

DURANGO TOOL LIBRARY

ANNUAL BENEFIT REPORT
2022



MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARIANS

As a public benefit corporation, we are obligated by Colorado statute to provide our members and the general public an accounting of the public benefits the Durango Tool Library (DTL) provide. We are happy to publish the DTL annual benefit report for our inaugural year. Please read on to learn about the start of what we hope will become a mainstay community resource for years to come. It's hard to believe that only a year has passed since the Durango Tool Library opened its doors to the Durango community. A lot has happened over the course of 2022 since our soft opening in November of 2021.

The DTL opened with a handful of tools in the catalog. We now have over 236 tools and tool sets. Each tool is added to the a catalog with a record that includes important information and resources. We have acquired these tools from our initial bootstrapped start-up funds and donations from community members who would rather see their tools play out their useful life than sit abandoned in their garage, or worse, thrown out.

The DTL has a growing membership base. More locals have begun discovering the DTL and become members. We had 62 monthly and annual members in our inaugural year! We hope to build on this momentum and double our current membership in 2023.

We began offering workshops, clinics, and how-to guides to help teach people how to use our tools safely, confidently. We held 10 workshops and clinics. We published 6 how-to guides.

We also partnered with a couple of local organizations. We partnered with Durango Slaydies to host a series of Bike Repair and Maintenance clinics. We partnered with the MakerLab to offer discounted DTL memberships for those who are already MakerLab members.

The DTL would not be possible without the support of our members and supporters. We are wholly dependent on our members, who pay subscriptions for our services, pay fees to participate in our workshops and clinics, and supporters who have made cash or in-kind donations. A special thanks goes to our sustaining members who continually renew their memberships month after month, year after year.

But we need a larger membership base. Most members do not subscribe unless they have an immediate tool need. We rely on members who continue their member subscriptions; their support is essential for us to grow our collection, maintain our tools, and keep the lights on. In 2023, we hope to entice people to become sustaining members, helping us continue to provide affordable, sustainable access to tools and supporting resources for our local community.

Thank you, members and friends of the DTL for your support in our inaugural year! We hope more will continue to support us in the years to come.

May the swarf be with you!

TENNY WEBSTER & KATHLEEN GOLLNER

Librarians, Co-Presidents

RANGO

Shop dog still-in-training



Tenny & Kathleen



Rango

MISSION STATEMENT

The Durango Tool Library is a mission focused social enterprise. Our mission is to provide access to tools and supporting resources through a sustainable, low barrier service.

THE DTL IS A PBC

A Public Benefit Corporation is a relatively new way to structure a business that avoids the politics of nonprofits, but is guided by a mission-forward ethos. It is a legal structure that embeds social and environmental impact into governance. As such, we have a triple bottom line: we must balance people, planet, and profit.

OUR STORY

We first discovered tool libraries while we were attending library school—a masters program for library and information studies—in Vancouver, BC. Virtually penniless, we rented a 240 square foot apartment together. When we needed tools to build shelves or a prop for a conference, we biked out to the Vancouver Tool Library to borrow them. It was an essential service for us as we didn't have the money to buy tools nor the space to store them. The Vancouver Tool Library will always be close to our hearts!



ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022

TOOLS IN CATALOG

In 2022, we added 236 tools to the library catalog! From the small-tape measures and claw hammers to the large-table saws and a pressure washer. That may not seem like many, but some of our "tools" are composed of tens of tools, such as our ratchet and socket set that features 146 pieces.

