

Chapter 1 : Sheet metal - Wikipedia

Bending is a manufacturing process that produces a V-shape, U-shape, or channel shape along a straight axis in ductile materials, most commonly sheet metal. Commonly used equipment include box and pan brakes, brake presses, and other specialized machine presses.

Process[edit] Bending process In press brake forming, a work piece is positioned over the die block and the die block presses the sheet to form a shape. When bending is done, the residual stresses cause the material to spring back towards its original position, so the sheet must be over-bent to achieve the proper bend angle. The amount of spring back is dependent on the material, and the type of forming. When sheet metal is bent, it stretches in length. The bend deduction is the amount the sheet metal will stretch when bent as measured from the outside edges of the bend. The bend radius refers to the inside radius. The formed bend radius is dependent upon the dies used, the material properties, and the material thickness. The U-punch forms a U-shape with a single punch. These three are Air Bending, Bottoming and Coining. The configuration of the tools for these three types of bending are nearly identical. A die with a long rail form tool with a radiused tip that locates the inside profile of the bend is called a punch. Punches are usually attached to the ram of the machine by clamps and move to produce the bending force. A die with a long rail form tool that has concave or V shaped lengthwise channel that locate the outside profile of the form is called a die. Dies are usually stationary and located under the material on the bed of the machine. Note that some locations do not differentiate between the two different kinds of dies punches and dies. The other types of bending listed use specially designed tools or machines to perform the work. Air bending[edit] This bending method forms material by pressing a punch also called the upper or top die into the material, forcing it into a bottom V-die, which is mounted on the press. The punch forms the bend so that the distance between the punch and the side wall of the V is greater than the material thickness T . Either a V-shaped or square opening may be used in the bottom die dies are frequently referred to as tools or tooling. Because it requires less bend force, air bending tends to use smaller tools than other methods. Some of the newer bottom tools are adjustable, so, by using a single set of top and bottom tools and varying press-stroke depth, different profiles and products can be produced. Different materials and thicknesses can be bent in varying bend angles, adding the advantage of flexibility to air bending. There are also fewer tool changes, thus, higher productivity. Variations in the thickness of the material and wear on the tools can result in defects in parts produced. Thus, the use of adequate process models is important [3]. Springback depends on material properties, influencing the resulting bend angle. Bend radius is determined by material elasticity rather than tool shape. Quality problems associated with this method are countered by angle-measuring systems, clamps and crowning systems adjustable along the x and y axes, and wear-resistant tools. Bottoming[edit] In bottoming, the sheet is forced against the V opening in the bottom tool. U-shaped openings cannot be used. Space is left between the sheet and the bottom of the V opening. The bending radius must be at least 0 . Larger bend radius require about the same force as larger radii in air bending, however, smaller radii require greater force—up to five times as much—than air bending. Advantages of bottoming include greater accuracy and less springback. A disadvantage is that a different tool set is needed for each bend angle, sheet thickness, and material. In general, air bending is the preferred technique. There is little, if any, spring back. Coining can produce an inside radius as low as 0 . While coining can attain high precision, higher costs mean that it is not often used. Three-point bending[edit] Three-point bending is a newer process that uses a die with an adjustable-height bottom tool, moved by a servo motor. The height can be set within 0 . Adjustments between the ram and the upper tool are made using a hydraulic cushion, which accommodates deviations in sheet thickness. Three-point bending can achieve bend angles with 0 . While three-point bending permits high flexibility and precision, it also entails high costs and there are fewer tools readily available. It is being used mostly in high-value niche markets. The beam rises and folds the sheet around a bend profile. The bend beam can move the sheet up or down, permitting the fabricating of parts with positive and negative bend angles. The resulting bend angle is influenced by the folding angle of the beam, tool geometry, and material properties. Large sheets can be handled in this process, making the operation easily automated. There is little

risk of surface damage to the sheet. Though faster than folding, wiping has a higher risk of producing scratches or otherwise damaging the sheet, because the tool is moving over the sheet surface. The risk increases if sharp angles are being produced. In this bending method, the radius of the bottom die determines the final bending radius. Rotary bending[edit] Rotary bending is similar to wiping but the top die is made of a freely rotating cylinder with the final formed shape cut into it and a matching bottom die. On contact with the sheet, the roll contacts on two points and it rotates as the forming process bends the sheet. This bending method is typically considered a "non-marking" forming process suitable to pre-painted or easily marred surfaces.

