

Outdoor Leader Skills: Wood Tools

Tools

- pocket knife: folding preferred
- ax: hand, 1/2 length, 3/4 length, full length
- camp saw: bow or folding
- care and sharpening
- carrying, passing, and storing

See the Boy Scout Handbook (©1998 p. 77)



Pocket knife

Folding or sheath - blade as long as the Scout's palm is wide

Keep sharp!

Keep clean: oil joints & blade

Safety! keep closed when not in use, cut away from yourself, room to work

Camp saw

Bow saw versus folding saw

Sheath the blade when not in use

Keep sharp!

Let the saw do the work

(Have a spare blade if necessary (e.g., brush clearing project))

Keep clean: oil blade and joints (if any)

Safety! room to work, brace wood when cutting, long strokes, wear gloves

Axes

Select the right size for the task

Check fit of head -> handle

Splitting methods: overhead or contact

Sheath the blade when not in use Keep sharp!

Safety: room to work, use a backstop, wear gloves

Prepare tinder, kindling, and fuel for a cooking fire

