



MAN CRATES
PROJECTS

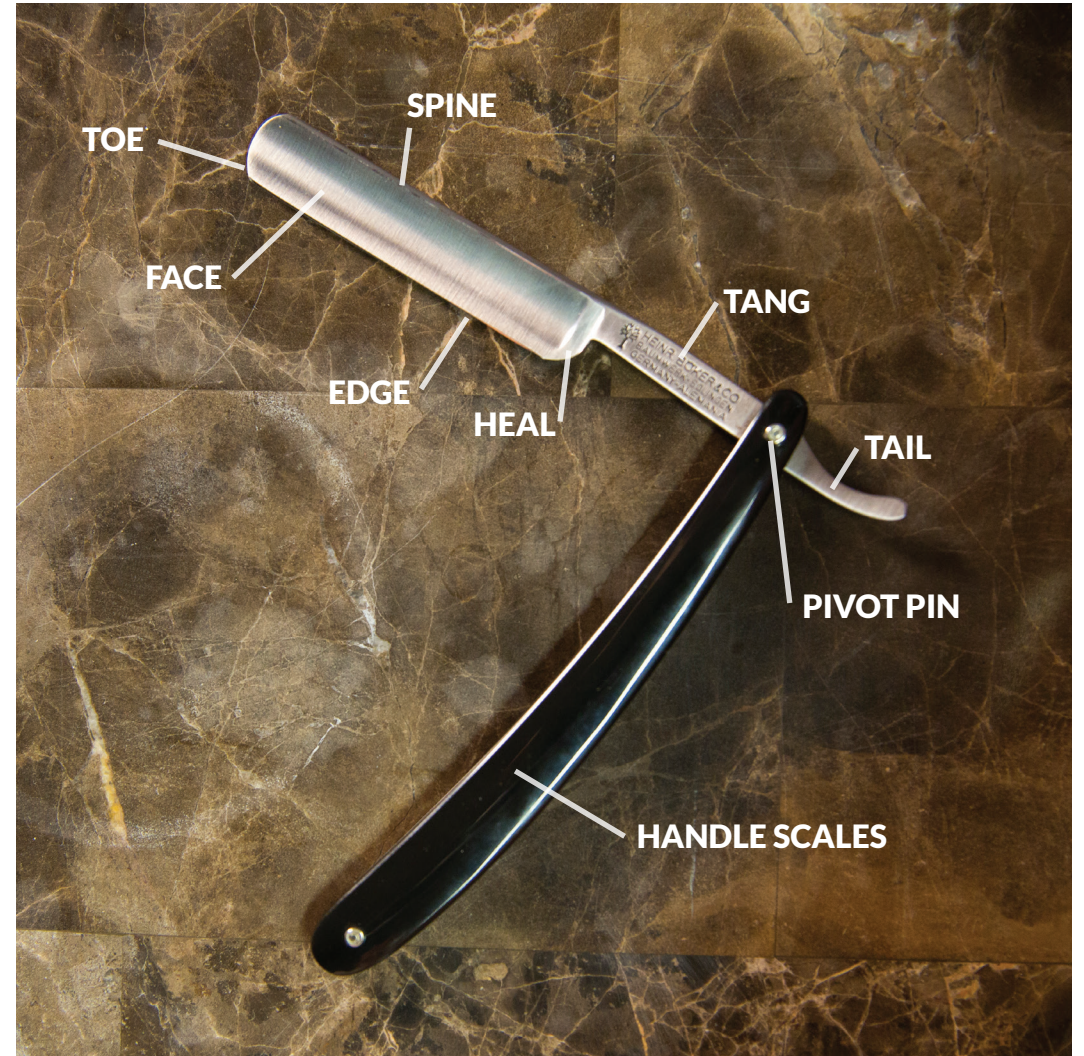
STRAIGHT SHAVE

DIY BARBER SHAVING GUIDE



**IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU
MASTER THE DELICATE
ART OF THE STRAIGHT
EDGE RAZOR, THE
SAVING GRACE FOR
SHAVING FACE.**

Your great grandpa didn't wake up in his foxhole and start hacking at his chin stubble with a quad-blade electric razor complete with revolving pivots and three-speed settings. No, he carefully maintained his face fashion the old-fashioned way: A trusty straight razor, a dim reflection from a whiskey bottle, and a skilled hand.





