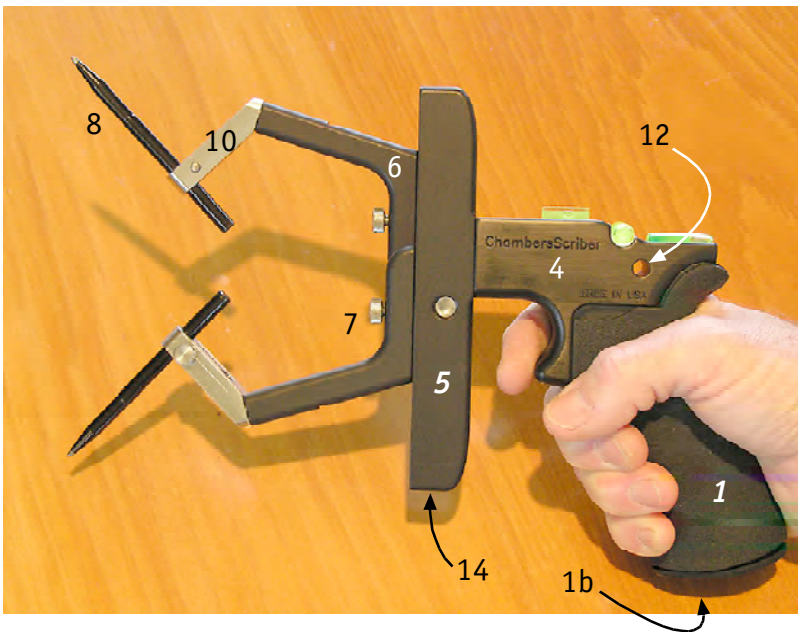


ChambersScribers V.2

Owner's Manual



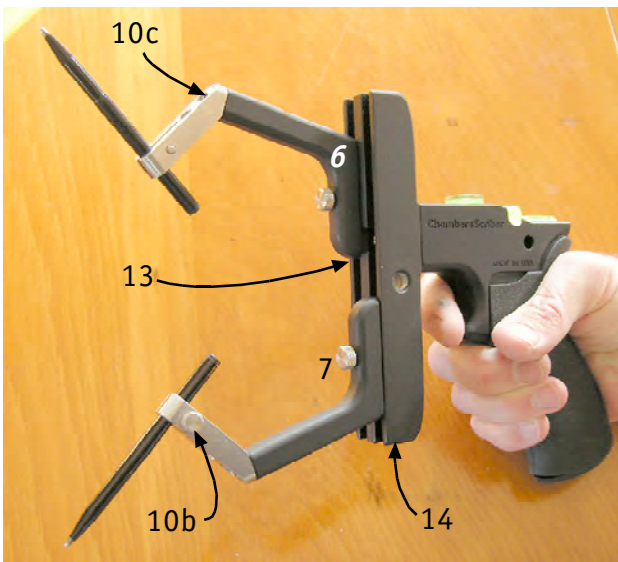
Parts List

- 1- Grip
- 1b- Grip storage (end cap)
- 2- Straight vials (qty 2)
- 3- Bullseye vial
- 4- Receiver and "trigger"
- 5- Female slide
- 6- Sliders (qty 2)
- 6b- Caliper flat
- 7- Thumbscrew to lock slider (Part #6) in place
- 8- Pen (Fisher SpacePen #RP/CSP, or "stowaway")
- 10- Pen arm
- 10b- Pen thumbscrew (to lock pen in place)
- 10c- Screw to adjust friction of rotation (1/8" allen hex)
- 11- Side Handle (optional part)
- 12- Lanyard hole
- 13- Bolt for horizontal scribing (3/16" allen hex)
- 14- Hole for pen adjustment & optional bore-sight laser

Parts Included, But Not Shown:

- Spare teflon washers
- 1/8" allen key hex wrench (for part #10c)
- 3/16" allen key hex wrench (for part #13)

All parts are available for sale as spare parts



ChambersScriber V.2
Owner's Manual, April 2010
www.LogBuilding.org
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MODULAR DESIGN

The ChambersScriber has a modular design, which means that you can use your scriber for many different purposes, and that you will be able to get accessories for your ChambersScriber to perform special tasks. One accessory that is available now is an extra-long Slider that allows you to scribe at very wide scribe settings (up to 22", 560mm); and one planned for the future is a Sliding-Arc Pen Arm that gives you thousands more choices for pen angle than have been available with any other scriber.

