Pipe Vise User Guide

⚠ WARNING

Read the warnings and instructions for all equipment and material being used before operating this tool to reduce the risk of serious personal injury.

- **Properly support the vise and pipe.** Failure to properly support the equipment can cause vise tipping, falling pipe, chain breakage and serious injury.
- **Use appropriate safety equipment.** Always wear proper eye and foot protection to reduce the risk of injury.
- **Do not use handle extensions ("cheaters") or excessive force.** These may damage the tool or cause serious injury.

NOTICE Selection of appropriate materials and installation, joining and forming methods is the responsibility of the system designer and/or installer. Selection of improper materials and methods could cause system failure.

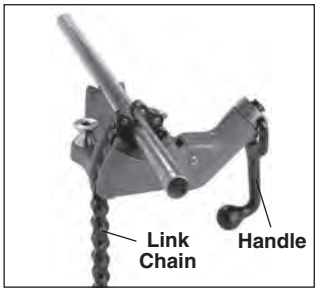
Stainless steel and other corrosion resistant materials can be contaminated during installation, joining and forming. This contamination could cause corrosion and premature failure. Careful evaluation of materials and methods for the specific service conditions, including chemical and temperature, should be completed before any installation is attempted.

Description

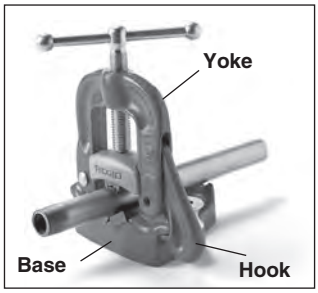
RIDGID® Pipe Vises use a chain or yoke vise to hold and work pipe. Many Pipe Vises include features to allow pipe bending.

The bench vises are mounted to a bench or other stable horizontal platform. For lighter duty applications, portable vises are equipped with a clamp or chain for temporary mounting. Vises/jaws are available for use with plastic pipe.

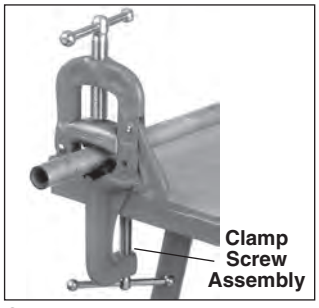
See the product label for specifications or consult the RIDGID catalog.



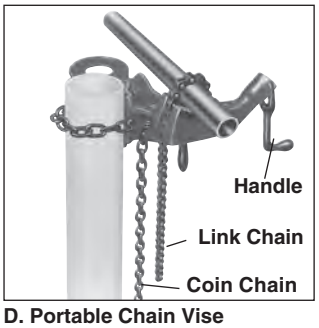
A. Bench Chain Vise



B. Bench Yoke Vise



C. Portable Yoke Vise



D. Portable Chain Vise

Figure 1 – RIDGID Pipe Vises

Inspection/Maintenance

Clean the vise to aid inspection and improve control. Inspect the vise before each use for proper assembly, wear, damage, modification or other issues that could affect safe use. Clean the jaws with a wire brush. Replace jaws if teeth are worn to prevent pipe slippage. If any problems are found, do not use until corrected.

For chain vises, inspect the chain for separation of the links or any other damage. Link separation indicates the chain has been overstressed and should be replaced. Use only identical replacement parts from RIDGID when servicing.

Confirm that the mounting fasteners are secure.

Lubricate all moving parts/joints as needed with light lubricating oil. Wipe up excess oil.

Set Up/Operation

1. Make sure all equipment is inspected and set up per its instructions.
2. Assemble the Yoke Vise:
   a. Place the yoke on base with hook orientation as required, left or right side *(Figure 2)*.
   b. Insert Hinge Bolt through yoke and base assembly. Assemble washer and nut to Hinge Bolt, and then tighten. If yoke does not swing freely on base, tap threaded end of Hinge Bolt with hammer.

