



Hand Knife Safety Rules

Whenever using hand knives, please follow the rules below to promote personal safety:

1. Knife surfaces must be kept clean. This will allow cleaner, faster & safer cuts.
 - A knife that is not clean will not cut correctly and may cut in a different direction than intended.
 - Do not hold the knife in your hand and wipe it with a cloth - if a knife must be wiped put the knife on a hard surface and wipe one side at a time.
2. If a knife-edge has cracks, or chips missing from the edge, the knife should be disposed of properly.
3. The handle of a knife should not have any cracks or chips in it. If the knife handle is damaged it should be disposed of properly.
4. Always cut away from your body when using a knife.
5. When not in use, a knife should be kept in a sheath to prevent accidents. When the sheath is worn on a belt, it should be positioned on the hip so it won't interfere when the operator bends, kneels or sits.
6. Knives must be kept sharp. A sharp knife will cut clean and accurately. A dull knife will require extra force, which may result in personal injury.
 - Knives should be kept sharp by honing the edge and professionally reground when the edge has become too thick. It is very important when sharpening a knife not to overheat the blade, as excessive heat will draw the temper, and the blade will no longer hold its edge.
7. Do not try to catch a knife that is falling - let the knife fall and then pick it up.
8. To prevent fingers from sliding onto blades, use a knife with a safety guard attached or a knife with a guard built into the handle.
9. Do not use a knife for anything other than cutting.

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