Chapter 2 : Different Sheet Metal Bending Process - mech4study

There are three types of bends used to form metal that any sheet metal engineer or press brake operator must be familiar with; Air Bending, Bottom Bending and Coining. Air Bending In this process the work piece is only in contact with the edge of the Die and the tip of the Punch.

T is the ultimate tensile strength of the metal. L and t are the length and thickness of the sheet metal, respectively. The variable W is the open width of a V-die or wiping die. Curling The curling process is used to form an edge on a ring. This process is used to remove sharp edges. It also increases the moment of inertia near the curled end. It is used to curl a material of specific thickness. Tool steel is generally used due to the amount of wear done by operation. Decambering It is a metal working process of removing camber, the horizontal bend, from a strip shaped material. It may be done to a finite length section or coils. It resembles flattening of leveling process, but on a deformed edge. Deep drawing Example of deep drawn part Drawing is a forming process in which the metal is stretched over a form or die. Deep drawing is used for making automotive fuel tanks, kitchen sinks, two-piece aluminum cans , etc. Deep drawing is generally done in multiple steps called draw reductions. The greater the depth, the more reductions are required. Deep drawing may also be accomplished with fewer reductions by heating the workpiece, for example in sink manufacture. In many cases, material is rolled at the mill in both directions to aid in deep drawing. This leads to a more uniform grain structure which limits tearing and is referred to as "draw quality" material. Expanded sheet metal Expanding is a process of cutting or stamping slits in alternating pattern much like the stretcher bond in brickwork and then stretching the sheet open in accordion-like fashion. It is used in applications where air and water flow are desired as well as when light weight is desired at cost of a solid flat surface. A similar process is used in other materials such as paper to create a low cost packing paper with better supportive properties than flat paper alone. Hemming and seaming[edit] Main article: Automotive Hemming Hemming is a process of folding the edge of sheet metal onto itself to reinforce that edge. Seaming is a process of folding two sheets of metal together to form a joint. Hydroforming Hydroforming is a process that is analogous to deep drawing, in that the part is formed by stretching the blank over a stationary die. The force required is generated by the direct application of extremely high hydrostatic pressure to the workpiece or to a bladder that is in contact with the workpiece, rather than by the movable part of a die in a mechanical or hydraulic press. Unlike deep drawing, hydroforming usually does not involve draw reductionsâ€”the piece is formed in a single step. Incremental sheet forming[edit] Main article: Incremental sheet forming Incremental sheet forming or ISF forming process is basically sheet metal working or sheet metal forming process. In this case, sheet is formed into final shape by a series of processes in which small incremental deformation can be done in each series. Ironing Ironing is a sheet metal working or sheet metal forming process. It uniformly thins the workpiece in a specific area. This is a very useful process. It is used to produce a uniform wall thickness part with a high height-to-diameter ratio. It is used in making aluminium beverage cans. Laser cutting Sheet metal can be cut in various ways, from hand tools called tin snips up to very large powered shears. With the advances in technology, sheet metal cutting has turned to computers for precise cutting. Many sheet metal cutting operations are based on computer numerically controlled CNC laser cutting or multi-tool CNC punch press. CNC laser involves moving a lens assembly carrying a beam of laser light over the surface of the metal. Oxygen, nitrogen or air is fed through the same nozzle from which the laser beam exits. The metal is heated and burnt by the laser beam, cutting the metal sheet. The quality of the edge can be mirror smooth and a precision of around 0. Cutting speeds on thin 1. Photochemical machining Photochemical machining, also known as photo etching, is a tightly controlled corrosion process which is used to produce complex metal parts from sheet metal with very fine detail. The photo etching process involves photo sensitive polymer being applied to a raw metal sheet. Using CAD designed photo-tools as stencils, the metal is exposed to UV light to leave a design pattern, which is developed and etched from the metal sheet. Perforating Perforating is a cutting process that punches multiple small holes close together in a flat workpiece. Perforated sheet metal is used to make a wide variety of surface cutting tools, such as the surform. Press brake forming[edit] Forming metal

