

Name:

Date:

Class:

Solid Rock to Building Block: The Wedge Worksheet

Test each wedge material against each rock material. Using the rating scale below, rate how each wedge worked as a cutting tool by putting one number in each box of the table.

Rock Material	Wedge Material				
	Wooden Wedge	Balsa Wood	Plastic		
Clay					
Soap					
Foam					
Styrofoam					

Rating Scale	1	Worked very well; separates material well and wedge did not break
	2	Worked well; wedge separates the material, but the edges are rough
	3	Worked okay; wedge dents the material but did not cut well
	4	Worked poorly; little or no denting but the wedge did not break
	5	Worked very poorly; did not separate material and/or the wedge broke

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1. Which wedge material had the sharpest angle?
2. Which wedge had the biggest cutting surface? Was it pointy or did it have a long edge?
3. List one reason why engineers design different types of wedges.