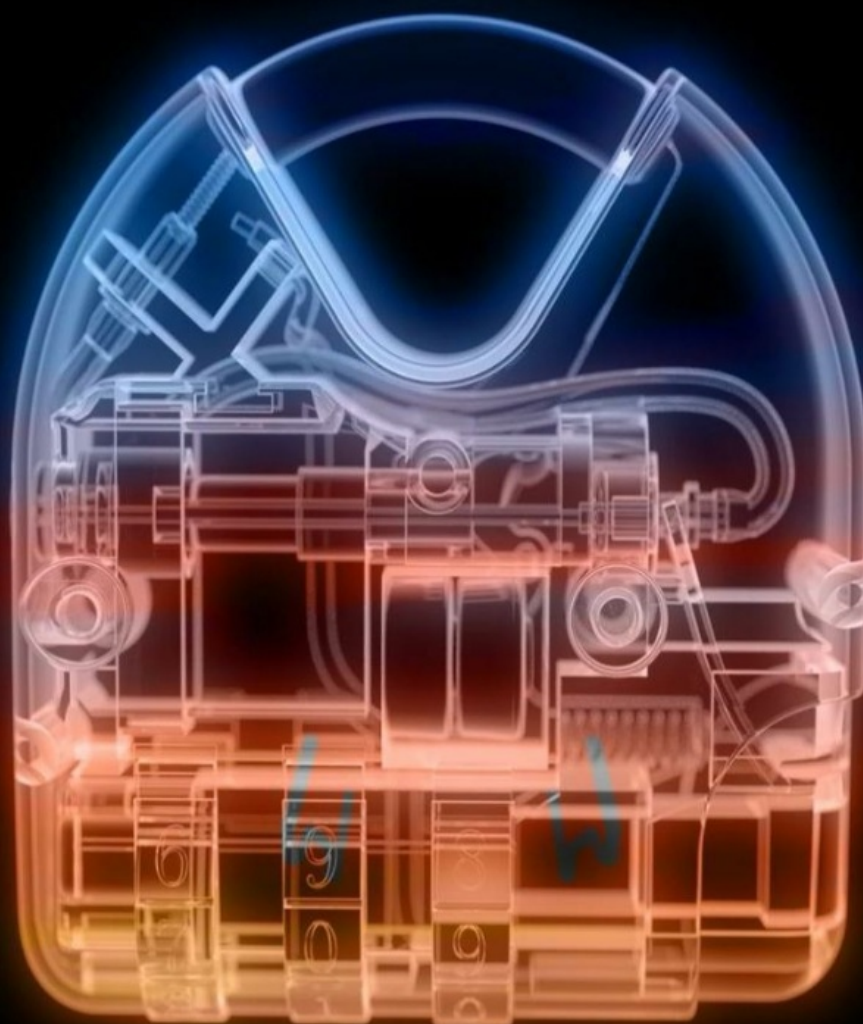


THOMAS BENNETT

A VISUAL HOW-TO GUIDE



MASTERING THE LOCK

Unlocking the potential of the lock
Ideal for Beginners and Experts

Mastering the Lock

Unlocking The Potential of the Lock,
Ideal For Beginners and Experts

by

Thomas Bennett

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WARNING

The author, publisher, and distributors of this book, in no way, endorse or condone any potentially illegal activities or acts, and disclaim any liability for the use or misuse of the information contained herein. This book is for information purposes only.

United States Lock Picking Laws



- Lock picks are legal/No laws
- Lock picks are legal, however state includes other related laws
- Lock picks considered illegal; can be considered evidence of criminal intent
- Lock picks are strictly illegal

FORWARD

The techniques and skills you will learn throughout this manual should be used only on locks that you either own or have legal access to. Each US State and other countries will have their own specific laws on the ownership and use of lock picks and the illegal entry into a home or premises. The general theme is that if you are in possession of a lock pick set with the intent to use them for the illegal entry you will be liable for prosecution.

A good friend of mine once joked that you are more likely to be arrested for loitering than breaking and entering due to the time it takes to pick a lock. Most criminals are opportunistic, an unlocked window or door is more appealing than spending vulnerable seconds or minutes picking a lock.

So, who is this book for? From my experience, there are two types of people interested in lock picking. Professionals looking to make a living out of helping people gain entry to their homes. The second is the hobbyist who is looking

to learn a skill that is much like the Rubik's, which requires many hours to master and is so satisfying to complete.

