

PRODUCT REVIEW

Jersey Tactical Claw

Reviewed By: Jerry White

I recently had the opportunity to test and evaluate the Jersey Tactical Claw. I am one of the mechanical breachers on my team, and have used a multitude of different rams and H-Tools over the years. Each one of the tools I have used in the past seemed to either lack quality construction, or have limited practicality or function. The first thing I noticed about the Jersey Tactical Claw was the quality construction. Jersey Tactical is owned and operated by real tactical operators who invented and designed all of their breaching equipment, which by the way, are made in America with American materials.

The Jersey Tactical Corporation (JTC) Claw can be described as a multi-purpose breaching tool that looks similar to a Halligan tool, at first glance. However, this is no Halligan, as evident by the lack of a hook on one end, and size and configuration of the claw. Let's face it: the Halligan was designed for firefighters and was adapted for use by law enforcement. The JTC Claw was specifically designed to meet the needs of our industry. The Claw comes in a 24" and 30" length, and weighs about ten pounds. According to the manufacturer, the Claw was designed to be one tool that can be used by patrol officers or SWAT as a ram, prying tool, padlock defeater, window porting/raking tool, as a sledgehammer, hinge remover, and ax.

We tested the 30" inch model, which importantly came with an easily adjusted nylon sling. The Claw is a little nose heavy, but the overall weight makes it easy to sling



or carry, especially if responding to a dynamic situation such as an active shooter event. We used the Claw in a variety of breaching applications in training. The first application was on an outward opening BTI breaching door. The claw end of the Claw is thicker than a standard Halligan tool so if there is a narrow gap between the door and the door frame, you will need to "set" the Claw. This usually took only one "set hit" to effectively get the tool into the proper position. Once set, the tool obtained an effective "bite" every time, and the 30" length allowed for proper leverage to defeat multiple pins every time with no slippage. I have experienced numerous instances of a Halligan not getting

an effective bite, requiring it to be "re-set," causing lag time and noise. A unique trait of the Claw is that it can also be used to pry open inward opening doors. The Claw can be inserted near the locking mechanism, and the door is pried away from the jam, defeating the lock.

The Claw can also be used as a sledgehammer or ram for medium duty doors and interior doors. The Claw produces enough kinetic energy when used as a ram to defeat two pins on our breaching door with a single, well-placed strike. We were able to defeat one pin when used as a sledgehammer. Mind you, a stronger or larger breacher may be able to defeat

more, and the tool's limitations may be a result of the operator. The Claw can be used to defeat padlocks by simply inserting the center spike of the claw into the shackle and striking the rear of the Claw. Another application of the Claw is a window porting/raking tool. We used the claw at our local junkyard, and the Claw easily defeats car windows. The Claw's length and configuration makes it a valuable tool for tactical vehicle assaults.

The Claw is a well-made, versatile, and relatively light multiple purpose breaching tool. The Claw was specifically designed for law enforcement breaching needs and not just

another apparatus adapted for breaching. The Claw is not only a must have for tactical teams, but is extremely beneficial to the patrol function. The Claw is easy to use and portable which makes it beneficial in a patrol environment. This tool can be slung by a patrol officer responding to an active shooter situation or other calls requiring expedient breaching to ensure an effective entry into a hostile situation. I would highly recommend the Jersey Tactical Claw for tactical teams and the patrol division. For more information on the JTC Claw, their other breaching products, and pricing and distributors, visit:

<http://www.jerseytactical.com>



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