



Knife, Saws and Axes

Scouting and camping sometimes means we use lot of tools. For example;



Saw



Axe



Knife

Not using these tools safely means accidents.

Training Scouts to use them properly will reduce the likely hood of accidents.

You must be trained by your Scout Leader to use them safely and properly before you are allowed to use them. You will then be given a certificate to say that you can use them. This can be taken off you if you do not look after them or use them properly.

Rules

1. Never bring your own axe, knife or saw to Scouts
2. Never play with them
3. Never throw them
4. Never give them to some one else to look after
5. Be mindful of those around you when using these tools
6. Always follow the Scout Promise and Law when using them



Saws



- Saws cut wood quicker than Axes do
- The Bow saw is ideal for working on small timber because it leaves no wood chips.
- The blade must be sharp - do not bash them on the wood, on a wall or on the ground
- Never leave the saw alone, always put it in a safe place
- Wear your gloves when using the saw

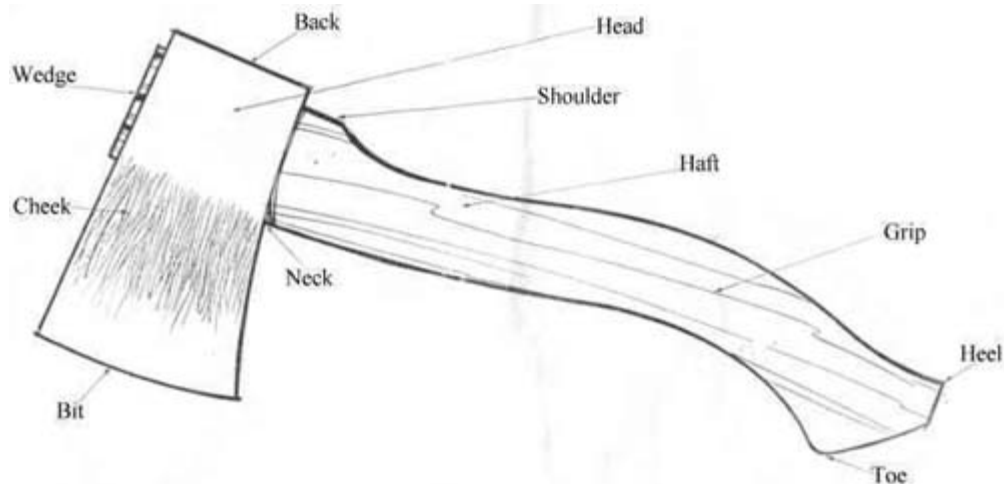


Knives



- Keep your fingers away from the blade
- Always cut away from you
- NEVER EVER throw a knife or stick it in the ground
- Always put the knife away when you are not using it
- All knives must be kept clean and sharp. If a knife becomes blunt it will not cut properly and therefore cannot be controlled very easily.

Axes

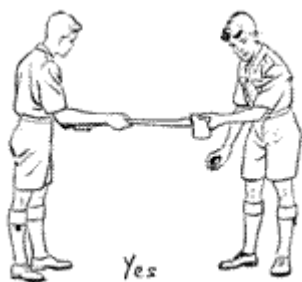


The basic rule of thumb is to leave the axes at home. However, if axes are used on then there are strict rules.

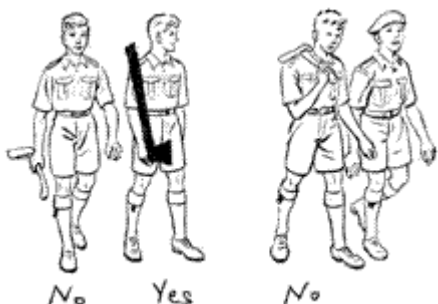
- Stand square and firm on the ground. Always wear strong boots or shoes and never sports shoes or trainers
- Clear the area around you, including Tree branches and people
- Check that the axe head (Metal Part) is attached before starting.
- All loose clothing, such as lanyards, neckerchiefs, etc, should be removed.

- Always use a chopping block and chop the wood over the block.
- Never use an axe when tired; this is when accidents occur.
- Never use the axe as a mallet or hammer.
- Never touch a living tree and never fell a tree without the permission of the Land owner.

- Mask the task when you are not using it, this means putting the blade into the chopping block or putting its cover on.



Always pass the axe to another person by offering them the Head



Always carry the axe with the head in your hand, with the blade facing outwards and the Haft going up your arm

Never throw your axe

Leave it in a safe place