on a pressbrake This is a form of bending used to produce long, thin sheet metal parts. The machine that bends the metal is called a press brake. The lower part of the press contains a V-shaped groove called the die. The upper part of the press contains a punch that presses the sheet metal down into the v-shaped die, causing it to bend. Here, the die has a sharper angle than the required bend typically 85 degrees for a 90 degree bend and the upper tool is precisely controlled in its stroke to push the metal down the required amount to bend it through 90 degrees. Typically, a general purpose machine has an available bending force of around 25 tonnes per metre of length. The inner radius of the bend formed in the metal is determined not by the radius of the upper tool, but by the lower die width. The press usually has some sort of back gauge to position depth of the bend along the workpiece. The backgauge can be computer controlled to allow the operator to make a series of bends in a component to a high degree of accuracy. Simple machines control only the backstop, more advanced machines control the position and angle of the stop, its height and the position of the two reference pegs used to locate the material. The machine can also record the exact position and pressure required for each bending operation to allow the operator to achieve a perfect 90 degree bend across a variety of operations on the part. The picture shown is air bending. Press brake bending is a different machine. Punching Punching is performed by placing the sheet of metal stock between a punch and a die mounted in a press. The punch and die are made of hardened steel and are the same shape. The punch is sized to be a very close fit in the die. The press pushes the punch against and into the die with enough force to cut a hole in the stock. In some cases the punch and die "nest" together to create a depression in the stock. Multiple simple shaped holes may be produced in one stage, but complex holes are created in multiple stages. In the final stage, the part is punched free from the "web". A typical CNC turret punch has a choice of up to 60 tools in a "turret" that can be rotated to bring any tool to the punching position. A simple shape e. A complex shape can be cut out by making many square or rounded cuts around the perimeter. A punch is less flexible than a laser for cutting compound shapes, but faster for repetitive shapes for example, the grille of an air-conditioning unit. A CNC punch can achieve strokes per minute. A typical component such as the side of a computer case can be cut to high precision from a blank sheet in under 15 seconds by either a press or a laser CNC machine.. Roll forming A continuous bending operation for producing open profiles or welded tubes with long lengths or in large quantities.

Chapter 3 : Sheet Metal Forming Basics, Processes and Material Used

Bending is a most common sheet metal forming operation. Many products like automobile components and its body, home appliance, paper clip, metal doors etc. are shaped by bending process.

Sheet Metal Shearing, Bending and Cutting with Press Brake and Shearing Machines Bending and shearing methods The bending process in metals, especially sheet metals has to be carried out in a highly technical way. One of the technologies that are employed for cutting sheet metals is the sheering process which is processed in terms of applying shear stress of high force to the material. A shearing machine is one that helps to shear or cut metal sheets of different sizes and thickness. The shear strength has to be definitive in accordance with the metal portion that needs to be cut down. In general the cutting and bending processes on metal sheets are applied to obtain programmed sizes of metals pieces form the large sheets of metal. Shearing is carried out with the help of making two bladed meet gradually from the two sides of the metal sheet wherein, determining the angular specification of the blades will help in getting the desired shape of the sheet to be cut. In addition, other types of specific machines such as press brakes are also employed for shearing and bending metals for different industrial operations. Brake machine applications, types and uses A press brake is a type of machine that is used for programmed bending and cutting metal sheets or any plate material. We can manage predetermined bending of metal sheets by clamping the sheet in between the die and punch. Wherein, press brakes are used for several types of sheet bending and cutting jobs with respect to the required bending dimension by selecting the right die design. Press types are also found to be very useful in obtaining desired shape of cutting and bending and maintaining accuracy in dimensions. Above all, the type of bending machine is also selected according the application process such as simplified bending works, large sheet cutting, cutting and metal fixing process, etc. Some of the popularly used press brake and shearing machinery types are Hydraulic press brake They consume less power and requires less maintenance. For better accuracy and quick process hydraulic press brakes will stay a perfect option Hydraulic guillotine shearing machine It is a super technology in metal shearing wherein, we can operate a range of shearing process with varying thickness. CNC guillotine shearing machine Operated by computerised numerical control technology, CNC guillotine machines for shearing are very useful for safe process of cutting with adjustment options. CNC press brake the principle of CNC in general provides scope for computerised monitoring and numerical control while setting the dimensions for metal with ease. CNC press brake is an innovative product the stays very effective in obtaining a reliable and economic shearing process. To Know more about Press Brake, visit â€” [http:](http://) Among the several options of machines available CNC programmed machines are found to be reliable, fast processing and time saving. Written by Yash Shah This blog is written by Mr. Yash Shah about various machine tools including lathe, drill, milling, tool room and sheet metal machines.

