



MAN CRATES  
PROJECTS

# CARVE IT UP

SCRIMSHAW KNIFE KIT



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## *The Knife*

The Böker Lockback Pocket Knife is a part of the world-renowned Tree Brand and has been manufactured in the “City of Blades,” Solingen, Germany, since 1869. Wonder if their mayor is Edward Scissorhands. Anyway, the knife features nickel silver bolsters, brass linings, a high-carbon, stainless-steel blade, and a white bone handle that’s perfect for scrimshawing.

## *The Tools of the Trade*

Scrimshawing is the art of carving designs into bone. We’ve provided a quality scribe to engrave your design onto the bone handle. The India ink and applicators will make your design pop, and the sample stencil images can be traced directly onto the handle with the tracing tool and carbon transfer paper. You can freehand a design onto the knife with the multi-surface pencil. It’s got an eraser, because, you know, freehand. A piece of Micarta ivory is included for some practice. The dual grit sharpener will help your knife stay nice and slicey.

**Other thing you’ll need:** Tape! Use it to keep your stencil in place, and wrap it around the blade to prevent any accidents.

# BUFFING

The bone handle has a natural luster which can make it difficult to directly draw on or transfer your design with the carbon paper. Thanks for nothing, luster. To lose the luster, use the steel wool to lightly buff the area of the bone you intend to engrave. Be careful not to scratch the metal parts. You'll know it's ready when the bone loses its shine.

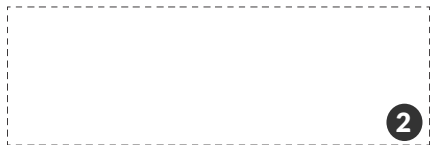
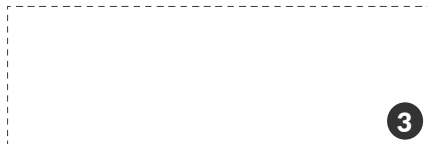
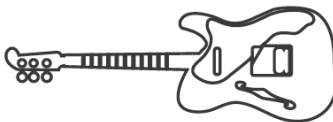
## PRO-TIPS:

1. Practice the entire scrimshawing process on the micarta ivory before you dive into the knife.
2. Always keep your blade closed when working on it because blood works best when kept inside the body.



# DESIGN

Create or select a design from the stencils to use for your knife handle. Choose from one of the sample designs or, if you graduated kindergarten with a degree in art, draw your own into the four empty spaces on the stencil. Anything that you can squeeze within the dotted box will fit onto your handle.



# TRANSFERRING

Once you've selected the design, cut it out, allowing a half-inch of space to the left and right of the design, so you can tape it onto the knife.

Next, slide a piece of transfer paper face down under the design stencil. Make sure to tape down the edges. Resist the urge to stick a piece of tape from your nose to your forehead.





Use the pointed tracing tool to trace over the stencil design to transfer the design onto the handle. Additional details can be added directly onto the blade later.



**PRO-TIP:** If you'd like a pointier tip on the tracing tool, use the pocket knife to shave it down while rotating it until the tip is pointy enough.

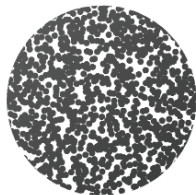
# ETCHING

Once the outline has been clearly transposed, you're ready to start etching it into the bone using the gold scribe. We chose gold because you deserve the very best.

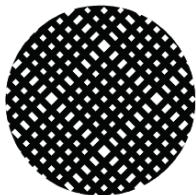
Start off by using light pressure to get a feel for the bone, and be careful not to cut any undesired scratches. You can always go back and cut darker lines and details once you've accomplished the outline.

When etching lines, don't push, but instead pull. This will prevent chips, slips and produce a much straighter line.

Hold your cutting tool as vertical as possible. Otherwise, ink may wash out of the cut.



Stippling



Crosshatching

There are two basic techniques to try for details like feathers: cross hatching and stippling.

Try these two shading techniques to add more depth to your design. Try not to shade everything at once.