All these 'upgrades' and accessories will fit onto your existing Grip, Receiver, Bubble Vials, and Pens. This makes upgrading easy for you, and because the parts are modular—you only buy the accessories that you need.

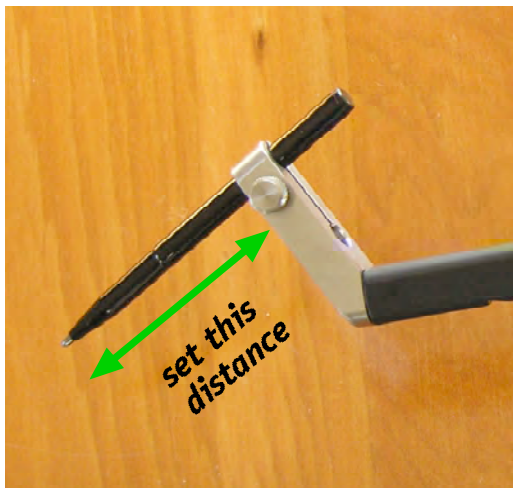
PENS

The ChambersScriber uses Fisher Space Pens. Use **ONLY** the pen models listed below. You can order extra pens directly from Fisher (800-634-3494, weborders@spacepen.com, +1-702-293-3011), or you can order from my website.

www.spacepen.com/contractorpenreplacementspacepen.aspx
www.spacepen.com/blackstowawaypen.aspx

The Fisher SpacePen model is called "Stowaway" and the refill is Part #RP/CSP (a refill for their "Contractor's Pen").

Fisher Space Pens have been proven over many years of use to be one of the most-preferred ways to scribe logs. They work on wet wood, and in cold and hot. The ink is permanent, and will not wash off. But they are not invincible. The ink in each pen might last for up to one small log house. To remove ink from a surface (from log, fingers), to clean a plugged pen ball (nib) try using rubbing alcohol.



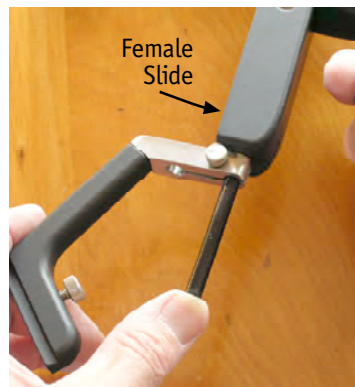
SET PEN DISTANCE

The ChambersScribers will not work properly unless the pen point is the correct distance out from the Pen Arm (the green arrow in this photo).

Refer to 3 photos below. And, watch the video at www.LogBuilding.org (that's .org, not .com)



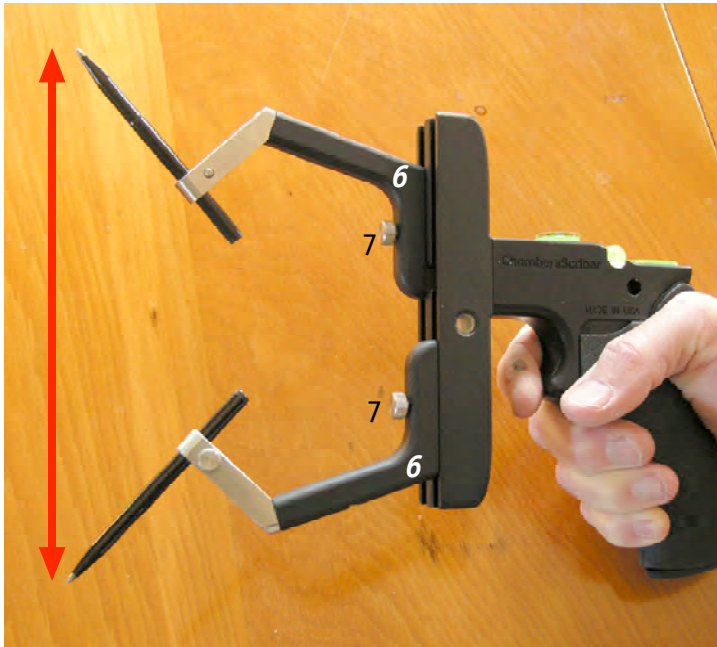
Step 1 : Remove one Slider and install new pen, point first, into arm. (The plug-end of pen is too big to fit through hole.)