Chapter 4 : Bending (metalworking) - Wikipedia

Sheet metal process design should select the most effective type of bending process based on the nature of the desired bend and the work material. Many bends can be effectively formed by a variety of different processes and available machinery will often determine the bending method.

It is an imaginary axis which does not undergo any stress during bending. Those fibers which are under tension during bending process, known as outer fibers. These are at one side of the neutral axis. It is shown by red color in figure. Those fibers which are under compression during bending process, known as inner fibers. These fiber are shown by blue color in figure. The length of the neutral axis in the bend zone is known as bend allowance. The angle form by the bend area at the center of bend is known as bend angle. Distance between bend center and neutral axis is known as bend radius. It is denoted by r . The minimum bend radius is the bend radius at which a crack appears on the outer surface of the bend. It is usually expressed in term of sheet thickness, such that $2T$, $3T$, $4T$ etc. It is different for different material. When load is removed, the sheet metal shows some elastic recovery and tends to achieve its original position. This phenomenon is called springback. It will increase the final bend radius and decrease the bend angle after springback. Bending is a process in which the metal is deform in such a way that the length and thickness before bending and after bending remains same. It only changes shape of the work piece. Actually it is an ideal condition but practically length and thickness changes up to some extent in bend area. Every metal when subjected to a moment or couple, it tends to bend. Sheet metals have high bending ability which makes it versatile for various shaping and forming process. Different Sheet Metal Bending Process: These are most common bending process. This process uses a mechanical or hydraulic press brake to bend a sheet. This machine utilizes long dies to convert sheet into various shapes. It is easiest way of bending and can be easily automated. This process uses a three rollers set to bend a sheet by adjusting the distance between rolls. This process can utilize to form various curvatures. Four Slide machine Bending: This process uses three movable and one stationary slide to bent a work sheets as shown in figure. This is used to bent small work pieces. It is a process in which the periphery of the sheet metal is bent into the cavity of a die. It increases moment of inertial of the section and stiffness. It also eliminates exposed sharp edges. It is a process of bending the edges of the metal sheet at perpendicular to the length. It can be further divided according the shape like straight flange, stretch flange, joggled flange, shrink flange etc. It is a process in which first a hole in made into the sheet metal and then it is expanded into a flange using punch die system. It is an operation in which the edge of the sheet is folded over itself. This process increases stiffness of the part and eliminate sharp edges. It is an continuous bending process used for long work piece. This process uses a serious of rolls of various shapes according to the bending process. The metal sheet allows to pass through these rolls and the part is sheared and stacked continuously. These are most common sheet metal bending processes. If you have any query regarding this article, ask by commenting. Subscribe our website for more informative articles. Thanks for reading it.

Chapter 5 : Sheet Metal Bending

Sheet metal is metal formed by an industrial process into thin, flat pieces. Sheet metal is one of the fundamental forms used in metalworking and it can be cut and bent into a variety of shapes.