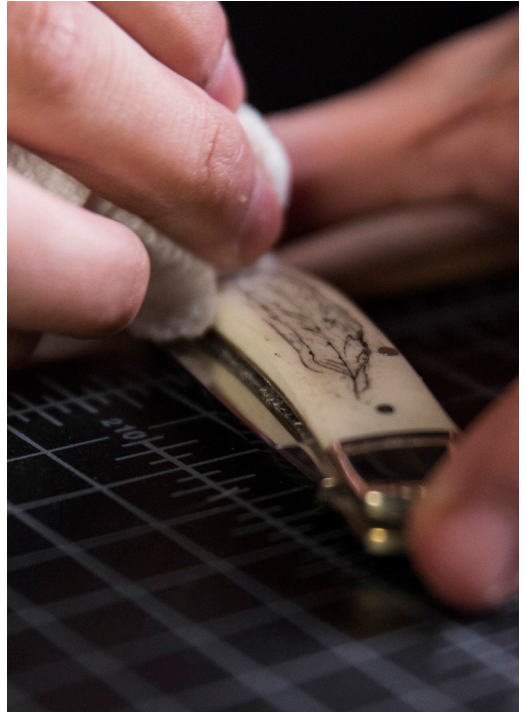


# INKING

Once you're finished etching your design on the handle, you're ready start inking.

Apply the India ink to your etched lines using the applicator. Use a slightly damp paper towel to remove any excess ink. The ink will seep down into the scratches and design should really pop.

You may want to repeat the etching and inking steps to further add details until you're satisfied with your design.



# CLEANING UP

Once you're satisfied with your design, you can begin the clean up process.

Use the steel wool to gently buff out any excess ink or errors. If you have a dark haze on your bone handle material, some ink may have been absorbed into it.

To correct any other mistakes, gently buff the handle until all of the undesired scratches are no longer visible.



Once your desired design is achieved, spread a bit of archival wax onto the bone handle to lock in the ink and to restore the luster.

Wipe off excess.

# SHARPENING

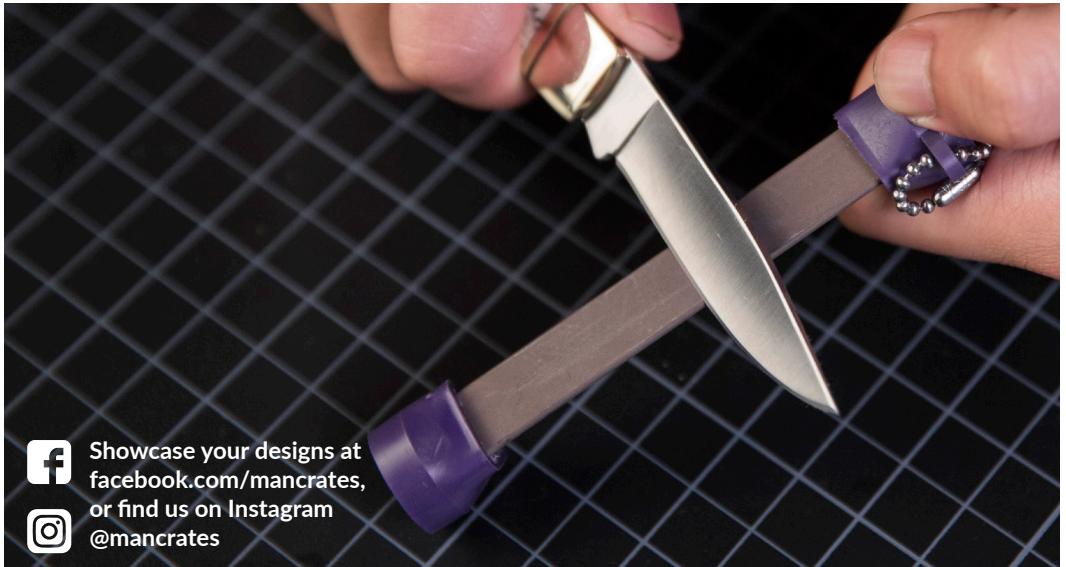
To complete the knife, sharpen the blade using the sharpener provided.

Place the thumb on one guard and the tip of the second or third finger of the same hand on the other guard.

Place the blade's edge against the flat side of the sharpener. While maintaining a consistent angle, and with even pressure, gently push the entire edge across the sharpener in a single stroke, much like attempting to slice a thin layer off the side.

Stroke 3-5 times and repeat on the reverse side of the blade.

Continue this process until the blade is sharp.





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