

FASCINATING FIND

TYRE SHRINKER



This very heavy piece of equipment is a tyre shrinker or upsetter. It was used by blacksmiths and wheelwrights to shrink the iron tyres that were fitted to wooden wheels. This was necessary if the timber dried out and the tyre became loose.

In use part of the tyre was heated in a forge and placed in the machine, clamped, and upset or compressed, slightly reducing its diameter.