SUPPORTING RESOURCES

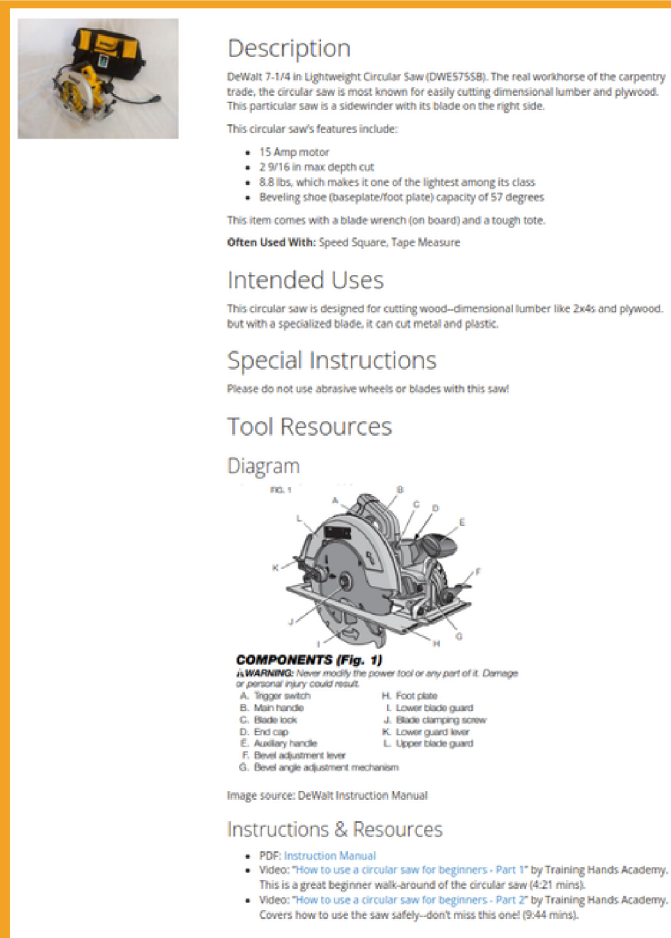
Part of our mission is to provide supporting resources for tool use. We have been busy creating and maintaining these varied resources and plan on continuing to do so. Supporting resources can come in many shapes and sizes and benefits our members and the general public in different ways to suit the type of learning for each person.

CATALOG RECORDS

We create a catalog record for every tool in the library. Each record contains a description of the tool, instructions for tool use and safety, and links to web copy, PDFs, and video that demonstrate proper use and helpful tips, among other information. The screenshot to the right is an example of a short record.

Pulling together this information on each tool takes time, but we think it's worth the time it takes. For those members who wish to learn on their own or refresh their knowledge, this is an ideal format to help them on their journey.

In 2022, we prepared supporting resources for all 236 tools added to the tool catalog.



Description

DeWalt 7-1/4 in Lightweight Circular Saw (DWE5755B). The real workhorse of the carpentry trade, the circular saw is most known for easily cutting dimensional lumber and plywood. This particular saw is a sidewinder with its blade on the right side.

This circular saw's features include:

- 15 Amp motor
- 2 9/16 in max depth cut
- 8.8 lbs, which makes it one of the lightest among its class
- Beveling shoe (baseplate/foot plate) capacity of 57 degrees

This item comes with a blade wrench (on board) and a tough tote.

Often Used With: Speed Square, Tape Measure

Intended Uses

This circular saw is designed for cutting wood—dimensional lumber like 2x4s and plywood, but with a specialized blade, it can cut metal and plastic.

Special Instructions

Please do not use abrasive wheels or blades with this saw!

Tool Resources

Diagram



COMPONENTS (Fig. 1)

WARNING: Never modify the power tool or any part of it. Damage or personal injury could result.

A. Trigger switch	H. Foot plate
B. Main handle	I. Lower blade guard
C. Blade lock	J. Blade clamping screw
D. End cap	K. Lower guard lever
E. Auxiliary handle	L. Upper blade guard
F. Bevel adjustment lever	
G. Bevel angle adjustment mechanism	

Image source: DeWalt Instruction Manual

Instructions & Resources

- PDF: Instruction Manual
- Video: "How to use a circular saw for beginners - Part 1" by Training Hands Academy. This is a great beginner walk-around of the circular saw (4:21 mins).
- Video: "How to use a circular saw for beginners - Part 2" by Training Hands Academy. Covers how to use the saw safely—don't miss this one! (9:44 mins).