Step 2: Put pen into hole in bottom of Female Slide. Pen thumbscrew is loose.



Step 3 : Hold pen arm tight against Female slide. Push pen into hole until it stops. Tighten pen thumbscrew.



ADJUSTING THE SCRIBE SETTING

The distance between pen points is called the "scribe setting" or "scribe distance."

The RED ARROW in this photo shows a "scribe setting."

To change the scribe setting you move one of the Sliders (Part #6). Or you can move BOTH of the sliders. It's your choice.

Loosen the slider thumbscrew (Part #7) to move a Slider. Tighten the thumbscrew on each Slider to lock the slider in place before you start scribing the logs.

You never need to "plumb" the ChambersScriber on a plumb board.



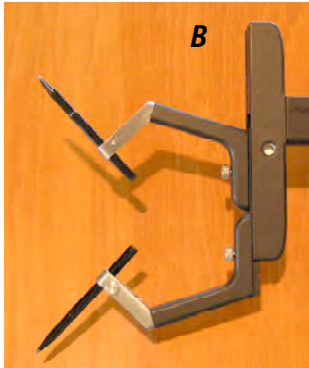
You can position the two Sliders anywhere along the Female Slide that you want. If you find that the Female Slide gets in the way while scribing a notch (for example), then position BOTH Sliders higher (Photo A) or BOTH Sliders lower (Photo B) on the Female Slide.

You can set a 4" scribe setting (for example) anywhere you want on the Female Slide. The scribe setting in Photo "A" is equal to the scribe setting in Photo "B." Both positions will work the same. You can also use the Sliders anywhere in-between these extremes.

SMALL SCRIBE SETTINGS. Rotate the pen arms until the Sliders and Pens can bypass each other. This allows you to make very small scribe settings--down to zero!

LARGE SCRIBE SETTINGS. The ChambersScriber will open to scribe settings of up to 10-1/2" (27 cm).

EXTRA LARGE SCRIBE SETTINGS. You can buy my optional Long Female Slide that will allow scribe settings of up to 22" (56cm). Some production builders do not rough notch their logs, and so they scribe each log only once, and need a scriber that will open very wide. Scribing valley logs, log purlins, log trusses, and logs for stairs may require very large scribe settings. Watch my website for updates on these, and other attachments.



IF YOU REMOVE A SLIDER, THEN IT MUST BE RE-INSTALLED AS SHOWN IN THE TOP PHOTO.

The LEFTHAND slider must point DOWN.

The slider in the RIGHTHAND dovetail slide must point UP.

BUBBLE VIALS

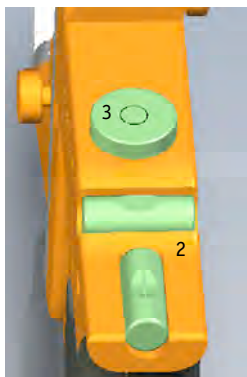
The ChambersScribers has 2 straight vials (Parts #2), and 1 bullseye vial (Part #3) to help you keep the pen points plumb as you scribe.

Because some professional log builders prefer bullseye, and other professional log builders prefer straight vials, I put both types of vials on my scriber.

I use the bullseye for notches, and the double vials for long grooves! Try it.