Metal folding is used to create many products including pipes, enclosures, boxes and more, as sheet metal can be fashioned and reshaped in many ways such as rolling, indenting, bending and shearing. The process is typically carried out on a press brake machine which uses strong tensile and shear forces to bend, fold and punch the sheet metal into the required shape. However, advanced metal folding technology now includes automated panel bender machines and high-speed bending cells. Press brake machines come in a range of sizes and types but most have a hydraulic ram with an upper punch that presses metal into a lower die. Press brakes can operate manually or automatically and many are computer-controlled. Sheet metal fabricators often use advanced 3D CAD/CAM systems to help design and develop complex folded components and programs can be generated for batch production and stored electronically for later use. Sheet metal folding is often just one process of many used in the manufacture of metal fabrications and is usually preceded by laser cutting or metal punching operations and followed by welding and assembly. The metal folding process at KMF usually starts with the programming and design teams who help determine the most efficient machines, materials and methods to use to manufacture the finished metal component. A range of press brake tools are available at KMF and the choice of machine depends on the requirements of the sheet metal component. Design engineers consider such things as material thickness, bend radius and batch size to select the most appropriate machines and tooling. The majority of the metal components manufactured at KMF have undergone punching or laser cutting prior to metal forming and engineers will use a product route card to track progress through the metal folding areas. Metal forming machines Metal components can be folded manually on a press brake machine or programmed on automated folding cells. Automated CNC metal folding programmes determine the angle and movement of the press brake tools and hydraulic rams as electrical servo motors provide the force to form a shape in the sheet metal. Our CNC folding machines have varying capabilities and a maximum bend length of just under four metres. These metal folding machines are the ideal solution for high-volume part production. Our quality teams carry out in-process quality checks throughout the fabrication process to ensure high repeatable accuracy while advanced 3D measurement technology guarantees all components meet the very tight tolerances required by many KMF metal forming customers. This advanced metal fabrication equipment can achieve unique geometries far greater than press brake forming and, as a result, can provide customers with opportunities to improve on product design. Equipped with universal bending tools, KMF can guarantee productivity and deliver expanded forming capabilities such as large radius CNC bump forming, down bend negative forming and reverse flanges. Press brakes can often handle a wider range of material thicknesses than panel benders which favour light gauge sheets and therefore are often more versatile. Metal folding applications The combination of universal bending tools and world-class metal folding technology with varying capabilities means KMF can guarantee high productivity in the manufacture of almost any metal enclosure, panel, bracket or component. Components vary in complexity, from small parts with a single bend through to large components with many bends and multiple flange lengths. KMF has the capacity and equipment to provide a vast range of metal fabrications for many industries, including kiosk, vending, aerospace, food and packaging and scientific equipment. Metal bending capacity KMF has the capacity to fold, bend and form a very wide range of sheet metal materials of varying size and thickness depending on the metal folding technology. The range of materials formed at KMF includes mild steel, galvanised steel, stainless steel, zintec and aluminium. If you have an enquiry or any questions regarding our metal folding and metal bending capabilities please do not hesitate to contact our customer service team.

Chapter 6 : Sheet Metal Shearing, Bending and Cutting with Press Brake and Shearing Machines

Note that sheet metal with a 50% tensile reduction of area can be bent over itself in a process like the folding of a piece of paper without cracking. FIGURE 19 Springback in bending.

Sheet Metal Bending Bending of sheet metal is a common and vital process in manufacturing industry. Similar to other metal forming processes, bending changes the shape of the work piece, while the volume of material will remain the same. In some cases bending may produce a small change in sheet thickness. For most operations, however, bending will produce essentially no change in the thickness of the sheet metal. Mechanical principles of metals, particularly with regard to elastic and plastic deformation, are important to understanding sheet metal bending and are discussed in the fundamentals of metal forming section. The effect that material properties will have in response to the conditions of manufacture will be a factor in sheet metal process design. Usually sheet metal bending is performed cold but sometimes the work may be heated, to either warm or hot working temperature. Most sheet metal bending operations involve a punch die type setup, although not always. There are many different punch die geometries, setups and fixtures. Tooling can be specific to a bending process and a desired angle of bend. Bending die materials are typically gray iron, or carbon steel, but depending on the work piece, the range of punch-die materials varies from hardwood to carbides. Force for the punch and die action will usually be provided by a press. A work piece may undergo several metal bending processes. Sometimes it will take a series of different punch and die operations to create a single bend. Or many progressive bending operations to form a certain geometry. Sheet metal is referenced with regard to the work piece when bending processes are discussed in this section. However, many of the processes covered can also be applied to plate metal as well. References to sheet metal work pieces may often include plate. Some bending operations are specifically designed for the bending of differently shaped metal pieces, such as for cabinet handles. Tube and rod bending is also widely performed in modern manufacturing.

