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## MARSHALLTOWN NT696

# QLT By MARSHALLTOWN Notched Trowel User Manual

Model: NT696

## 1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The QLT By MARSHALLTOWN Notched Trowel (Model NT696) is a contractor-grade hand tool designed for the precise application of adhesives and mortars in flooring and tiling projects. Its robust construction and ergonomic design facilitate efficient and uniform material spreading.



Image 1.1: The QLT By MARSHALLTOWN Notched Trowel, showcasing its blade and handle.

## 2. KEY FEATURES

- **Blade Dimensions:** 16 inches by 4 inches.
- **Notch Dimensions:** 1/2 inch width, 1/2 inch depth, 1/2 inch spacing (square notches).

- **Blade Material:** Hard tempered steel for durability and consistent performance.
- **Handle:** DuraSoft® soft grip handle designed for enhanced comfort and reduced fatigue during extended use.
- **Mounting:** Aluminum alloy mounting securely riveted to the blade.

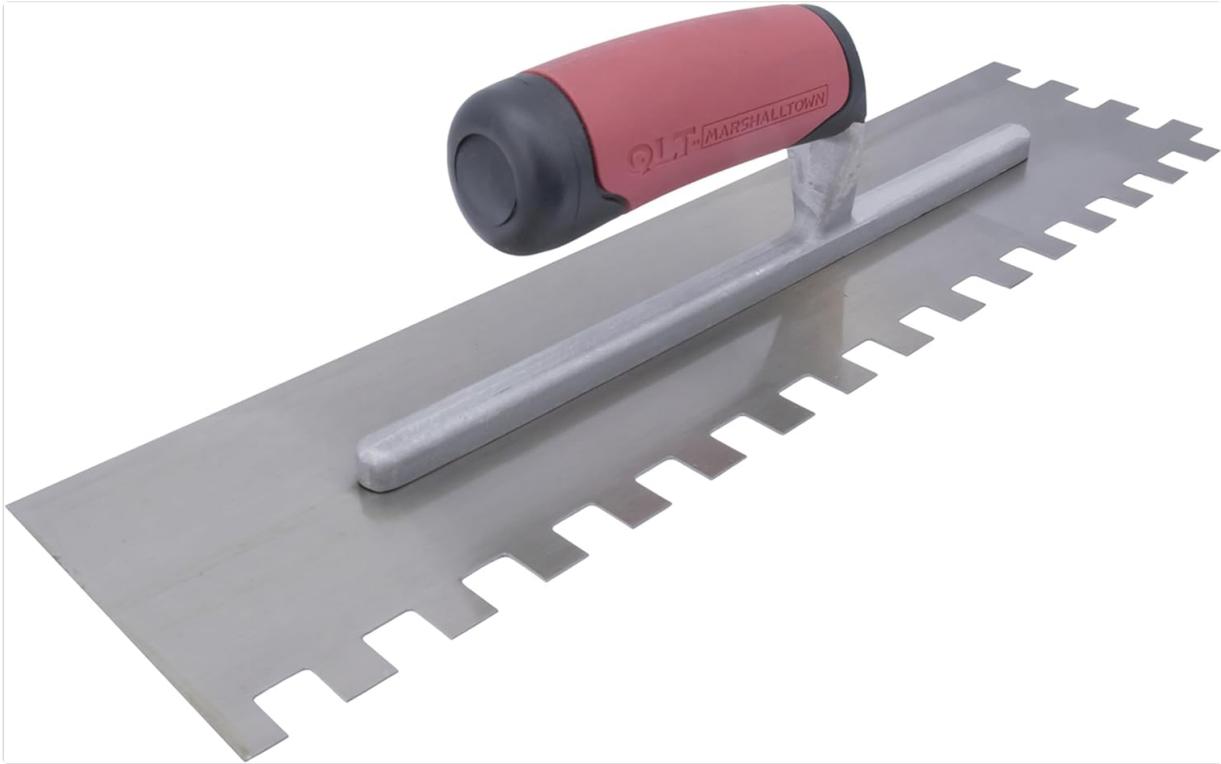


Image 2.1: Detail of the trowel's 1/2 inch square notches.