The straight vials are custom made in the USA specially for my scribers. Replacement vials are available from Robert Chambers.

NOTE: You never need to "plumb" the ChambersScriber on a plumb board. And you should NEVER adjust pen length to make the scriber "plumb."



SWINGING--ROTATING THE PEN ARMS

The Pen Arms (#10) can be rotated to change the angle that the pen touches each log. This rotation, or swinging, does NOT change the scribe setting; and it does NOT change plumb. The pen points stay plumb to each other through any rotation you choose to use. As you rotate a Pen Arm, everything moves EXCEPT the very end of the ballpoint pen (the "nib")—it stays in one place. (Ed Shure invented this feature.)

The SpacePens produce a good line when they touch each log at about 90-degrees, so rotate the pen arms to improve the way each pen's ballpoint tip (nib) touches the log.

Most builders change the pen angle only rarely while scribing a long-groove ("lateral groove"). When scribing a notch it is common to change pen angle frequently. The Pens write best when they hit the upper log and the lower log at about 90-degrees, so the purpose of rotating the Pen Arms is to keep the end of both Pens touching the logs 'straight on,' not glancing.

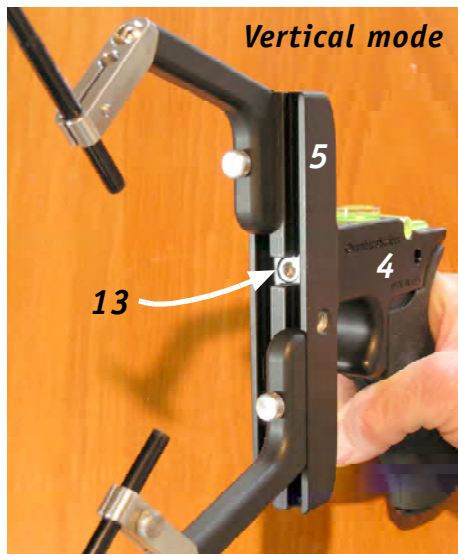
SMALL SCRIBE SETTINGS. Rotate the pen arms until the Sliders and Pens can bypass each other. This allows you to make very small scribe settings--down to zero!

Swing Friction—I have adjusted the friction, and you should try scribing several logs before adjusting them. Tighten or loosen the Pen Arm Screw (#10c) with the small allen key hex wrench to adjust friction. This wrench came in your scriber's tool kit. The screw has a built-in lock-tight feature that keeps the threads held from turning too easily, so it may not be easy to tighten or loosen. NOTE that even when friction is light, the arms do not swing by themselves in use. Light friction is all that is needed.

Teflon Washers—You will see that there is a small teflon washer on both sides of Pen Arm (#10). Do not remove these washers. A few spare washers were sent with your ChambersScriber. Two thin black washers go under the arm. One white washer goes under the screw (#10c).

HORIZONTAL SCRIBING

There are times when you may want to scribe horizontally, not vertically. Logs stairs, and scribing trim to a log wall are examples that can require horizontal scribing.



Use the wrench (3/16" allen key) supplied with your scriber to loosen the socket head cap screw (Part #13).

When the bolt is loosened, the Female Slide (#5) will become loose from the Receiver (#4). The attachment screw should be loosened, but not removed. Rotate the Female Slide and re-engage the locator pins, and tighten Screw #13.

See video on my website www.LogBuilding.org



Use either the front straight vial (#2) or the bullseye vial (#3) to keep the pen points horizontal as you scribe. To keep the scriber **pointing** the correct direction you might want to use a laser pointer while horizontal scribing. The ChambersScriber has a hole (#14) that can hold a .25 caliber "bore sight" laser. A bore sight laser is a tool that is used to adjust, "sight in" a telescopic scope on a rifle.