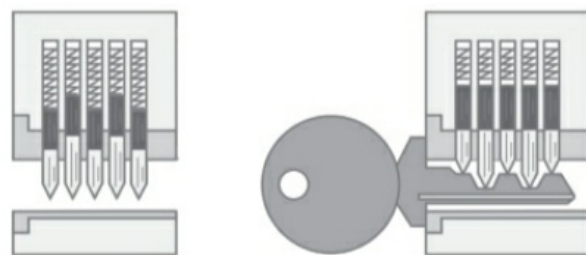
My advice to both is to stick with the basics and grow their skill as things become easy. Enjoy the process of picking locks, treat each lock pick as a puzzle, that can be solved.

CHAPTER ONE

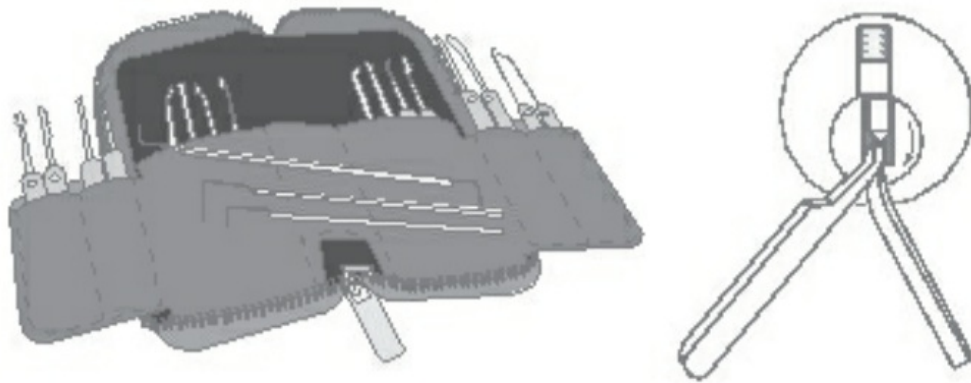
INTRODUCTION

Let us jump straight into some theory of locks then get to the practical.

We use the same security principle today on millions of applications The most commonly used lock today is the pin tumbler lock. A series of pins that are divided at certain points must be raised to these dividing points in relationship to the separation between the cylinder wall and the shell of the lock by a key cut for that particular series of pin divisions. Thus the cylinder can be turned, and the mechanism or lock is unlocked



Lock picking means to open a lock by use of a flat piece of steel called a pick and a flat steel to turn the cylinder of the lock.



It amuses me to watch spies and thieves on TV picking locks using only one tool.

CHAPTER TWO

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

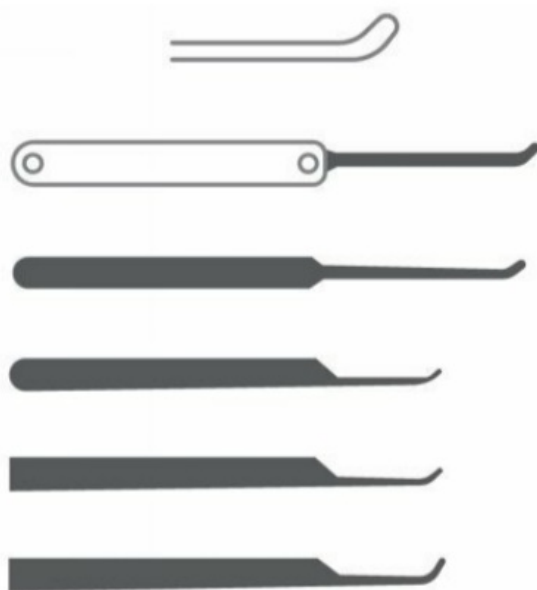
There are many different types of lock picks, some are very specific and others are multipurpose. All of the tools share a common purpose of manipulate the internal components of a lock.

The Pin tumbler lock is very common and a great place to start when learning to pick locks. Often found in padlocks and house locks. The tools required for this can be broken into two separate parts, Tension wrench, and Picks.

PICKS

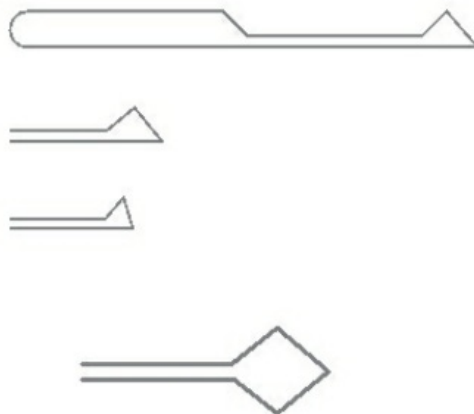
Hook pick

The hook pick is the most basic pick, designed to manipulate a single pin at a time. The hook will be used if the lock is unable to be opened with a raking technique.



