

SAINTS GLOBAL

ACTIVITY PLAN

EDGED TOOLS

PHYSICAL CORE

Version 2026.1



Companion to the BRC: a series of one-hour activity sessions for use on weekly activity night or at home. Each session declares which requirements it contributes to.

THE CULMINATING EVENT

The three-station tool drill

In Session 3, each saint rotates through three live tool stations under direct supervision — whittling a stake with a knife, splitting kindling with a hatchet, and bucking a small log with a folding saw. He cannot start a station until he has demonstrated the four safe-handling rules at the opening block. The drill is the field test for everything the four sessions prepare for.

OUTDOOR — WORKSHOP OR CHURCH-YARD CUTTING AREA WITH ADULT SUPERVISION AND A STOCKED FIRST-AID KIT

SESSION 1 · PHYSICAL CORE

⌚ 60 min target

Tools, jobs, and first aid

Handle each tool before you cut anything with it.

SESSION AIM

Saints lay out the common edged tools, name what each is built to do, and walk through first-aid responses for the cuts, punctures, and bleeds those tools cause. The hour ends with each saint naming one tool he has used unsafely in the past and what he will change. No live cutting yet.

🎯 WALK AWAY WITH

- Has named four common edged tools and the job each is built for
- Has walked through the first three actions for a cut, a puncture, and a severe bleed
- Has named one past unsafe habit he is dropping before Session 3

📦 BRING / SET UP

- A folding knife, a fixed-blade knife, a small hatchet, and a folding saw (all sheathed for the hour)
- A printed first-aid card showing direct pressure, wound packing, and tourniquet placement
- A stocked first-aid kit (gauze, pressure bandage, tape, gloves, tweezers, antiseptic wipes)
- A red bandanna and a clean rag per pair for the bleed-control drill
- Sticky notes and a pen per saint
- A whiteboard or large pad for the tool/job table

🗂️ THE HOUR**BLOCK 1 · DISCUSSION Opener — Where you got hurt last**

⌚ 5 min

Round the room, under 30 seconds per saint: 'When did you last cut yourself, or watch someone cut himself, with a knife or a tool — and what was the saint doing right before it happened?' Two or three short answers. Most injuries come from one of three habits: cutting toward the body, working on a lap, or rushing the last stroke. The rest of the hour names those habits and the rules that replace them.

SESSION 1 · TOOLS, JOBS, AND FIRST AID (PAGE 2 OF 3)

THE HOUR — CONTINUED

BLOCK 2 · SKILL PRACTICE Lay out the tools — name the job

⌚ 18 min

1. Lay the four sheathed tools on a table where every saint can see them: folding knife, fixed-blade knife, small hatchet, folding saw. Sheaths stay on for this block.
2. Walk the table together. For each tool, name three things: what it is built to do well, what it is not built for, and the injury type it most often causes when used wrong.
3. Build a tool/job table on the whiteboard with four columns: tool, best job, wrong job, common injury. Each youth fills one cell aloud — example for the hatchet: best job is splitting kindling, wrong job is fine carving, common injury is a buried blade in the thigh from a missed swing.
4. Each youth picks up each tool in turn, sheathed, and finds the balance point with one finger. A hatchet feels heavy and head-forward; a folding knife sits light in the palm. The heavier the tool, the wider the cutting zone it needs.
5. Each youth writes on a sticky note: 'One tool I have used for a job it was not built for, and what I should have used instead.'

REQ 1A

BLOCK 3 · SKILL PRACTICE First aid — three injuries, in order

⌚ 22 min

1. Set up three stations with the first-aid kit open in the middle of the room. Station A is a deep cut on the forearm. Station B is a puncture in the palm from a slipped knife. Station C is a severe bleed on the thigh from a hatchet glance.
2. Walk the first three actions for each, in order. Cut: stop, direct pressure with gauze for ten minutes without lifting, bandage and watch. Puncture: stop, do not pull anything out, pack around it and bandage, get the saint to help. Severe bleed: stop the saint from moving, hard direct pressure or a tourniquet two inches above the wound if the bleeding does not slow, get help now.
3. Pair up and run all three stations. One saint is the casualty, the other is the responder; switch after each station. The responder narrates aloud what he is doing as he does it — silence on the trail is a sign the responder does not know the next step.
4. Quick check at the end of the rotation: each youth shows the leader how he packs gauze on the puncture and where he places the tourniquet on the thigh. Hands-on confirmation, not a verbal answer.
5. Discussion point: cleanliness matters more outdoors than at home — dirt in a wound becomes infection by the next morning. A clean rag and clean water beat a fancy bandage applied with dirty hands.