SURVIVAL GUIDES

The DTL Survival Guides are how-to guides to help people learn how to maintain or fix something. We started these to complement our workshops and clinics. Now, however, they are detailed enough to take someone through the entire procedure without having personal instruction beforehand. Heavy on pictures and descriptive, with helpful tips, and cautionary quips, these guides fit nicely on a smartphone screen or printed out. They are available on our website to anyone and printed (with a margin for note-taking) for each clinic/workshop attendee.

In 2022, we published 6 how-to guides. We plan on creating many more.

An example, pictured to the right, is the first page of one of our Library Survival Guides. The topic for this one is how to adjust the rear derailleur of a bicycle.

CLINICS AND WORKSHOPS

Clinics and workshops were not in our plans until at least year two, but we jumped right into them in our inaugural year! For many community members, it's easier to learn a procedure when shown in person or with hands on the tools.

Clinics are our demonstration-heavy teaching sessions. During workshops, attendees are getting instruction, but doing the work themselves.

In 2022, we hosted 10 clinics and workshops. We plan on hosting many more.



REAR DERAILLEUR ADJUSTMENTS
A Library Survival Guide

What does the derailleur do?

Good to know

A derailleur has two main functions:

- It facilitates gear shifting
- It keeps tension on the chain

Parts of the rear derailleur
(that we're concerned with)



When to adjust?

When one shift with thumb shifter does not equal one shift in gears or when you hear excessive chain noise as you pedal or gears shift without you pressing the thumb shifter!

Good to know

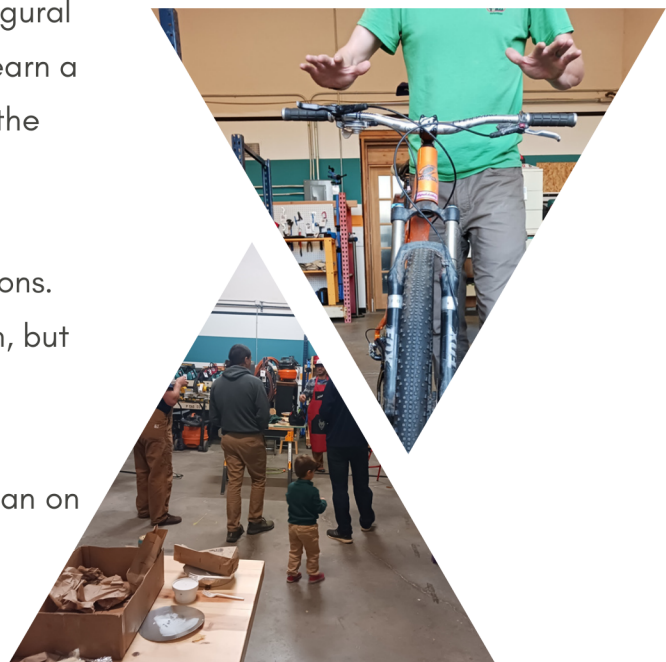
Other factors that will prevent good clean shifting:

- Bent derailleur hanger
- Dirty drivetrain
- Dirty/damaged cable or cable housing

Adjustment Overview

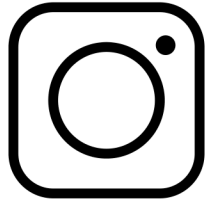
Over-tighten all points of adjustment--one at a time, then un-tighten incrementally until shifting is perfect!

- Set H-Limit
- Set Indexing
- Set L-Limit
- Set B-Limit (if necessary)



SOCIAL MEDIA

We are active on Facebook and Instagram. While we leverage social media as a marketing tool, posting about new tools, workshops, and content that expands our reach, our most popular posts feature our members' projects. In 2022 we had:



FOLLOWERS: 776



FOLLOWERS: 136

NEWSLETTER

Part way through the year, we began creating monthly newsletters for members and subscribers. Newsletter features usually include interesting use statistics from the prior month, upcoming events, and featured tools.

Friends of the Durango Tool Library

NEWSLETTER



Our mission: to provide access to tools and supporting resources through a sustainable, low barrier service.

