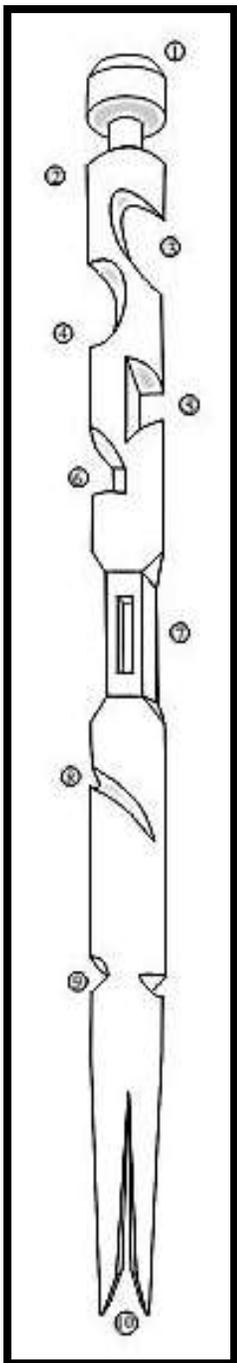


S.A.L.T. SKILL CHALLENGE by Thomas Robins

TRY or SAMPLE STICK

You will need a good pocketknife and around a foot and a half straight, knot-free branch one to two inches in diameter. Willow works great. Green wood is easier, but dry wood gives a better finished look. The bark can be removed or left on.

The purpose of the Try Stick is to practice and demonstrate the skillful use of your pocketknife by carving notches that have very useful applications.



1. **BLUNT END** reduces the edges for a clean look.
2. **REDUCTION** is used for toggles and decoration
3. **POT HOOK NOTCH** is used to hang pots over a fire for cooking
4. **SADDLE NOTCH** is for joining logs in cabin building
5. **DOVETAIL NOTCH** is used in cabinet making for corner joints
6. **LATCH NOTCH** is used in traps like the figure 4 deadfall trap
7. **90 DEGREE PLANES** are used in figure 4 traps to lock the Latch Notch in place
8. **BOW NOTCH** for bow making to hold the bowstring in place
9. **V NOTCH** used in figure 4 traps to lock the upright against the support stick
10. **ROOT STRIPPER** used for stripping bark on roots for cordage and hafting arrow and spear points