

Types_Of_Knives_2004.txt

*****KNIVES*****

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These subjects on knives hopefully will help all those who come to your page decide on the best knife design for the required need .I am a custom knifemaker and an outdoorsman and hope this and future contributions will help your website users get the most out of thier cutlery.Also I hope to get my password.Thanx -Dave Leimbach.....

Types of Knives

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- 1) Pocket knives
- 2) Belt knives
- 3) Survival knives
- 4) Tool knives

*****Pocket Knives*****

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1) A pocket knife is either a small folding knife that is light weight

and is of the locking or nonlocking variety.

*Their use should be limited to small animal gutting and skinning or any

other chore where a small knife can be used safely. This small knife is

sometimes the best survival knife because you are more likely to have it

on your person. If you only carry this one knife, it should be of a locking variety and keep very sharp.

*****Belt Knives*****

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2) A belt knife is a knife that is too big to carry in the pocket and resides in a sheath (knife pouch) on your belt. They can be of the folding or fixed bladed variety.

*These knives are more preferable to the pocket knife, because of strength and length of blade. A longer blade stays sharper longer. They are also easier and more comfortable to control during use. The fixed

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blade design is preferable to the folder. It is stronger ,easier to clean

and can stand up to much more abuse.

These too should be kept sharp and can back up as a weapon or survival tool.

*****Survival knives*****

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3)A survival knife is primarily knife used for making shelter,tools,preparing game, and at last resort a weapon.

*No knife does everything ! Your knife is best used to make the tools you need for survival.If you need to hunt ,make a bow or spear .If you

need to dig use a stick.Only use your cutting edge when you need to .DON`T use you knife to chop or as a prybar unless your last resort!The

hollow handel variety are usually junk and not worth the risk of breaking or money(although exceptions to the rule exist...ie: Chris Reeve hollow handled knives made from a solid billet of steel)The

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should

be no less than 5 inches and no more than eight. It should be 3/16 or thicker at the spine and a handle that conforms comfortably to your hand.

*****Tool Knives*****

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4) A tool knife is a knife containing everyday type usefull tools

(ie:

screwdriver, saw ,ect)

*If you buy one of these pocket tools ,go with the name brand types and

stay away from the cheap imports .That \$10 you saved wont seem like much

when your screwdriver bends or the can opener breaks in the can. It should have as many functionable tools as possible with out being to bulcky to carry or hold.

Accessories.....

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The Sheath(pouch)

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The sheath should be of synthetic variety as leather is undependable in most conditions. I suggest a good plastic lined cordura sheath for fixed blades .It provides protection from "poke through" and does not rot or warp.It is also easy to clean in a stream or in the washing machine.Kydex sheaths are the best sheaths in my opinion .The kydex plastic material is heated and formed around your knife blade and do not require a snap or velcro closure.The are costly but worth it.For folders ,a cordura pouch sheath is ideal.It is comfortable to wear in the car and easy to clean.

Sharpeners

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Diamond sharpeners are the best in my humble opinion .They don't require oil or water ,don't clog and work faster than any other type of sharpening

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medium. They seem to last forever and ever and don't cost much more than the other varieties.

My personal favorite production knives...

- 1) Kabar brand USMC survival knife
- 2) Leatherman Supertool
- 3) Spyderco Delica (serrated version)

* I occasionally try a new "toy" on the market, but I always come back to these products. Simply put They work..... and keep working

I will be sending much more descriptive articles in the future on sharpening, difference between edge designs and their appropriate uses, differences in knife materials and how to make your own knives in a survival atmosphere with little or no tools.

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