OCTOBER AT A GLANCE

TOOLS

69 tools borrowed

6 tools added

Most borrowed tool: Jobsite table saw.

SUPPORTING RESOURCES

1 clinics/workshops hosted

2 how-to guides published

Featured new guide: [Adding sealant to MTB tubeless tires.](#)

LOOKING AHEAD 2023



ACQUISITION LEADERBOARD

In order to make our acquisition process more transparent we will publish a diagram of the process and create a tactile version of the resulting 'request list' and 'leader board' so members and nonmembers alike can make their tool requests and new tool votes heard.

MORE WORKSHOPS, CLINICS, AND GUIDES

We are planning to provide many more supporting resources for our members and the greater community. We will be creating and hosting more workshops and clinics from ski & snowboarding repair and maintenance and bicycle repair and maintenance to clinics on how to use specific tools in our collection. We will also continue to publish more Library Survival Guides.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Early in the new year, we officially began our partnership with the MakerLab by instituting a referral program and cross-posting social media posts. We have already had one MakerLab member become a monthly member at DTL with a discounted first month! We hope to continue our collaboration with Slaydies--women who slay!--and to begin a partnership with Bike Durango!

TOOL ACQUISITIONS

We aim to continue tool acquisitions that our community members want and need!

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

We plan on creating campaigns to diversify our revenue stream to further our mission.

GRANT WRITING

While we were hopeful that we would not have to write grants, we will be throwing our hat into the grant writing ring to further diversify our revenue and grow the company.

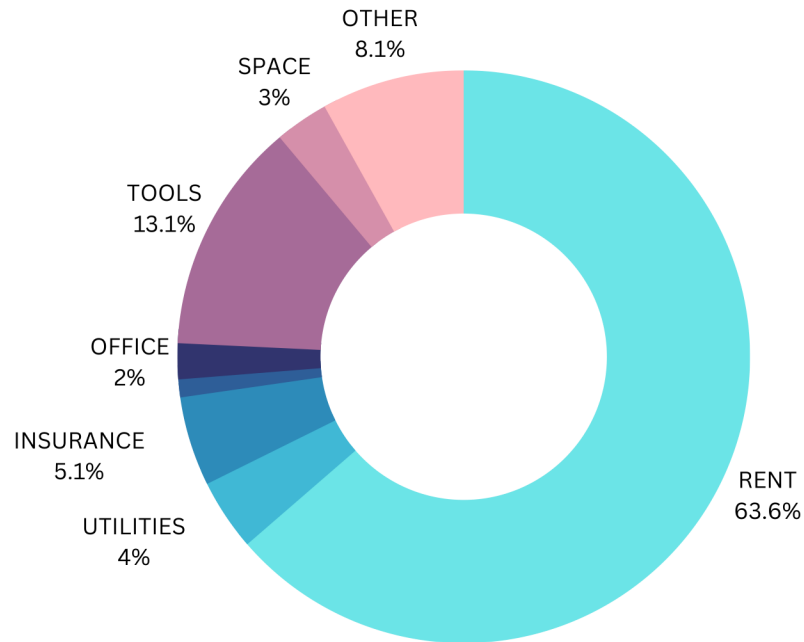
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

We are optimistic about our future finances at the DTL, despite a slow start in 2022! While we have not yet broken even, we are steadily growing our membership, our biggest stream of revenue, and hope to make great gains in 2023!