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The Blade

This classic 4/8" straight razor is handmade by blade ace Böker in Soligen, Germany, the revered City of Blades. Like Scotch Whiskey, Champagne, and Hidden Valley Ranch, the esteemed "made in Soligen" title is strictly reserved for blades made in that region and subjected to its rigorous quality standards. The razor has Anthracite handles and the blade is carbon steel with extra hollow ground for unparalleled sharpness and edge retention.

The Strop

Keep your blade aligned and sharp with the Böker leather span strop. One side comes treated with a paste for rough stropping, and the other is natural leather for fine stropping.

The Lather

If this extremely sharp razor is raising anxiety, let the the trustworthy trio of Renegade Shave products soothe your wounds, physically and emotionally. Renegade shave cream primes your face for a close and comfortable shave, and the Alum Bar and After Shave soothes any nicks and keeps at least the top part of your body smelling fresh.

* **REFILL KIT:** The Refill kit only comes with 3, 4, and 5

Step 1: **BLADE CARE**

For optimal razor maintenance, we've included a leather strop to align and polish the edge of your blade.

This will help keep your razor sharp, though you'll benefit from taking it to a barbershop every six months for a professional sharpening.

To sharpen the blade, start with the red side of the strop, which is painted with an abrasive compound. Lay the blade flat so that both the spine and edge of the blade are in contact, then draw the blade down the strop (blade following the spine).



Turn the blade at the end of the stroke and strop the other side of the blade. Strop each side of the blade 10-15 times, then move onto the raw leather side of the strop and repeat the process. Avoid the urge to test its sharpness with your finger or any other body part that bleeds.



Step 2: **LATHER**

You don't need to visit a barber for a luxurious shave experience, and you don't need 1,500 hours of barber school to know a hot towel on your face feels amazing.

Start your shave by soaking a hand towel in hot water. Wring it out, drape it across your ugly mug, and bask in the lap of luxury. Next, take a nickel-sized portion of shave cream, mix it with water, and work it into a lather on your face. Add water as necessary. If you have a shave brush, now's the time to give those cheek and chin a little tickling.

PRO-TIP: More lead time equals less bleed time. Before shaving, make a beard map identifying the exact direction of hair growth on your face to best shave with the grain. For instance, the hair on your neck might grow both upwards and downwards in different places.



Step 3:

CHEEKS



PRO-TIP: Don't press hard! Only the weight of the razor should be pressing against your face. If you feel the blade catching on hairs, stop and rinse your blade, then start a new stroke.

Hold the blade between your thumb and first three fingers as pictured below. Lift pinky out if shaving in the presence of British royalty. Start by drawing the skin on your cheek taut and flat. Hold the blade 30° to your face and gently draw the blade across your cheek in short smooth strokes. Reach over your head like an orangutang and pull the skin on your face upward, then shave down to your jawline like a more dexterous orangutang.



Step 4:

CHIN

To shave your mustache, first exhale deeply while surrendering all aspirations of becoming 80's heartthrob Tom Selleck, then stretch your upper lip over your teeth like a sea turtle to flatten skin. Starting below your nose, shave downward toward your mouth.

To shave your chin, stretch your bottom lip upwards over your teeth and start shaving downward from the bottom of your lip.



Observe the direction of hair growth around your chin and take care to shave with the grain. Very gently follow the contours of your chin. Use your free hand to keep the skin flat and smooth, and maintain a 30° angle with the razor. Buy a protractor if necessary.

PRO-TIP: Take your time and go slow. Less speed, less bleed. If your face begins to dry out, add water and rework into a rich lather.



Step 5: **NECK**

If you're a little too intimidated to shave your neck the first time around, don't fret. Quarterback Andrew Luck is single-neckedly making the neckbeard, or 'neard', fashionable.

Whenever you muster the courage to shave the neck, carefully note the direction your hair grows. Lean your head away from the side you're shaving to stretch out the skin. Start by working downward following the grain of your beard changing directions as necessary



to ensure you've handled all hairs.

Once you've finished your first pass, take a breather and make sure you didn't miss any major patches. Congratulations, you can scratch "shave with a straight razor without dying" off your bucket list.

If you're hankering for a more infantile baby face, you can re-lather and re-shave **against the grain**. Just take it slow and be careful!

Step 6: **AFTER SHAVE**

You're ready for the finale. Wet the alum bar and gently rub it across your face paying special attention to nicks or razor burn. Alum acts as an antiseptic, combats razor burn, and helps bleeding cease.

Finish by misting and rubbing the cooling aftershave across your face. While you can scream like Macaulay Caulkin for effect, be warned this joke will get old very quickly.

Finally, pat yourself on the back and go show the world how good you look.





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