Bending Processes Bending processes differ in the methods they use to plastically deform the sheet or plate. Work piece material, size and thickness are important factors when deciding on a type of metal bending process. Also important is the size of the bend, bend radius, angle of bend, curvature of bend and location of bend in the work piece. Sheet metal process design should select the most effective type of bending process based on the nature of the desired bend and the work material. Many bends can be effectively formed by a variety of different processes and available machinery will often determine the bending method. One of the most common types of sheet metal manufacturing processes is V bending. The V shaped punch forces the work into the V shaped die and hence bends it. This type of process can bend both very acute and very obtuse angles, also anything in between, including 90 degrees. Edge bending gives a good mechanical advantage when forming a bend. However, angles greater than 90 degrees will require more complex equipment, capable of some horizontal force delivery. Also, wiping die employed in edge bending must have a pressure pad. The action of the pressure pad may be controlled separately than that of the punch. Basically the pressure pad holds a section of the work in place on the die, the area for the bend is located on the edge of the die and the rest of the work is held over space like a cantilever beam. The punch then applies force to the cantilever beam section, causing the work to bend over the edge of the die. However, rotary bending uses a different design than the wiping die. A cylinder, with the desired angle cut out, serves as the punch. The cylinder can rotate about one axis and is securely constrained in all other degrees of motion by its attachment to the saddle. The sheet metal is placed cantilevered over the edge of the lower die, similar to the setup in edge bending. Unlike in edge bending, with rotary bending, there is no pressure pad. Force is transmitted to the punch causing it to close with the work. The groove on the cylinder is dimensioned to create the correctly angled bend. The groove can be less than or greater than 90 degrees allowing for a range of acute and obtuse bends. The cylinder's V groove has two surfaces. One surface contacts the work transmitting pressure and holding the sheet metal in place on the lower die. As force is transmitted through the cylinder it rotates, causing the other surface to bend the work over the edge of the die, while the first surface continues to hold the work in place. Rotary bending provides a good mechanical advantage. This process provides benefits over a standard edge

