

## Outline for Carving Knives pre/demo

This is a list of the knives that I mentioned in my carving knife presentation on the April 12, 2022 OCG evening program called Tools with Edges. This segment of the program was devoted to knives that I have used in carving. Some carvers use knives in their work extensively, other rarely use knives. I started carving as a woodsy whittler, skinning bark off small branches and making wood doodles, and only later discovered that there is an amazing array of other tools made for carvers. When I started taking carving seriously, I often followed the instruction of Tom Wolfe. He was a gifted caricature and wood spirit carver and his tutorials incorporated the use of carving knives. At any rate I like carving with knives and have integrated their use into all of my carving projects. Following is a list of knives that I use and feel are either essential or are very interesting.

### Core carving knives

These are three knives that I use in most carves. Described from bottom to top.

**Roughout knife** - large heavy blade, used to remove large amounts of wood

**Detail knife 1** – Long thin blade, used for small work and access to deep narrow features

**Detail knife 2** – Short thin blade, used to carve small features and outline for stop cuts.

Manufacturer of all three is Helvie, knives sell for approximately \$40 each



### Specialty knives

**Chip knife** – There are a number of different chip carving knives. I am not a chip carver, but use this knife in my carving to make lines for stop cuts, and make chip like cuts in my carving.

Manufacturer is Flexcut, knives sell for about \$25



**Detail knife** – This knife has a thin curved blade, and is used for detail finishing work.

Manufacturer is Tom Wolfe, collectors item, hard to price



**Cottonwood bark knife** – This knife is designed to carve cottonwood bark. For this purpose, it has a rounded end with no point to prevent rip-outs. The edge follows most of that rounded end. The manufacturer is Gil Drake, with a price range of \$45-\$50.



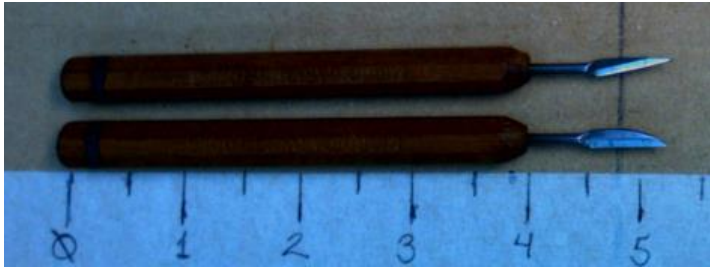
**Hook Knife** – The curved blade is used to hollow out wooden spoons and small bowls. There are a number of blade profiles for hook or bent knives. This one is ideal for making spoons and small bowls. The manufacturer is Morakniv, with a price range of \$30-\$40.



**Sloyd knife** - Used in flat plane carving, a single knife to carve many things, fancy whittling. Sloyd is not a person or place name. It is derived from a Swedish word meaning handiwork or crafts. The manufacturer is Morakniv, with a price of \$30.



**Micro knives** – Use to finish fine details or work small spaces in delicate carving areas.  
Manufactured by Dockyard, price \$15 (usually sold in sets)



## Whittling and Vacation Carving

**Carving Jack** – This a folding knife with multiple carving tools, sort of a Swiss Army knife for carvers. A perfect knife for carving on the go. Manufacturer is Flexcut, price \$90-\$110



**Whittlers pocket knife** - A folding knife with two or more blades, commonly used for whittling. I use two, a three bladed folding knife and a two bladed one. Very good for casual carving. –  
Manufacturers - Case (small two blades) and Buck (larger 3 blades), prices Case \$40, Buck \$30



**Interchangeable Blade Knife** – Great addition to a traveling kit for a carver or whittler, compact and with a wide variety of blades. Manufactured by Warren, price \$50

