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Scott Gossman's PSK Knife, Dannyboy's Sheath and a Neck Braid

Schwert

- Gear reviews and tests - Edged tools - Fixed blades -



Publication: Monday 19 November 2007

Description :

A collaborative kit based on the Gossman PSK knife, Dannyboy Leather neck sheath, and Schwert 4-plait kangaroo neck cord.

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PSK knife For scale my handcarved Buckthorn spoon (7")

This Scott Gossman ([Scott Gossman Knives](#)) "PSK" is a very simple straightforward design that is perfect as a kit knife. This article will look at the knife as part of a neck kit combining the knife work of Scott, with leather sheath work by Dannyboy Leather (Danny Kuehn), and neck cord braiding by Schwert.

This is a collaborative article with images and text by both Danny and Schwert.

This knife is supplied in 1/8" O-1 steel, 6" overall, with a full convex grind with secondary edge bevel. The 4 holes allow the user to apply a handle wrap, or as lashing points.

This knife has a price of \$50 plus shipping (Fall 2007) and is supplied without a sheath.



PSK Sheaths by Dannyboy Leather One made for a wrapped handle, the other for a naked handle. Dannyboy Image.

A kit knife like this requires a handy and secure sheath. Danny made two variations for the PSK, one if the knife had a cord wrap and one if the knife was left "naked" without a wrap.



PSK sheath by Dannyboy Leather Showing full paracord wrap. Dannyboy Image.

Danny did a full paracord wrap on his knife.



Back of PSK sheath by Dannyboy Leather Neck cord tunnel loop AND flat belt loop. Dannyboy Image.

The sheath has an belt loop AND a neck cord tunnel. A short piece of cord or braid can be threaded through the bottom hole. This tail can be tucked into your belt to prevent the sheath from swinging out.



Finished 4-plait string Blunt end for stringing through the PSK knife handle holes.

I elected to braid a very simple 4-plait long thong to use with my sheath. The thong was braided using 2 40' pieces of kangaroo lace. These were doubled, looped over a hook and round 4-plait braid was done. This makes a blunt end to easily thread through the knife handle holes should this braid be used for a handle wrap. The long thong can also be used as cord for shelter building or any number of other task or as a fire drill bow string.



Closeup of blunt and terminator knot

I terminated the braid with a crown and wall knot. This simple braid and the terminator knots are more clearly illustrated in my [knife lanyard article](#).



PSK Sheaths by Dannyboy Leather

The thong is almost 10' long. I pass it through the sheath tunnel then use a double fisherman's knot to tie it into an adjustable loop. Moving the knots along the cord can adjust this from a neck cord to a baldric. This also allows two passes of the round braid behind your neck for comfort.



Kit assembled without neck braid

Danny provided a soft elkskin pouch on the front of the sheath that can be used for a variety of small items.



Knife and Sheath Kit



Kit Contents

My kit currently contains small fire building and repair items. The pouch could easily contain several other small items of your choice.

Fire

My fire items consist of a 1/8" by 2" firesteel and six TinderQuick (from a Sparklite kit) fire starters strung on a hemp string. These are strung to facilitate easy removal from the pouch. I first just stuffed the tinder bundles into the pouch, but they were not easily removed due to friction with the soft leather. I had to use chopsticks to remove them. Strung on the hemp they are quickly and easily available. I also wrap these in saran wrap prior to insertion.

Repair

Repair items consist of a coil of Spyderwire braided fishing line (green bundle), a coil of heavy 4-twist waxed nylon sewing thread, lighter weight white nylon thread, and 6 needles (1-glovers, 3-sailmakers, 2-standard sewing). The largest sailmakers needle serves as an awl and is outside of the thread bundle.

I am also going to fold a piece of 400 grit wet/dry sandpaper to insert behind the elkskin pouch. This pouch has a full back and Danny left a pocket between it and the sheath face. The sandpaper can easily be used on a board or even on my leg to sharpen the knife.

Other Kit Items

Additional small items could be added depending upon your needs. These include a button compass, fishhooks, flat ACR whistle, twist of wire, BSA hotspark instead of the thin firesteel or a Sparklite.

Danny is also experimenting with a slightly deeper elk pouch which could accommodate a few more items at the expense of a slightly thicker package.

I elected to not overstuff this pouch.

Paracord could also be used as the neck thong but the braided leather is much more comfortable in my opinion.

Knife Observations

The knife was supplied sharp and while small it is quite comfortable in the hand.



PSK in the hand Dannyboy Image

I used a diamond hone on the handle sides...top and bottom, to slightly radius them for more comfort. I left the butt square to use as a scraper. This works remarkably well on cedar bark with the knife in the sheath it is both safe and effective. The spine of the knife is square and sharp and can easily strike the firesteel. For extended use a cord wrap or the braid wrap would greatly increase comfort.



Curls Dannyboy Image

O-1 is reportedly able to be used with traditional flint to strike sparks...this I have not tried.

Knife Specifications

1/8" O-1 steel, 6" overall, 2.5" blade, convexed with a small secondary edge. Handle with a slight crosshatched texture and 4 holes. The knife is fully hardened throughout to 60 rc and Scott leave all the edges square to strike firesteels or use as scrapers.

Knife weight alone 72g (2.5oz)

With Sheath loaded with my items (no braid) 172g (6oz)

Scott also has a cord wrapped version available with kydex sheath for \$75. Also his new versions have 3 holes instead of 4. (Prices, Fall 2007). Normally I am hesitant to quote prices in an article, but since Scott is producing these at such an affordable price I have elected to quote his current prices.

Additional Observations

Once Danny showed me his PSK knife I knew he could develop a superb multifunctional sheath for it. Danny provided most of the images for this article, and all the creativity with leather.

Scott has provided a unique and very useful tool at a great price, coupled with a Dannyboy sheath and a few items of your choosing, it makes a near perfect neck kit.

Resources

Scott Gossman's PSK Knife, Dannyboy's Sheath and a Neck Braid

[Scott Gossman Knives](#) Scott produces a number of fine knives. This PSK is my first from him but not likely the last.

Dannyboy Leather

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Danny Kuehn is a super leatherworker who has made a number of sheaths for me. Our collaborative work on the sheaths, braids and kit, as well as, this article have been great fun. I think this PSK sheath kit was a not only a fun project, but resulted in an excellent and useful design.



Gossman, K&M Matchcase, and firesteel Dannyboy Image

Post-scriptum :

Version 1.0 3/28/2007 Inception.

Version 1.5 11/15/2007 Getting there.

Version 1.6 11/19/2007 Published and Prices updated.