OPERATING & SUPPORTING EXPENSES

2022 Total: \$25,918

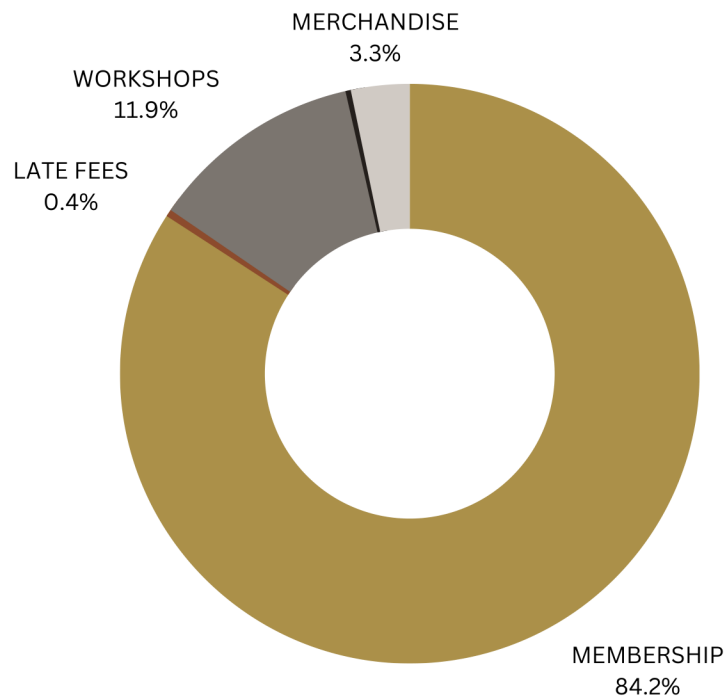
Rent: \$ 16,200
Utilities: \$ 1,135
Insurance: \$ 1,315
Marketing: \$ 273
Office: \$ 567
Tools: \$ 3,443
Space: \$ 877
Other: \$ 2,107



OPERATING REVENUE

2022 Total: \$6,559

Membership Fees: \$ 5,265
Late Fees: \$27
Workshops: \$764
Tool Consumables: \$19
Merchandise: \$168



MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

DONATED TOOLS

Although we are not a nonprofit, community members and DTL members have donated tools and consumables over the year. We estimate that about 30-40% of our cataloged tools are donations. We are happy to divert these tools from the dump and revitalize them so they can live out their best, longest lives!




YEAR IN REVIEW

Each member was sent a personalized 'Your Year' for 2022 at the beginning of 2023. This yearly summary tallies each member's stats for 2022. They also receive cumulative stats for the entire library community:



Your Year
with the Durango Tool Library


In 2022, you borrowed **16 times** over **1 month**.

-  **11** different tools.
-  **\$1,805** saved.
-  **890** lbs reduced carbon emissions.
-  **16** member points earned.



You're a
*Community
Champion*

Your support helped us establish the **Durango Tool Library** as a resource for our community.

-  **235** tools.
-  **56** tool library members.
-  **726** tool borrows.
-  **11** tons reduced carbon emissions.

Thank you for your support!

BENEFIT REPORT (3RD PARTY STANDARD)

OVERVIEW

WHAT IS A BENEFIT REPORT?

An annual benefit report is how public benefit corporations (PBC) achieve transparency and accountability for how well we align with our mission and the public benefits we aim to provide. In a benefit report, we start with a narrative of how we promoted public benefits and then select a 3rd party standard to compare our social and environmental performance.

WHY WE DO A BENEFIT REPORT

As a public benefit corporation (PBC), we are required to create an annual benefit report and make it available on our website, per Colorado statute. An annual benefit report, while compulsory, is an excellent way of showing mission and operational transparency—one way to show accountability. It also helps us take stock of our achievements from the previous year. We are not required to have a certification from the assessment, just that we assessed our progress against a 3rd party standard.

NARRATIVE

PUBLIC BENEFITS

How did the DTL promote its specified public benefit(s) and the best interests of those materially affected by our conduct? We provide:

PUBLIC BENEFIT #1: ACCESS TO TOOLS

- Added 236 tools and tool sets to catalog of tools available for loan.
- Maintain and clean every tool after check-ins so that tools function safely and reliably.
- Demonstrate, in person, proper use of tools for borrowers who are not acquainted with tool use when they check out tools.
- Provide in-person browsing and web-based browsing and searching for tools.
- Provide reservation requests so borrowers know the tool they need will be available up to 24 hrs in advance.

- Borrowers are able to keep tools for up to one week, with the possibility to renew, providing ample time for project-ing.

