



MAN CRATES
PROJECTS

SLASH AND STASH

DIY FOLDING KNIFE-MAKING GUIDE

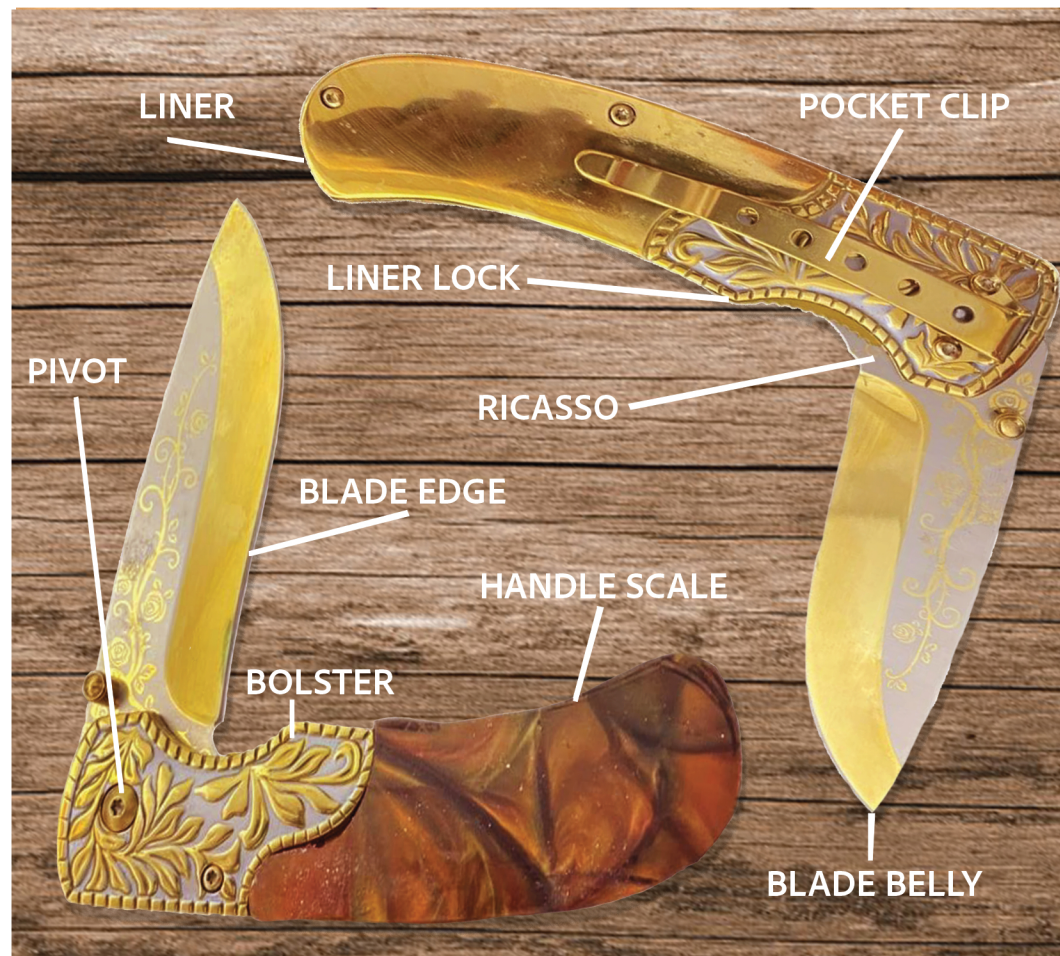


A man's knife is only as good as it is accessible.

That razor-sharp blade sitting on your workbench ain't doing you any favors when you're trying to skin and fillet a squirrel in the backcountry. And unless you're Crocodile Dundee, you're probably not cruising through town with a fixed blade nestled neatly on your hip. A folding knife is the convenient and non-crazy-looking way to

**KEEP A TRUSTY
KNIFE FOREVER
BY YOUR SIDE.**

KNIFE ANATOMY



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- 1 Folding Knife Assembly
- 2 T6 and T8 Torx Wrenches
- 3 3" Bench Vise
- 4 File and Rasp Set
- 5 Variable Grit Sandpaper
- 6 Instruction Booklet



The Blade

The full knife assembly involves two torx wrenches and very tiny parts that could easily be lost due to earthquake or butterfingers, so be careful. On the bright side, they are too small to be a choking hazard, so swallow away.