bending operation, in that it eliminates the need for a pressure pad and it is capable of bending over 90 degrees without any horizontally acting equipment. Rotary bending is relatively new and is gaining popularity in manufacturing industry. The sheet metal is supported by two surfaces a certain distance apart. A punch exerts force at the correct spot, bending the sheet metal between the two surfaces. Channel bending uses a shaped punch and die to form a sheet metal channel. A U bend is made with a U shaped punch of the correct curvature. Round tubes, for example, can be bent from sheet metal using a multiple action machine. The hollow tube can be seamed or welded for joining. A variety of shapes are used for corrugating, but they all have the same purpose, to increase the rigidity of the sheet metal and increase its resistance to bending moments. Corrugated sheet metal is very useful in structural applications and is widely used in the construction industry. Edge bending operations are commonly used in industrial sheet metal processing and involve bending a section of the metal that is small relative to the part. These sections are located at the edges. Edge bending is used to eliminate sharp edges, to provide geometric surfaces for purposes such as joining, to protect the part, to increase stiffness and for cosmetic appearance. Flanging is a process that bends an edge, usually to a 90 degree angle. In addition to bending the edge, these operations also give it a curve. This bead can be formed over a straight or curved axis. There are many different techniques for forming a bead. Some methods form the bead progressively, with multiple stages, using several different die arrangements. Other sheet metal beading processes produce a bead with a single die. How the bead is formed will depend on the specific requirements of the manufacturing process and sheet metal part. Seaming involves bending the edges of two parts over on each other. The strength of the metal resists breaking the joint, because the material is plastically deformed into position. As the bends are locked together, each bend helps resist the deformation of the other bend, providing a well fortified joint structure. Double seaming has been employed to create watertight or airtight joints between sheet metal parts. Although sheets of various sizes and thicknesses may be used, this is a major manufacturing process for the metal bending of large pieces of plate. Roll bending uses three rolls to feed and bend the plate to the desired curvature. The arrangement of the rolls determines the exact bend of the work. Different curves are obtained by controlling the distance and angle between the rolls. A moveable roll provides the ability to control the curve. The work may already have some curve to it, often it will be straight. Beams, bars and other stock metal is also bent using this process. Often several rolls may be employed, in series, to continuously bend stock. Similar to shape rolling, but roll forming does not involve material redistribution of the work, only bending. Like shape rolling, roll forming usually involves bending of the work in sequential steps. Each roll will form the sheet metal to a certain degree, in preparation for the next roll. The final roll completes the geometry. Channels of different types, gutters, siding and panels for structural purposes are common items manufactured in mass production by roll forming. Rolls are usually fed from a sheet metal coil. The entry roll is supplied as the coil unwinds during the process. Once formed, continuous products can be cut to desired lengths to create discrete parts. Closed sections such as squares and rectangles can be continuously bent from sheet metal coil. Frames for doors and windows are manufactured by this method. Sheet metal coil is often roll bent into thin walled pipe that is welded together, at its seam. The welding of the continuous product is incorporated into the rolling process. Roll forming of channels is a continuous alternative to a discrete channel bending process, such as the one illustrated in figure. Figure shows a simple sequence used to produce a channel. However, in that case, the length of the channel would be limited by the length of the punch and die. Roll forming allows for a continuous part, limited practically to the length of the sheet metal coil, that can be cut to whatever size needed. Productivity is also increased, with the elimination of loading and unloading of work. Rolls for sheet metal roll forming are typically made of grey cast iron or carbon steel. Lubrication is important and affects forces and surface finish. Sometimes rolls will be chromium plated to improve surface quality. Mechanics Of Sheet Metal Bending To understand the mechanics of sheet metal bending, an understanding of the material properties, characteristics and behaviors of metal, is necessary.

Chapter 7 : About Sheet Metal Folding | KMF Group

Sheet metal bending is a metal forming process wherein a sheet metal blank is bent using tools comprising one or more pairs of punches and dies. Sheet metal parts are some of the most important semi-finished products.

August 5, Sheet Metal Forming Basics With the use of the industrial manufacturing process, sheet metal is formed by working metal into flat and thin pieces. Sheet metal is one of the very convenient ways that is used in metal working and it can be mended and cut into various shapes and dimensions. A wide range of products are manufactured with the use of sheet metal making it an essential part of the modern world. Sheet metal varies in thickness. Its thickness is quantified by a measure known as its gauge. The metal will be thin if the gauge number is larger. You can find sheet metal in the form of foil as well. The form in which sheet metal is found in the market is either in coiled strips or in flat pieces. The coils are made with continuous running of sheet metal into a roll slitter. Usually, the coils used range from 7 to 20 gauges. Sheet metal is used in various products like machinery, building roofs, car bodies, airplanes and much more. The most known grades available in stainless steel are 304 and 316. However, it is not available in the form of a sheet. The other two grades are much resistant and powerful than 304 and 316. When it comes to aluminum, it has got four known grades which are H14, H14, H32 and T6. Every grade is stronger than the other and used in different machinery, weapons and equipment.

Sheet Metal Forming Processes This is a commonly used manufacturing process that helps in manufacturing the parts for tons of known and unknown purposes. Sheet metal forming process is done on a press and the parts are formed in between two die. The die at the top is called a punch. Sheet metal is formed cold. The following steps are involved in the process of sheet metal forming:

Bending This step includes bending sheet metal for creating the metal components. Small lengths metals are bent with the help of the dies during the process. Press brakes are used to press the longer lengths of metal. Repeated bending is also used for complex shapes. This is also done through sets of rollers.