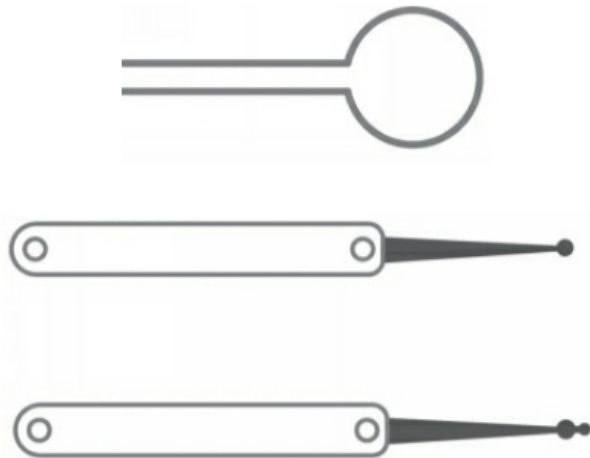
Half-diamond pick (triangle) and Diamond

A very useful and common pick in most sets. It is most often used for picking individual pins. It can however also be used for raking wafer and disk locks. The shape of the triangle used will change based on the users requirement. A more pointy triangle won't touch neighboring pins as easily. Diamond pick are used in the same way.



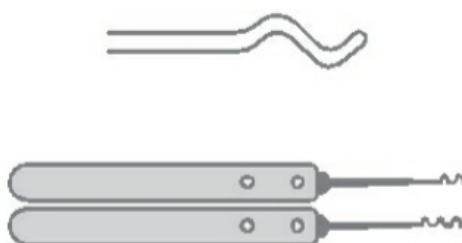
Ball pick

The ball pick is comparable to the half diamond pick. The sharp edges of the diamond are rounded off.



Rake picks

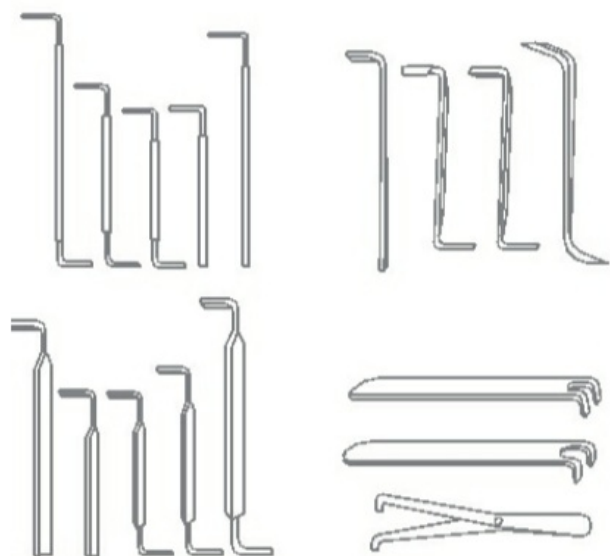
There are two types of rake picks defined by the number of bumps the double and the triple peak. The term of raking is derived from the similarity to raking the lawn to collect leaves. The rake pick is moved past the pins repeatedly to bounce them until they reach the shear line. This is the simplest and fastest method and works on most simple locks



Torsion / Tension wrench

The torsion wrench is what creates the turning action when picking. It is essential to when picking a pin tumbler, wafer lock dimple, and many other locks. For the torsion force to be applied most efficiently the shape will often look like an "L" with a 90 degree bend connection a longer piece with a shorter one. The shorter end goes in the lock.