Step 1: ASSEMBLY

Alright, MacGyver, time to start putting things together. Using the diagram on the opposite page, begin assembling the knife. Start by attaching the bolsters to the liners. Next, place the blade between the liners, and make sure to include the teflon washers, standoffs, and blade stop pin. Push the pivot pin through and screw it in place. Make sure to include the O-ring. Tighten, open, and close the blade until you're confident the liner lock is holding the blade open properly. If it doesn't look like a knife, disassemble and try again.



When mounting the handle scales, make sure the holes line up perfectly and the screws enter easily. If the fit seems off, don't force it. Brute force never truly solves anything. Simply remove the scales and sand the edge of the scale that contacts the bolster until you've reached perfect alignment.

PRO-TIP: These pieces are easy to lose. Work over a large table so you can find any screws you drop, and chain up the Roomba outside, just in case.



DIAGRAM

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Blade | 6 Pivot Pin Screw | 11 Pivot Pin |
| 2 Teflon Washers (2) | 7 Left Handle Scale | 12 Right Liner |
| 3 Left Liner | 8 Flat Head Screws (2) | 13 Right Handle Scale |
| 4 Left Bolster | 9 Standoffs (2) | 14 Pocket Clip |
| 5 Round-head Screws (8) | 10 Blade Stop Pin | |

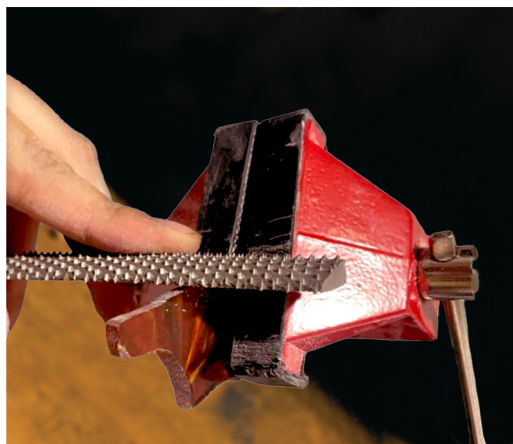


Step 2: **SHAPING**



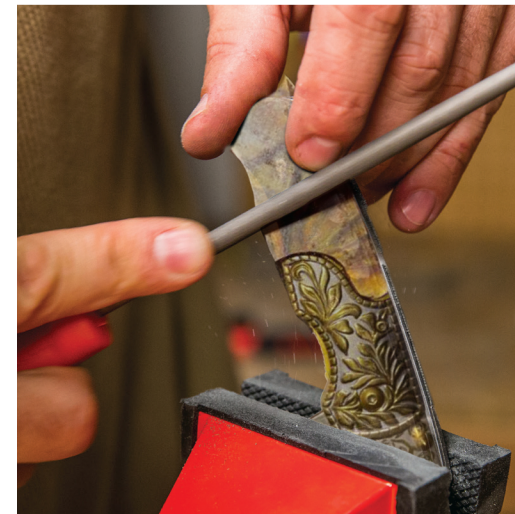
PRO-TIP: You'll be shaping the handle with the blade open. 10 out of 10 doctors and mothers advise you mummify the blade in many layers of masking tape to protect yourself while you work.

Use the rasp and file set to shape the handle. When in doubt, file with the passion of a disinterested 1960's secretary keen on nail care. The Micarta is a very hard material, so work patiently. Remove material on the edges until the handle scales are flush with the steel liners. Once the profile is finished, work on the transition between bolster and handle.



Step 3: **FITTING**

Now it's time to maximize fit and character. Remove material until the grip is comfortable. Keep a careful eye on preserving symmetry. Round the edges, and don't be afraid of taking some tops off the screws. They can be sanded down for a smooth touch and still be deep enough to unscrew later.



PRO-TIP: Use the files to remove any deep scratches you made with the rasp before moving on to sanding.

Step 4:

POCKET CLIP

Your knife won't be complete until it's found a comfortable home. In this case your pocket. The pocket clip comes with two long, round head screws. Tighten those screws and wear it with pride.

In some traditions, a new blade is given a name when it draws first blood. You might want to start giving that some thought for the first time you accidentally cut yourself using it.



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