



PIPE TOOLS & VISES  
SINCE 1896

# Meter Keys

## BASIC PRODUCT INFORMATION

Reed Meter Keys open many styles of meter pit lids AND curb box lids. Reed has the widest choice of pentagon keys and “skeleton” keys available. Distributors and users can avoid lengthy searches for the right key. (Ford® and Mueller® distributors hate to buy opposite brand keys from competing distributors!)

Reed pentagon Meter Key capacities include Standard waterworks pentagon bolts and plugs, as well as the Large pentagon bolts sold by both Mueller® and Ford®. Careful design and production insure that Reed pentagon and skeleton keys fit across many brands of lids and bolts.

Note: Standard (or small) pentagon bolts can be measured from a base to a point and given the dimension 27/32", or the length of one side may be measured and called a 5/8" pentagon. Large pentagon bolts measure 1 1/16" from base to tip (Mueller®) or 1 1/32" (Ford®). Some in the industry measure across a side and call these 3/4" pentagons. Reed pentagon keys fit all these.

Reed Meter Keys all have a turn and lift feature, allowing end-users to open a lid, lock onto it, and lift the lid off with a single motion. All Reed Meter Keys are made of strong, plated ductile iron or high-tensile brass to inhibit rust. The ductile iron keys are cast in Canada (then inspected, welded if MKF324, and plated in Erie), and the brass keys are made in the USA.

Catalog No.	Item Code	Description	Length		Weight	
			in	mm	lbs	kg
02364	MKF2	Lg. & Std. Pentagons	5.5	140	.8	.4
02365	MKF2S	Lg. & Std. Pent. w/ Slot	5.5	140	.8	.4
02367	MKF324	24" T w/ Std., Slotted Pent.	24.5	622	2.3	1
02370	MKBT	Brass T Skeleton	5.5	140	.4	.2
02373	MKCW	Corp. Wrench & Skeleton	11.5	292	1	.5
02375	MKDT	Ductile T Skeleton	7	178	.8	.4
02380	MKH10820	2 Lg. & 1 Std. Pentagon	5	127	1.1	.5

Slots in the MKF2S and MKF324 are a nominal 9/16" to fit tee head valves adjacent to meters. The opening in the MKCW is a nominal 1/2." One large pentagon in the MKH10820 turns a bolt, but does not lift (because it has no undercuts to grab the bolt after turning).

## MARKET, USERS

Water works distributors and end-users are the main customers for Meter Keys, but plumbing and irrigation contractors work with meters and curb stops enough to buy keys, too.

## **SELLING POINTS**

- \* Reed's broad line saves searches for the right key.
- \* Reed keys FIT!
- \* Tough, rust-resistant materials give long life.
- \* Competitively priced.

## **COMPETITION**

Ford® and Mueller® are the main makers of pentagon keys (and lids), and Bass & Hays® and Western Iron Works® are familiar names for skeleton keys and the lids that use them. There are also many local and regional shops that fabricate meter keys.

For easier model conversion, Reed has paralleled some model numbers of other manufacturers.

Reed	MKF2 =	Ford® #2
	MKF2S=	Ford® #2S
	MKF324=	Ford® #3-24
	MKH10820=	Mueller® H10820

Ford® pentagon keys tend to fit very tightly on their own brand pentagons, which means Ford® keys may not fit cast pentagons on curb box lids, or larger Mueller® bolts. Mueller pentagon keys tend to fit more loosely, which means they may round off smaller Ford® bolts. Reed dimensions are in between these to fit and function well on all brands.

Note: Reed discount structures are different from those of Mueller® or Ford®. Reed has attempted to approximately match distributor net prices to be competitive; this means that Reed suggested list prices can look lower to end-users. Be careful--you may want to let only distributors mention pricing. Promoting lower list prices to end-users may only alienate the very distributors you need to convert!

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