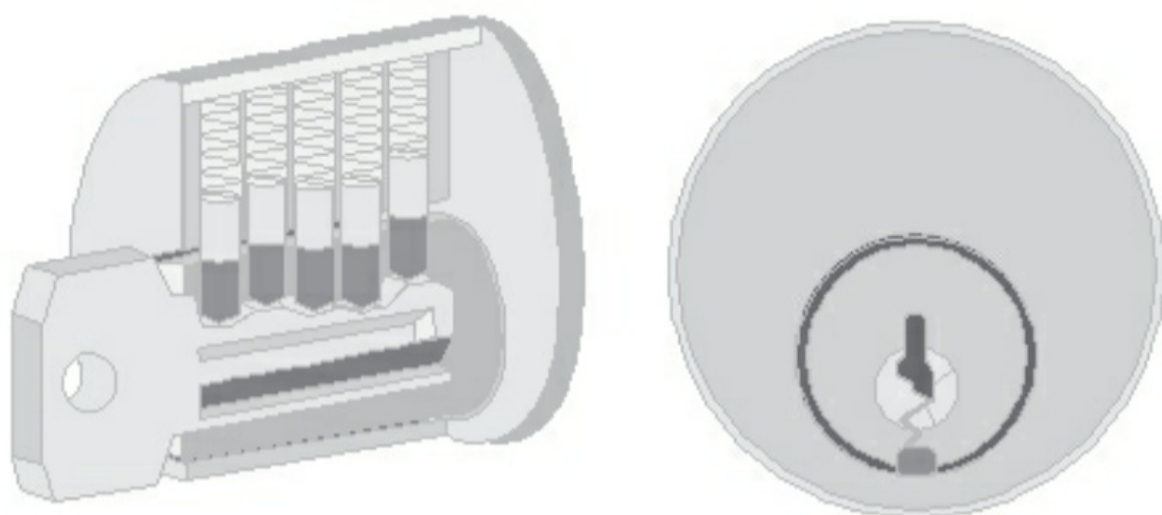
For more complicated locks (double-sided wafer) the torsion wrench will look more like a pair of tweezers. This allows for torsion to be applied uniformly to the lock while picking occurs.



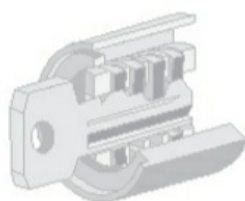
LOCK IDENTIFICATION

There are many types of locks, to be able to pick a lock you must first understand what it is and how it works.

1. *Pintumbler lock – Houses doors, padlocks, The focus of this Ebook*



2. *Wafer tumbler lock – garages, trailers, desks, padlocks, cabinets, cars, windows,*



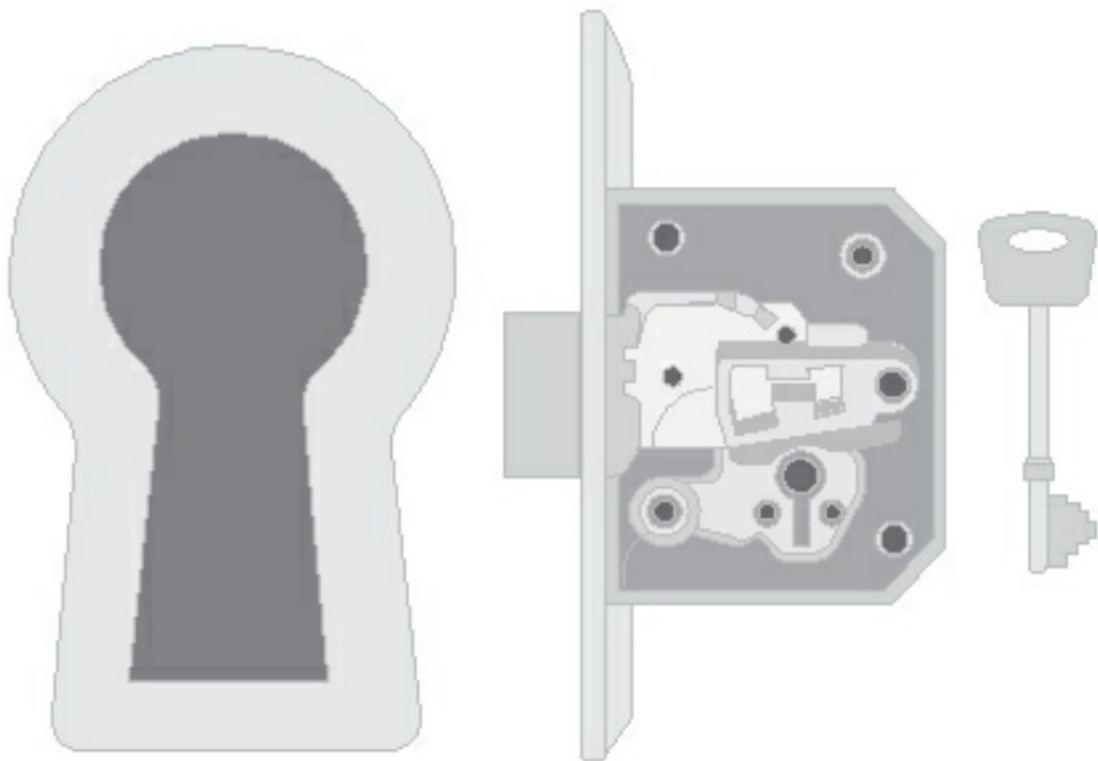
3. *Double wafer lock – high security uses of the above single wafer,*



