



# Blacksmithing - Knife making

If you have taken up the challenge of any of the backwoods adventure skills you will realise the value of having a good knife as a tool in the backwoods.

Most people will use a folding swiss army type knife, but if you explore the subject further you will see how experts such as Ray Mears prefer and recommend a knife such as the Nordic or Scandinavian version.

Special pre make kits are available. These kits have all the components for you to make your knife and require a minimum of skill to put together. You can also make a knife using a discarded circular saw blade or for the trully ambitious you could make one from scratch, from an old metal file. The latter requires blacksmithing skills and a forge.

So, many options are possible. The use of a forge is not as way out as it might seem. Many towns have metal workers who use a forge in conjunction with welders to make up gates etc. So, an opportunity for a real cultural experience is awaiting you. There are also blacksmithing classes run in some technical colleges around the country.

I would suggest starting with the kit or metal grinder and an old saw blade and progress from there.



## Things you need to learn

- How to work metal and leather
- How to sharpen a knife
- How to take care of a knife
- The rules for using a knife safely
- How to sew

Internet Link 1

Internet Link 2