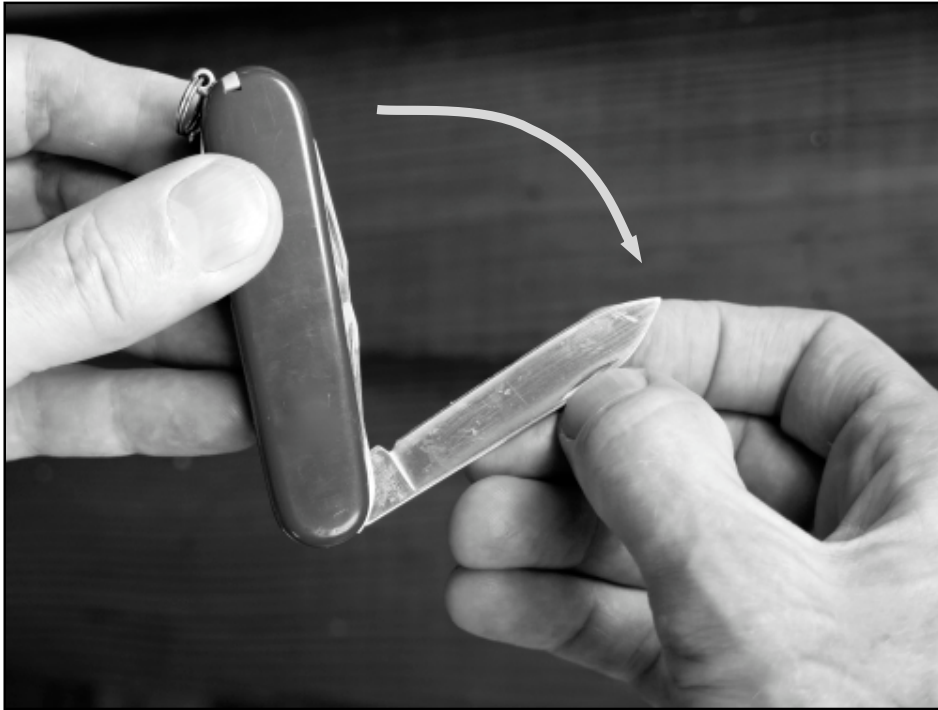


How To Open a Pocket Knife



Grasp the blade of the pocket knife with your fingers and your thumbnail, and pull the blade open. (See how there is a little slot in the knife blade where you can put your fingernail?)

There's a spring inside the knife to keep the blade closed. That spring can snap the blade shut on your fingers, so make sure you always keep your fingers out of the way.

Once you have the blade open, make sure the sharp part of the knife is always facing away from you, so you don't cut yourself.

How To Whittle



When you're learning how to whittle, start out by carving pieces off a stick of wood. Take it easy, and make small cuts with the knife. Always whittle away from yourself.

Remember, take **SMALL** cuts. Look at the photo above, and look at the small sliver of wood the person is whittling. That is what you should do. When you take small cuts, you stay in control of what you're doing.

Remember, always make sure the sharp part of the blade is facing **AWAY** from you. That way, if you slip, you can't cut yourself.

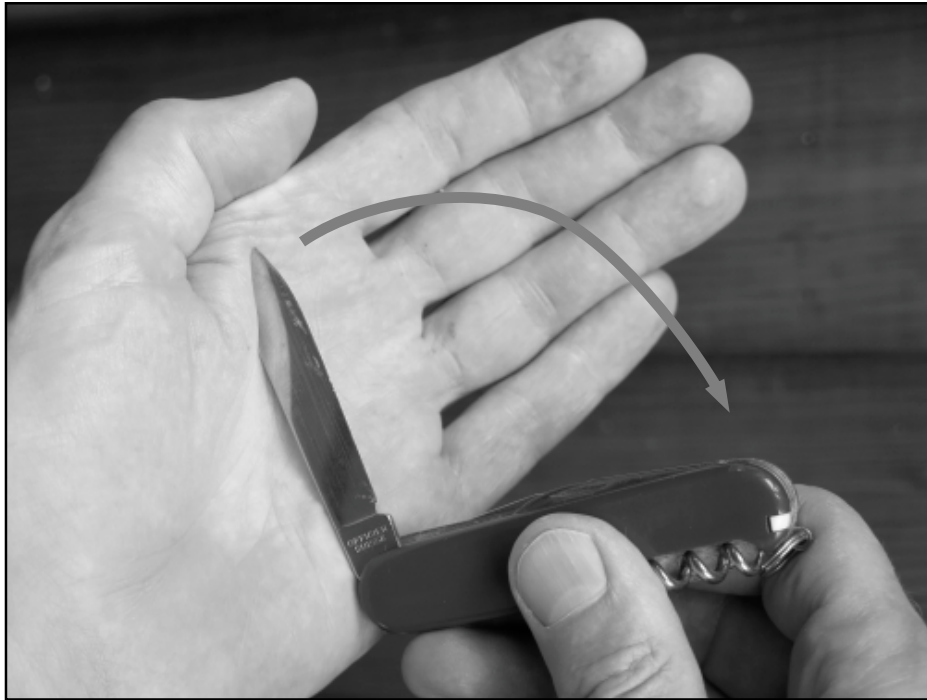


After you have tried whittling a stick for a while, next try to sharpen a pencil with your pocket knife. Again, take **SMALL** cuts, and always make sure the sharp part of the blade is pointing **AWAY** from you.

Sharpening a pencil with a knife is not easy. If you can make a perfect point on a pencil, then you're a pretty good whittler!

Learn how to sharpen your knife. A sharp knife is easier to use, and it works better, too. Get someone to show you how to use a sharpening stone, or a sharpening steel.

How To Close a Pocket Knife



To close a pocket knife, hold the knife in one hand. Make sure your fingers are out of the way of the knife blade.

Use the palm of your other hand to swing the knife blade up. (Again, make sure your fingers are going to be safe.)

Keep going until the knife blade SNAPS back into place. There—now the knife is safely closed.

Making Fuzz-Sticks

Fuzz-sticks make good tinder for starting fires. Take a stick of dry wood the thickness of your thumb. Cedar and pine work best. With your knife, cut long curling shavings. Leave the shavings sticking in a “fuzz” at the end of the stick (below).

Or take a stick and go round and round with your knife blade, making curled shavings until it looks like a little fir tree (at left). Both kinds of fuzz sticks work well for starting fires.



Whittling chopsticks



First, strip the bark off two twigs.



Next, whittle each twig so it is thinner at one end.



The finished chopsticks. Use wood that has little taste, such as willow, oak, or maple.

Remember: Always cut *AWAY* from yourself.



illustrations on these pages by Daniel Carter Beard, 1920