4. Warden locks – simple padlocks, older style locks,



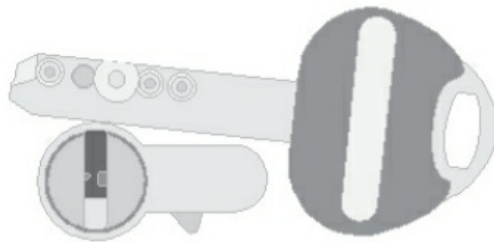
5. Lever Locks – old padlocks, safe deposit boxes, desks,



6. Tubular cylinder locks. Vending machines,



7. Dimple Locks,



8. Cross (Zeiss) Locks,

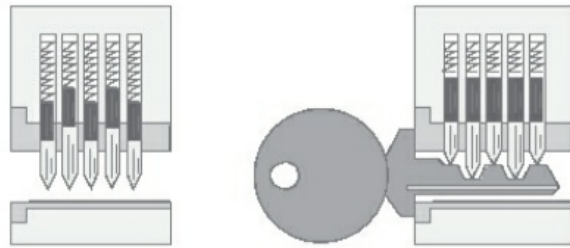


9. Handcuffs

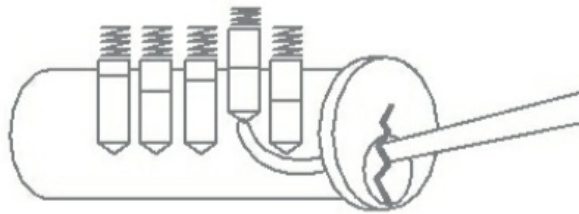


CHAPTER THREE

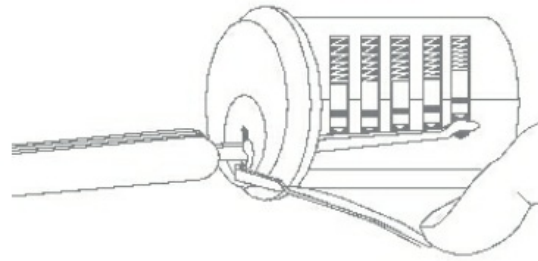
PICKING METHOD FOR PIN TUMBLERS



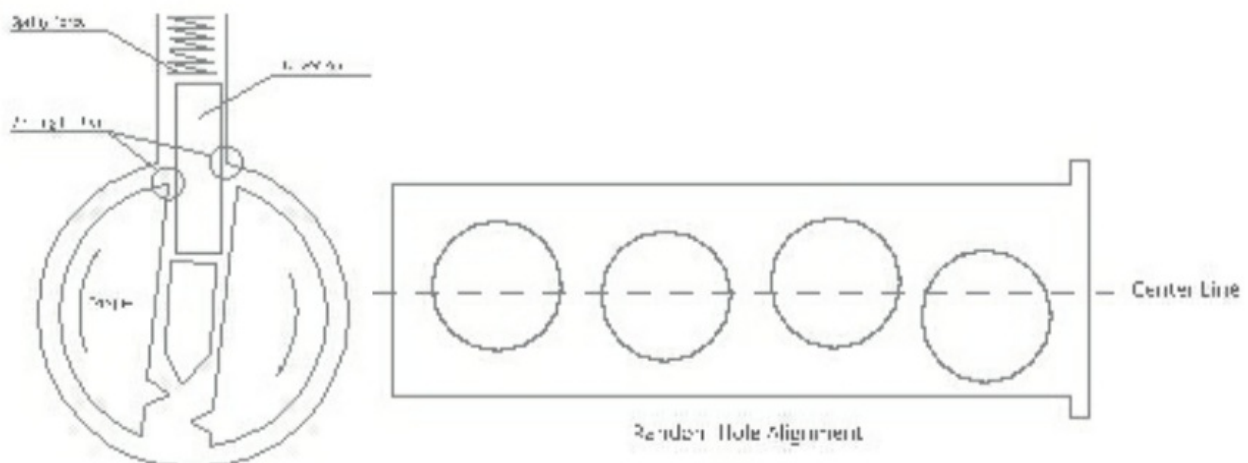
Step 1



The first step is to get a feel for the lock, by using only a pick. The pick is preferable with a hook or triangle (no rakes) which should be oriented towards the pins. This is usually up but you can quickly tell by looking, as the thin end of the hole is where the pins are located. Use your pick to find the back tumbler. Then explore each pin and count them as you exit the lock. Most common pin tumbler locks have 5 pins. Insert the tension wrench at the bottom (the top is also acceptable) of the lock and apply gentle clockwise pressure. The gentle tension will cause the pins to bind* in the housing.

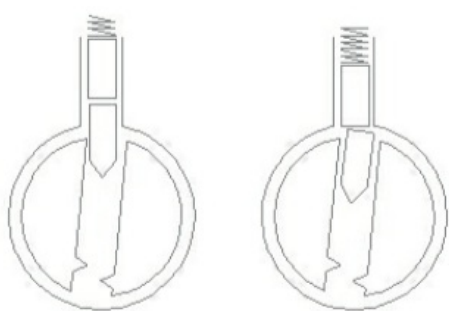


*Binding is a flaw in the pin tumbler design that can be exploited to pick the lock. Binding is when the pins get pinned as the housing is turned. Pins will bind usually one at a time



Step 2

To pick the lock, we will need to find the pin causing the lock to bind. This will be done by locating the back pin and slowly raising it with a prying motion and the pick. If the pin moves easily it is not bound, leave it and move to the next. Once you have found a pin which does not move easily, you will slowly raise the pin with the pick. You will hear and feel a soft click, this will be the sound of the next pin being bound. The pin will now loose spring, stop prying now, as any further movement may cause it to go past the shear line. Throughout this process, gentle pressure is required on the tension wrench.



Step 3

The next pin will be found in the same way. Raise it with the pick until it breaks, keeping the tension wrench constant. Notice the sound and feeling it as it breaks.

Step 4

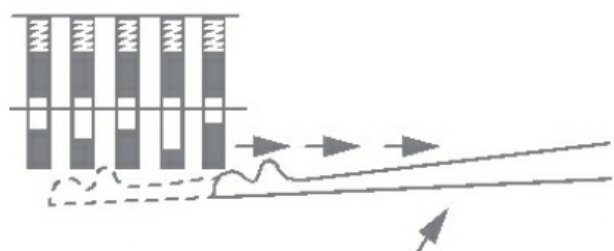
Continue finding the binding pin and gently pushing it up until you hear the click. As you find more pins, you will notice the tension wrench moves slightly with each new pin. Once the last pin has been found, the lock will undo.