### 3. SETUP AND PREPARATION

Before using the QLT By MARSHALLTOWN Notched Trowel, ensure your work area and materials are properly prepared.

1. **Surface Preparation:** Ensure the substrate (floor or wall) is clean, dry, level, and free from dust, grease, or loose debris. Any imperfections in the surface should be addressed prior to adhesive application.
2. **Adhesive/Mortar Preparation:** Mix your chosen adhesive or mortar according to the manufacturer's instructions. Consistency is crucial for proper bonding and spread.
3. **Tool Inspection:** Inspect the trowel for any damage or wear. A clean, sharp-notched blade is essential for uniform adhesive ridges.

### 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps for effective application of adhesive or mortar using your notched trowel:

1. **Scoop Material:** Use the flat edge of the trowel to scoop a manageable amount of adhesive or mortar from your bucket onto the substrate.
2. **Spread Material:** Hold the trowel at a consistent angle (typically 45-60 degrees) to the surface. Apply firm, even pressure as you spread the material, creating uniform ridges with the notched edge. The angle and pressure will influence the height and consistency of the ridges.
3. **Ridge Consistency:** Ensure the ridges are consistent in height and spacing across the entire area. This is critical for proper tile bedding and adhesion.
4. **Coverage Area:** Only spread enough material that can be covered with tiles within the adhesive's

open time (the period during which the adhesive remains workable and can bond effectively).

5. **Clean Edges:** Use the flat side of the trowel to clean up excess material along the edges of the applied area.



Image 4.1: Demonstrating the technique for spreading mortar with a trowel.

## 5. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Proper maintenance extends the life of your trowel and ensures optimal performance.

- **Immediate Cleaning:** Clean the trowel immediately after each use. Dried adhesive or mortar is difficult to remove and can damage the notches.
- **Cleaning Method:** Use warm water and a stiff brush to remove all material from the blade and handle. For stubborn residue, a plastic scraper can be used carefully to avoid damaging the blade.
- **Drying:** Thoroughly dry the metal blade after cleaning to prevent rust.
- **Storage:** Store the trowel in a dry place, away from moisture and corrosive materials. Hanging the trowel can prevent blade deformation.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

Issue	Possible Cause	Solution
Uneven adhesive ridges	Inconsistent trowel angle or pressure; worn notches; uneven substrate.	Maintain a consistent angle and pressure. Inspect notches for wear. Ensure substrate is level.
Adhesive drying too quickly on trowel	High ambient temperature; prolonged exposure to air.	Work in smaller sections. Keep adhesive bucket covered. Clean trowel frequently.
Difficulty cleaning dried material	Material left on trowel for too long.	Clean the trowel immediately after use. Soak in warm water if material has started to harden.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Detail
Brand	MARSHALLTOWN
Model Number	NT696
Blade Material	Tempered Steel

Attribute	Detail
Handle Material	DuraSoft®
Item Weight	14.4 ounces
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	16 x 4 x 4 inches
Notch Dimensions	1/2 inch (Width), 1/2 inch (Depth), 1/2 inch (Spacing)
Grip Type	Ergonomic
UPC	035965056960

## 8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

All MARSHALLTOWN Company tools are warranted to be free from defective materials and workmanship. Any such defective product will, at our choice, be replaced or repaired free of charge if returned to us transportation charges prepaid. We reserve the right to issue a credit memo for the full value of any such tool, based on the purchaser's net cost, in lieu of actual replacement or repair. Our liability under all warranties, expressed or implied, shall be limited to the replacement or repair of defective products. This warranty does not cover faults arising from normal wear and tear, damage, misuse or abuse of the tool. For equipment warranty terms, please see the included warranty statement.

For further assistance or inquiries, please contact MARSHALLTOWN customer support through their official channels or visit their website.