

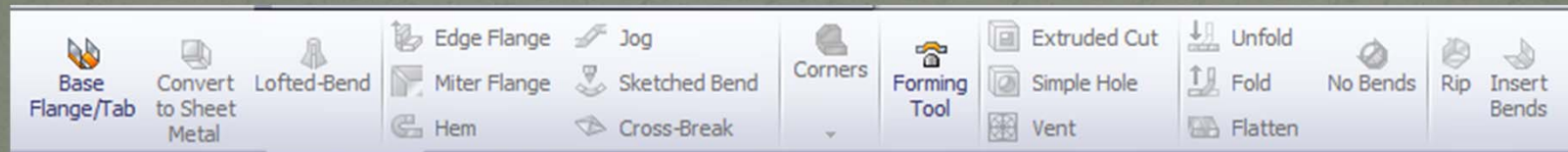
THE BLACK MAGIC OF SHEETMETAL, AND IT'S PRACTICAL APPLICATION

What's the big deal,
Why it matters,
And how it impacts you.

Why Sheet Metal?

- SolidWorks natively supports sheet metal in all versions of their software.
- Everyone receive some sheet metal training, but we are often confused or not confident about our abilities.
- Few people understand the manufacturing process of sheet metal parts.
- Sheet metal plays an important part in manufacturing, and product design.
- Properly understanding sheet metal, can save time, and money.
- Some thing are just impractical to do any other way.
- Because I like it and it's fun.

Basic Sheet Metal Commands in SW



- Base Flange/Tab
- Lofted-Bend
- Edge Flange
- Miter Flange
- Hem
- Jog
- Sketched Bend
- Cross Break

Good Practices

- Always use proper design intent.
- When possible model the finished part.
- Keep the parts simple.
- Utilize the “Thickness” linkable value.
- Global Settings.
- Draw all flat parts in sheet metal.
- Weld corner conditions.
- Consider laser/water jet kerf.
- Stitch cut heavy material.

Bad Practices

- Avoid drawing the flat pattern.
- Avoid sketch bends.
- Know your material and K factor.
- Know the manufacturing limitations.
- Avoid using compounded bends.

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