Step 5

So what if something goes wrong? Start again, release the tension and the pins will drop down. The most common issues people have is as a result of them pushing the pins too far.

RAKE METHOD

The rake method uses a raking tool to scrub the pins all at once. Instead of focusing on one pin, you use the blunt force attack and do them all at once. The same principle is applied, the pins will bind and move up. The only difference is you won't know the order.



Step 1

The first step is to get a feel for the lock, by using only the rake. When you move the rake, can you feel the pins move? Is this the right tool for the job?

Step 2

Insert the tension wrench at the bottom or top of the lock and apply gentle clockwise pressure. The gentle tension will cause the pins to bind in the housing. Insert the rake all the way and apply constant pressure to the pins. Now slowly drag the rake across the pins, this may take several passes.

Step 3

If after a few attempt at raking and the lock is still locked, release the tension and listen to the sound of the pins dropping, how many did you hear fall? Repeat step 2 until it is successful.

FINAL THOUGHTS

No single book can cover the whole world of lock picking. Hopefully, you now have a great understanding of how locks work and ways to pick them. We have looked at the most common types of lock and the conventional ways of picking them.

Different locks may require different tools and techniques but the skill and dexterity are constant. For some locks, you can pick them in seconds while others will take hours. No lock picking tool will perform by itself, your skill and practice are what make them work

I wish you the best and good luck in Mastering the lock!!!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Having a lifelong love of lock picking from when still in high school building his own lock pick tools from hacksaw blades and bicycle spokes. Thomas has always had a keen interest in lock picking for recreation and fun. A engineer by training, always looking for the best tools and tips. Thomas has created this book for fellow lovers of lock picking. In conjunction with his popular lock picking products from www.MasteringTheLock.com

