Using a Penknife

A Pen Knife is a very useful tool to have but must be used correctly and safely. It is very easy to injure yourself or others if you do not use a pen knife safely.

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1. The first thing to do is read the instructions. Something we all “forget” when we get something new. The instructions will run through what tools are on the knife and also give you information on how to care for and maintain the knife correctly.

2. Take note if the blade(s) on the knife are lock blades or not. If not, think what might happen if you do not use the knife properly and the blade closes. Only open the tools one at a time, having more than one open can make it difficult and dangerous to use. Also, think of what the tool is realistically able to achieve, don’t push it to hard and cause injury.

3. Always cut away from yourself. In particular there is a big artery in your thigh which can be life threatening if damaged.

4. Get used to holding your knife with the different tool settings, be comfortable and confident in using them when out and about and always ask for help if you are not sure.

5. Be sure to maintain your knife correctly, if it is not oiled and if it gets clogged with mud you are more likely to get injured as it will become stiff and dangerous.