Roll Forming A series of bending operations are done on the sheet metal for roll forming. A roll forming line is present on which the sheet metal is fed by a series of roll stations. Each station is a roller die present on both sides of the sheet. These rollers can be at different angles of the sheet. When the sheet is forced through the roller dies, the sheet bends and deforms.

Spinning The sheet metal is revolved at high speed and is pressed against a prior attached headstock spindle. A tailstock supports the metal while it is spinning. With a special tool, pressure is applied to the metal to get the required shape of the metal.

Deep Drawing In this stage, the metal is not clamped but is put in the die. The first stage of deep drawing is called cupping. A pressure pad holds the blank on the die while the punch moves below and takes the blank into the cavity. The metal is bent plastically and drawn over the edge till the cup is formed. The pressure pad removes all the wrinkles meanwhile. A lot of deeper products can be formed with repeated deep drawing.

Stretch Forming In the operation, the sheet metal is clamped round the circumference with a blank holder and changes shape according to its thickness. The holder draws the metal into the cavity present in the die. When the metal is stretched it becomes thinner.

Chapter 8 : How to Choose, Cut, and Bend Sheet Metal | Make:

Bending (metalworking) From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia *Bending is a manufacturing process that produces a V-shape, U-shape, or channel shape along a straight axis in ductile materials, most commonly sheet metal.*

Chances are, sheet metal will play a part. Sheet metal comes in all manner of varieties and sizes. Here are some tips and tricks to help you get that shiny sheet into your desired shape. Similar to wire, sheet metal thickness is measured in gauges, with a higher number indicating a thinner sheet. To measure the thickness, you can use a sheet metal gauge, which will show you thickness in both gauge number and thousandths of an inch. For small pieces of metal, you can mimic the pending process by clamping the metal between wooden blocks in a vise, then hammering them over. Those who work with it regularly are likely to have a sheet metal bending brake in their workshop, but this tool can be a bit expensive for the hobbyist. Thankfully, there are a couple of wallet-friendly options that can help you get the job done. Using the edge of your workbench, a length of wood, two clamps, and a mallet, you can fashion a rudimentary bending brake. Mark a bend line and place the sheet metal on the edge of your bench. Next place the wood parallel and slightly behind the bending line. Clamp the wood on top of the metal to the workbench. Finally, bend the sheet up by hand to the angle desired.

Cutting Many different tools cut sheet metal, and each has its own strengths and weaknesses. Here are some of the more common tools, but they represent only a small number of options. Be sure to insert the metal fully into the throat of the snips for optimal cutting.

Hacksaw A hacksaw can cut sheet metal, but its shape limits its turning radius and depth of cut. To prolong blade life, rub wax along the length of the blade. For a cleaner cut, put a strip of masking tape on the top and bottom of the sheet to keep chips from scratching the material.

Nibbler The nibbler is a tool that offers a lot of control over the cut, but at the expense of cut width. Each cut punches out a tiny piece of the sheet metal, and the process is repeated. The nibbler shown here is hand-operated, though drill-powered, electric, and pneumatic versions are also common.

Jigsaw A quality jigsaw and the correct metal-cutting blade will make short work of sheet metal cuts. If you need a straight cut, clamp a straight-edge to the sheet to act as a guide for the jigsaw footplate.

Band Saw With the appropriate blade, cutting sheet metal on a band saw is fairly straightforward. Cutting metal requires slower blade speeds than cutting wood, but many band saws have multistep pulleys for changing the blade speed.

Cutting Aluminum with a Table Saw It might sound crazy, but you can cut sheets of aluminum on a table saw. Make sure to use a tooth or more carbide-tipped blade, and wax the blade to ensure the cut is well lubricated. Go slowly, proceed with the utmost caution, and wear hearing protection! Be sure to remove it! You can buy a fancy deburring tool if you work with sheet metal frequently, but a quick once-over with a file is just as effective. Your fingers will thank you!