

TIPS FOR BLADE SELECTION



Clip - The back edge of the blade has been "clipped," forming a concave curve to the point. Extra-slim for better penetration. Clip patterns vary from short to the elongated Turkish clip.



Modified Clip - A recent design development, popular on high-tech, one-hand knives. Compromise between a clip and a drop-point. Exact shapes vary.



Drop-Point - This blade has a gentle, sloping convex curve to the point, less abrupt than the spear blade and without the concave curve of the clip. Developed for skinning where the low point will not cut what it's not supposed to.



Gutting & Skinning - Buck's own creation, available on Zipper, CrossLock, and new Alpha Hunters. Makes it a cinch to field dress game.



Serrations - By adding serrations, we give your Buck blade greater cutting power. Available on several models.



Spey - As the name indicates, this blade was originally developed to neuter farm animals. Functions well for skinning.



Sheepfoot - Got its name from the shape of the point, resembling the hoof of a sheep. Its flat, straight-line edge is well suited to cutting rope, tubing or insulated wire.



Pen or Spear - A smaller version of the larger "spear point" blade. Spear points are more popular in Europe, while in America the clip blade is preferred. Pen blades are usually on pocket knives as a handy, all purpose blade. Originally developed to trim quill pens, that name has stuck through the years.



Coping - A narrow blade with a sharp, angular point, designed to be used for cutting in tight spots or curved patterns, much as you would with a coping saw—only without the teeth.



KNIVES

Get on the Cutting Edge of Success

Knives serve hunters in many essential ways. Selecting the right knife and keeping it sharp is vital to safety and efficiency. Understand the basic styles and designs to help you shop smart for a knife that will best answer your needs.



Recent additions to Buck's family of hunting knives include the Alpha CrossLock CT Tool (top) for shotgunners, and 12 Omni Hunter fixed-blades and folders (bottom). Buck's patented Zipper continues to be a favorite for many hunters.

THE VERSATILE TOOL

One of the most basic and vital tools of the hunter is the knife: setting up camp, handling kitchen chores, field dressing and processing game. For backwoods survival, the knife is essential.

Although it's a basic tool, improved design and construction make today's knives better suited to hunters' individual needs. For example, Buck Knives has developed several innovative designs that provide hunters greater ease of use and superior performance, including the Alpha Hunters, with fixed-blades and liner locks (see photo on facing page); and the new 3-function Alpha CrossLock PBS, which even has a crosscut saw on one of its two blades.

FUNCTION BY DESIGN

A knife's design is a key factor in its usability. How well a knife performs has everything to do with its design, construction and materials used. The shape of the blade determines the knife's function. The composition of the blade steel determines rust- and stain-resistance, as well as overall strength and durability.

Heat-treating determines the hardness of the blade, a key factor in blade's strength and ability to hold an edge. CJ Buck, President and CEO of Buck Knives, a four-generation company, echoes the sentiments of many hunters who believe a knife blade should be hard enough to stay sharp until a job is complete.

BASIC KNIFE DESIGNS

The two most basic knife styles are fixed and folding blade knives. Knives with folding blades are preferred by many hunters because they fit a much shorter sheath and are less cumbersome in a vehicle or riding a horse. A folder also adds a great measure of safety. Fixed-blades, although larger, are more rugged. The photos and artwork on these pages illustrate some of the many options and popular designs.

Buck offers you a wide range of choices, including the Folding Alpha Hunter (top), new Kalinga Pro series and innovative X-Tract multi-tool, for convenient one-hand use.



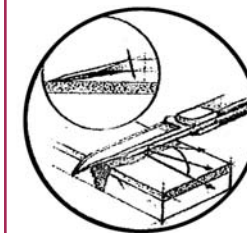
EDGE RETENTION

A good blade should hold an edge, CJ Buck emphasizes. "It shouldn't matter whether you're field dressing, skinning or butchering, a blade should maintain an edge from start to finish before it must be sharpened.

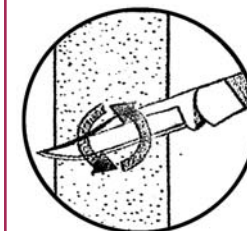
Then the blade can be sharpened at a more convenient time, not right in the middle of skinning a deer. This is a big plus when you're in sub-freezing temperatures or in a driving snow storm."

SHARPENING TIPS:

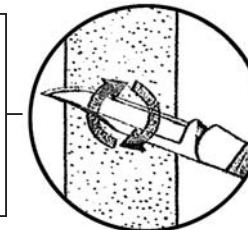
Every knife needs sharpening from time to time. Follow these steps to maintain a sharp, even edge. Buck's Diamond Sharpening Stones help you do a better job.



1. Establish the correct angle of 13 to 16 degrees — approximately the thickness of the top of your blade.



2. Keep the blade on the surface and use an easy, clockwise motion with the edge facing right, until the desired sharpness is achieved. It is ideal to achieve the original factory edge.



3. Turn the blade over. Use an easy counter-clockwise motion with the edge facing left. Try to spend the same amount of time on each side.

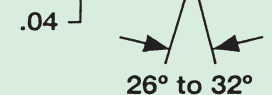
Remember: a sharp knife not only performs better, it's actually safer because it cuts easily without forced or awkward motions.

Buck's Edge2x™ Process Enhances Knife Performance

Buck Knives' high-tech Edge2x™ process accomplishes the three goals that all knife makers and users strive for when seeking the ideal blade that:

- Is sharper out of the box
- Will hold an edge twice as long; and
- Is easier to re-sharpen

Edge2x SHAPE



Buck's technology includes a thinner edge, with an included angle of 26° to 32° compared with the old range of 35° to 50°. Function and blade size determine the best angle; and hardness is another key to knife performance. A Rockwell hardness of 58 is ideal. And that's what Buck blades are hardened to with the Edge2x process.

STANDARD EDGE SHAPE



BUCK KNIVES

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