

Frequently Asked Questions

ROUND KNIVES, SKIVERS, & TRIM KNIVES

1	<u>Your knives with the ergonomic handle are beautifully made... I'm left-handed so I thought I would check whether that matters or not with your round and skiving knives? Tools are so often designed for right-handers.</u>
2	<u>I would love to have both your round knife and the skiving knife, but at this moment I can only afford one of them. Which one would serve me better as a novice leather worker?</u>
3	<u>Is the pull-cut portion of your round knife blade beveled on both sides of the knife? I'm left handed.</u>
4	<u>Are there any benefits to the different blade shapes on the Guppy and APT or is it just personal preference?</u>
5	<u>What do the different Guppy and APT Blade styles look like?</u>
6	<u>What exactly is the full distal grind and how does not having it affect the performance of the knife?</u>
7	<u>Will the optional pull-cut on your round knife make it easier to pull the knife than to push it? I always push my round knife, so I will not need it, is that right?</u>
8	<u>Is Rosewood-Dymond wood real rosewood? What is Dymond wood, and is it durable?</u>
9	<u>What is a good cutting board surface?</u>

- 1. Your knives with the ergonomic handle are beautifully made... I'm left-handed so I thought I would check whether that matters or not with your round and skiving knives? Tools are so often designed for right-handers.***

The handle on our round knives and skivers are ergonomically designed for a good fit and better control. The handle and blade are symmetrical and ambidextrous, designed to be used by left-handed and right-handed people with equal ease and comfort.

- 2. I would love to have both your round knife and the skiving knife, but at this moment I can only afford one of them. Which one would serve me better as a novice leather worker?***

The round knife is one of the most versatile of all the knives on the leather crafter's bench. You can make long cuts, curvy cuts, and skive with it as well. If

you get into some specialty work where a large part of it requires skiving specifically, then a skiver will serve you better.

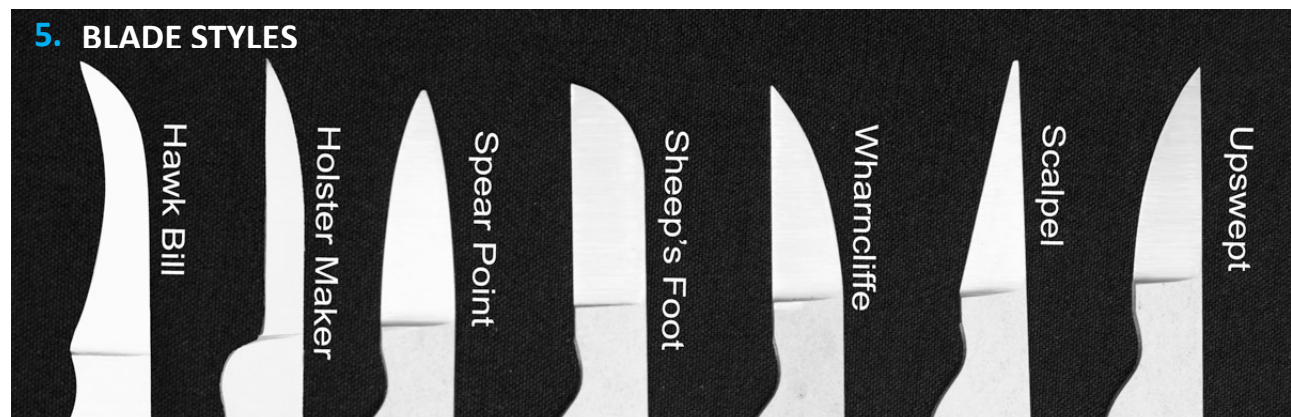
3. Is the pull-cut portion of your round knife blade beveled on both sides of the knife? I'm left handed.

Yes, the pull-cut feature on our round knives is beveled on both sides – they are ambidextrous. Plus, doing so prevents steering.

4. Are there any benefits to the different blade shapes on the Guppy and APT or is it just personal preference?

A large part of it is personal preference but some blade shapes lend themselves to certain tasks a little better than others. Following is a brief application of each blade style.

- The *Scalpel* – is the most popular and is a favorite for tiny detail and filigree work, especially on 2-5 oz. (thinner) leather.
- The *Wharncliffe* – is another popular style and is great for general benchwork and the knife you want to grab when you're going to be cutting rough patterns, etc.
- The *Upswept* and the *Spear Point* – seem to be the favorites amongst people who do leather garment work and frequently work with softer, chrome tan leathers.
- The *Sheep's Foot* – is the toughest blade shape of all, in that one can be a little rough with it without having to worry about tip breakage or having a sharp point that can stab.
- The *Holster Maker* – was designed and beta-tested by a customer and his team and they use it to make more than 200 holsters a week. It is a favorite simply because it makes easy work of trimming the welt after glue-up and sewing.
- The *Hawk Bill* – seems to be the one that people use most when they want to do a pull-cut on lots of curvy patterns.



6. What exactly is a full distal grind and how does not having it affect the performance of the knife?

A full distal grind is where the grind starts at the cutting edge and goes all the way back to where the handle starts – then the secondary bevel is put in place to make the cutting edge. Not having a full distal grind doesn't affect the knife's performance nor the quality of cut.

7. Will the optional pull-cut on your round knife make it easier to pull the knife than to push it? I always push my round knife, so I will not need it, is that right?

With the optional pull-cut you can both push and pull when cutting. If you don't have the pull-cut you can only push the knife to cut, but you don't need it. If your tendency is to put the thumb of your off-hand behind the blade when push cutting, then I would recommend not getting the pull-cut.

8. Is Rosewood-Dymond wood real? What is Dymond wood, and is it durable?

Dymond wood or dymond ply is a man-made material made from thin veneers that are laminated and compressed. It is a very durable and stable product and quite a bit tougher than many woods. The Rosewood refers to the color of the stain used and not the species of wood.

9. What is a good cutting board surface?

A HDPE (high-density polyethylene) cutting board, available from most restaurant supply stores, is a good surface to cut on. For a better cutting board surface, I recommend UHMW (ultra-high molecular weight) polyethylene. You can find it in most plastic supply stores. It's a little more expensive than HDPE but well worth it.