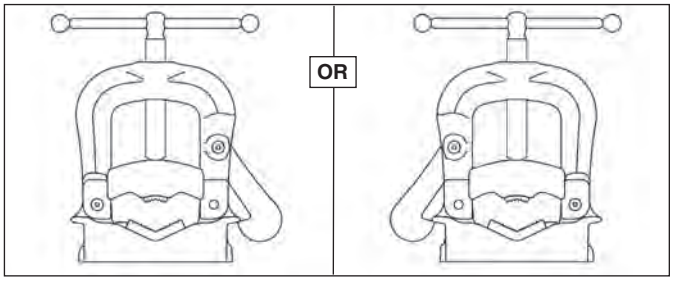


Figure 2 – Yoke Vise Assembly

3. Choose a level, stable location to mount the vise. Location must be able to support the working loads applied to the pipe/vise without bending, breaking, moving, tipping or other issues. Material may need to be added to allow proper mounting (wood or metal backing). Make sure there is nothing that will be damaged by mounting the vise (electrical wires, etc.).
4. Pipe vises are usually located along the edge of benches. Chain vises overhang the edge and have stops that locate the vise relative to the bench edge.
   a. Bench Vises: Use the holes in the vise base as a template for locating the holes in the bench. Use the largest diameter fastener that will fit in the vise and spool holes. Use appropriate grade fasteners for the installation. Use through bolts with washers and locking nuts/washers. Bolts go through the bending spools. *See the vise parts list for more information.*
   Do not weld the vise in place. The vise bases are not designed to be welded to.
   b. Portable Yoke Vise: Securely clamp the vise to the platform by tightening the clamp screw assembly *(Figure 1C)*.
   c. Portable Chain Vise: Hold the vise near a stable vertical post/pipe. Wrap the coin chain around post and hook the chain pin in the base groove. Securely tighten the chain around post by rotating the eye bolt with handle *(Figure 1D)*.
   Confirm that the vise is secure and stable.
5. Carefully place the pipe on vise. Do not drop the pipe on the vise. For best stability during use, keep the pipe end to be worked on as close to the vise as possible.
6. Use appropriate pipe supports if the pipe extends past the base of the vise.
   Place stands to properly support long pipes. Generally pipe should be supported in at least two places. The number and

placement of stands depend on the specific circumstances, including pipe size, length and weight.

Make sure that the pipe is properly centered on the vise and stands to reduce the risk of tipping. Do not exceed the vise ratings. Make sure pipe is stable and secure. Always stay clear of supported loads.

7. Secure the pipe on vise. The work piece should extend across the entire lower jaw. Do not grip the work piece at the very end. This will ensure a secure grip and prevent vise damage.
   a. Chain Vise: Place the chain over the pipe and hook the chain pin in the base groove. Tighten the chain by rotating the handle to grip the pipe.
   b. Yoke Vise: Lift the hook and swing the yoke to the side to open the Vise. Place the pipe on the Lower Jaw. Close the yoke, making sure the hook is engaged with the vise base. Close the jaws by turning the feed screw to grip the pipe.

   Do not use handle extensions (“Cheaters”) to tighten the vise. Do not hammer on the handles. This can overload the vise and cause damage to the vise or the work piece.
8. Make sure the pipe and vise are stable for the work to be done. When using the vise, do not overreach and maintain proper footing and balance at all times. This allows better control in unexpected situations.

   Do not apply extreme or prolonged heat to the workpiece – this could overheat the vise and alter the vise material properties.
9. Pipe Bending:

   Place the pipe as shown for bending. Make sure the end of the pipe is far enough from the support points to prevent slippage and pipe damage. Apply gradual force on the pipe to bend the pipe.

A) Bench Chain Vise

B) Bench Yoke Vise

Figure 3 – Bending Pipe

To reduce the risk of kinking, bend the pipe approximately 10 degrees at a time, moving the pipe slightly in or out of the bending spools until the desired bend is formed.