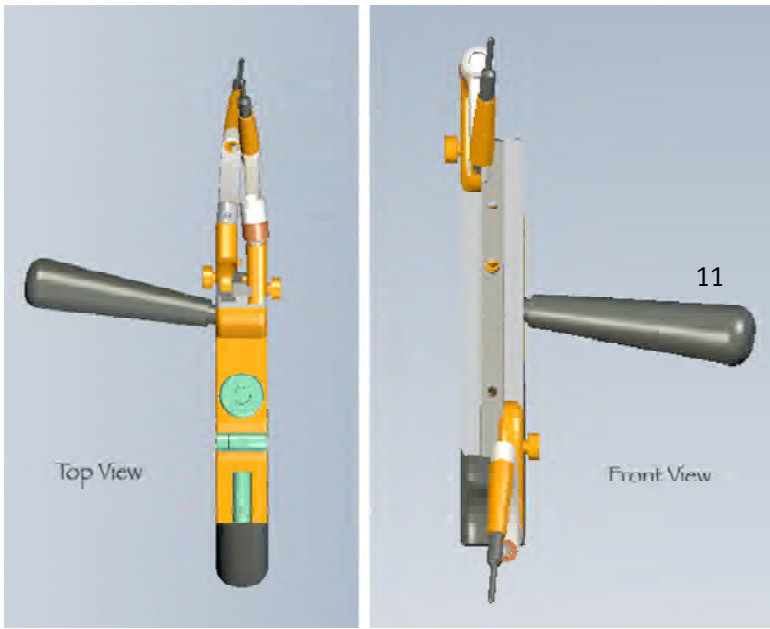
The Grip is always held vertically—even when making a horizontal scribe.

OPTIONAL SIDE HANDLE

The ChambersScriber can be fitted with an optional Side Handle (#11) to help you hold your scriber steady and control its movement. You can buy a side handle from my website, but many power tools come with a handle that will work. The thread must be metric M8 x 1.25, which is a common size used for Makita, Hitachi, Ryobi, Bosch, and other small sanders and grinders. You might already own a handle that will fit.

Lefthanded people can try this— rotate the Female Slider so it is upside-down, and tighten it to the Receiver. Now the optional side-handle will be on the right side of the grip, instead of the left side of the grip.

PLEASE NOTE that the side handle is NOT 90-degrees in either direction. For comfort, the handle points down and it also points away from you. To turn it into the threaded hole you'll need to match the angles shown here.



LANYARD

I have provided a hole (#12) that you can use to attach a lanyard for hanging your scriber off a tool belt. A short piece of cord can be tied in a loop through this hole, and then a clip or caribiner on your belt will carry your ChambersScriber.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Scribe is not accurate

- 1) Both pens **must** stick out the correct amount (page 2), and thumbscrews clamping the pens must be tight.
- 2) Make sure sliders are correctly installed in lefthand and righthand female dovetail slides (see page 3)
- 3) Keep bubbles inside lines at ALL times when drawing scribe lines (beginners need practice! It's not easy.)
- 4) Pen-tube endcap has come loose and pen has moved inside black pen-tube. Glue the end-cap into place with Crazy Glue or epoxy. Push end-cap into black pen tube until it is fully seated and glued in place.
- 5) Pen is bent. Replace pen.

Pen won't write

- 1) Rotate pen arm to make tip of pen touch log at about 90°. Pen will not write if it is glancing against log surface.
- 2) Pen is out of ink.
- 3) Pen tip has clogged. Try soaking in alcohol and writing on paper.

Side handle won't screw in

- 1) Handle must have Metric M8 thread.
- 2) NOTE that the handle is NOT installed at 90° — see compound angles at top of page 5.

I don't understand what's wrong

- 1) Take a course in scribing. This Owner's Manual is not a book on how to scribe, it is a booklet on the features of this scriber. We assume that you already know how to scribe. One example: the scriber is almost never 90° to either log when scribing a log corner notch (it's about 45° to both logs). You learn that in a log home class, not here. There are hundreds of such scribing skills to learn.
- 2) Send me an email, and a photo, of what's wrong: robert@LogBuilding.org I'll do my best to reply within 72 hours, but please keep in mind that I can't teach you how to scribe by email or telephone.