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Sharpening a Crooked, Hook or Bent Knife

Aki

- Skills and guides - DIY, Making things. -



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Description :

Three easy steps to sharpening up your hook knife.

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Sharpening a Crooked, Hook or Bent Knife

In some ways it is easier to sharpen than a straight knife. The tip will take a little special attention to get a sharp needle point or a slightly rounded profile with a razor edge. A crooked knife blade flush to the handle on the back allows for much more control while sharpening.

We start with a 1 1/2" x 2 1/2" combination arkansas oil stone, 250 x 1000 grit. Cleaned, lightly oiled and then wiped. Water stones are great. Some master carvers only use wet/dry fine grit emery and leather glued to sharpening stone sized pieces of level and sanded lumber, like a 1" x 3" x 12". A friend of ours has had some of his boards for 20 years. He can get his knives very sharp.



keep an edge carving fruitwood

Step 1

Place the back of the blade flat on your stone. Firmly press the blade onto the stone with your fingers.



starting at the top

Begin to drag the blade back, edge against the stone on an angle. Begin pivoting the end of the handle up so that the hook curve follows on the stone.



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pressing firmly

Closely shave the rock while keeping your blade firmly pressed flat. Pivoting the handle up and following the hook, time your drag so the the whole edge will be touched. Always keep pressure down against the stone with your fingers.



running the length of the stone

Shave the length of the stone, all the time following the hook until you come off the stone at the tip of the blade.



rolling off at the tip

Repeat these actions for the left edge.

Step 2

On a piece of dowel (eg. 35 cm of broomstick) tightly wrap a piece of 600 grit no - fill sandpaper. Secure the paper onto the dowel with three staples. You can buy this type of sandpaper at any autobody shop.



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right bevel

Begin with one end of the sanding dowel on the base of the edge and stroke outward, using the whole length of the sandpaper with each stroke on the whole length of the blade, right to the tip and off. You are taking off the burr remaining from step 1. Continue stroking, which will create a burr on the back. Repeat step 1 just to take this burr off.



left bevel

The idea is to wear the edge down from the top side and bring in the razor edge from the back of the blade. Always stroke your dowel at the same angle.

Cone shaped stones are also an excellent choice

Step 3

Contact cement and wrap a piece of 4 or 5 oz leather onto a 1.25 cm (1/2") dowel. Rub Jeweller's rouge or a fine compound into the leather and strop the edge.



top bevels



back

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Your edge is not getting sharp unless you can shave hair off your arm.

Watch your fingers aye.

Follow up to:



Making a strong hook knife