PUBLIC BENEFIT #2: SUPPORTING EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- Created a record for every tool in the library that contains critical and useful educational information about the safe tool use and care for beginners and advanced tool users.
- Created six how-to guides, called Library Survival Guides, for common maintenance and fixes on multiple topics.
- Held ten workshops/clinics to teach common maintenance and fixes on multiple topics.
- Advised many borrowers who come to the physical space on tool use when needed.

PUBLIC BENEFIT #3: AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE SERVICE

- Business model based on encouraging the use of a shared resource as a counter to hyper-consumerism.
- Various daily business practices that are sustainable: digital receipts, biking to work, reusing/repurposing objects.

PUBLIC BENEFIT #4: AN ACCESSIBLE, LOW BARRIER SERVICE

- Keeping price of subscription very low.
- Offering discounts to members of sister organizations.
- Welcoming women and the tool curious.
- Partnering with a gender inclusive group for workshops and clinics.
- Forgiving first instance of late fees.

FACTORS AGAINST PUBLIC BENEFIT PROMOTION

CIRCUMSTANCES THAT HINDERED THAT PROMOTION

An overarching issue that hinders the promotion of all the public benefits for which Durango Tool Library strives is a shortfall of sustaining memberships. Sustaining memberships provide critical revenue to sustain and grow our services.

THIRD PARTY STANDARD

THE PROCESS AND RATIONALE FOR SELECTING THE THIRD-PARTY STANDARD

There are a very limited number of 3rd party standards--none that really captures the environmental and social performance holistically for a business like the Durango Tool Library. B-Lab's "B-Impact Assessment" was the closest fit, but was unable to capture the value of our particular benefits. Most organizations that have created 3rd party standards focus on manufacturing corporations and other well established industry applications, not a small business in the sharing economy. And only B-Lab had an affordable (free in our case) assessment.

ADDITIONAL ASPECTS OF DTL PUBLIC BENEFITS

THINGS THAT AREN'T CAPTURED IN THE THIRD PARTY STANDARD

Our score on the B-Impact Assessment was low--not quite reaching the minimum score to achieve B-corp status (if we ever wanted it). We suspect many of the social and environmental impacts we provided in 2022 slipped between the cracks of the assessment. We explore many of the small, but cumulative, benefits that were not taken into account on the assessment, below. Indeed, measuring our social and environmental performance against a third party standard created for a fundamentally different business paradigm may be flawed from the start.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES AT THE LIBRARY

- A model of sharing resources. Our overall business model is environmentally sustainable. Our raison d'etre is to provide a shared resource, thus countering hyper-consumption.
- Use of paper products. We use very little in the way of paper products, choosing instead to provide digital receipts, resources, etc. The few paper products we produce are: due date cards, Survival Guides for workshop attendees, and tool shelf cards.
- Reusable name tags. We provide reusable name tags for workshops and clinics.
- Refurbished computer. Our main computer is a refurbished laptop from 2008.
- Repurposed furniture. One piece of library furniture is new. The rest are repurposed.
- Commuting by bike. Most days of the week the librarian rides his bike to and from work.
- Reusing clothing. We provide rags to our members and a bathroom hand-drying 'towel' used from donated clothing that the Humane Society Thrift Shop has deemed un-sellable.
- Accept donated tools.

KEEPING OUR SERVICES ACCESSIBLE

- Inexpensive subscription. We price our services to be accessible to virtually everyone.
- Free PPE. Any current member who borrows tools is eligible to take basic PPE at no cost. We have rags, ear protection, nitrile gloves, dust respirators, and protective eye wear.
- Supporting resources: tool catalog records, survival guides, workshops (free for members), clinics (free for members) available to the general public and our members.
- Hours of operation. Our hours of operation for the days we are open are accessible for most people—we open in the morning and stay open until 7pm.

ASSESSMENT

B-LAB'S "B-IMPACT ASSESSMENT"

Below is the assessment results for Durango Tool Library's overall social and environmental performance in 2022 as measured by B-Lab. We hope to use this assessment to improve our impact in the future!

