

HOW TO SHARPEN A KNIFE

Hey there, Cragman. We are going to talk knife sharpening. When you are going through life, you'll need a knife. That's what I say and there is no point having a knife that isn't sharp; there literally is no point. Well, you can use knife sharpeners from the store and, frankly, they do an okay job. But personally, if I am going to have a knife, I want it as sharp as possible. Blunt knives cause far more injuries than sharp knives and I want an edge I can rely on.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

Sharpen two knives with a whetstone. Make sure you are super careful. Safety first, whenever you are around knives. Make sure you have your parent's supervision and guidance.

LEVEL 3

B-1

So, I recommend a whetstone. This is a flat stone that you use to get a great knife edge. Here are a few things you'll have to know about using a whetstone.

- First, whetstones usually come in different grades from rough to smooth. For best results you will start with the roughest grade and finish with the smoothest.
- A whetstone should not be used dry, it should be used with water or oil as a lubricant to carry away tiny metal shards and stop them from getting embedded in the stone.
- The angle of the blade edge is what makes it sharp. The greater the angle, the sharper the blade, but the faster it will dull. For general use around twenty degrees is typically recommended, but this can be varied to suit your desires.
- Sharpening is done by holding the blade edge of the knife closest to the handle, at the desired angle and dragging it across the stone in almost the exact opposite motion to the cutting motion. So you are dragging from handle to tip and pulling upwards rather than plunging downwards, all while maintaining your angle.

- Once you have ground the edge on one side, flip the knife, and grind the opposite side. If you are not sure when you have ground the entire edge, you can color the knife edge and sharpen until all the mark has been removed.

- Finally, check your knife for sharpness. Cut a piece of paper or even allow an adult to see if they can shave some hair off of their arm with it. Good job. A sharp knife helps us to be ready when we need to jump into action.