REQ 1B

SESSION 1 · TOOLS, JOBS, AND FIRST AID (PAGE 3 OF 3)

THE HOUR — CONTINUED

BLOCK 4 · DISCUSSION **Why these injuries happen**

⌚ 10 min

1. Open round: which of the three injuries from the last block is most likely on a real campout, and what cutting habit causes it most often? Each saint contributes one line.
2. Name the three habits that show up most: cutting toward the body, working on a lap or knee, and rushing the last stroke to finish a piece. Each shows up at the Session 3 stations as a stop-and-reset point.
3. Each youth reads his sticky note from B2 aloud — the tool he has used for the wrong job — and names one habit from above he is replacing before Session 3. Pair the saints so each has a partner who heard the commitment.

REQ 1A

REQ 1B

BLOCK 5 · REFLECTION **Close — Homework for next week**

⌚ 5 min

1. Each youth takes the four-rules handout home and reads it before Session 2.
2. Bring a folding knife or fixed-blade knife to Session 2 — sheathed, in a sheath that closes. Anyone without his own borrows one from the church kit on arrival.

AT THE CLOSE · DEBRIEF

1. Which of the four tools did you most expect to handle today, and which one felt heavier than you expected?
2. Which of the three first-aid scenarios is the one you would freeze on if it happened tonight?
3. What is the unsafe habit you wrote down to drop before Session 3?

📝 Initial 1a and 1b on each saint's BRC after this session. Note any saint who is bringing a borrowed knife to Session 2.

SESSION 2 · PHYSICAL CORE

⌚ 60 min target

Safe handling and tool choice

Learn the four rules and prove them before you ever cut.

SESSION AIM

Saints walk the four safe-handling rules — cutting zone, grip and stance, passing, carry and storage — and drill each one with sheathed tools. They then work three real outdoor tasks and argue which tool fits each. The session ends with each saint passing the four rules back to the leader aloud — the gate for the Session 3 cutting drill.

🎯 WALK AWAY WITH

- Has practiced each of the four safe-handling rules with a sheathed tool
- Has picked the right tool for three outdoor tasks and explained the choice
- Has passed the four rules back to the leader and is cleared for live cutting

📦 BRING / SET UP

- Each saint brings: his folding or fixed-blade knife, sheathed
- A small hatchet and a folding saw from the church kit (sheathed)
- Three printed task-scenario cards: feather-stick for a fire, clearing brush from a trail, splitting kindling for a stove
- The four-rules handout (one per saint — printed in advance)
- Chalk or marking tape for drawing cutting circles on the floor or yard
- A scrap stick per saint for the grip-and-stance practice (cutting is not done in this block)

🕒 THE HOUR**BLOCK 1 · DISCUSSION Opener — One rule you already follow**

⌚ 5 min

Quick round the room, under 30 seconds per saint: 'Name one thing you already do with a knife or a tool that keeps you safe — something a parent or a leader taught you that stuck.' Note the answers. Most saints will name some version of the four rules without using those words. The rest of the hour names the four explicitly so every saint shares the same vocabulary on Saturday.

SESSION 2 · SAFE HANDLING AND TOOL CHOICE (PAGE 2 OF 3)

THE HOUR — CONTINUED

BLOCK 2 · SKILL PRACTICE **Walk the four rules — drill each one**

⌚ 20 min

1. Hand out the four-rules card. Read the four headings aloud together: cutting zone, grip and stance, passing, carry and storage.
2. Rule 1 — cutting zone. Chalk a circle on the floor about an arm's reach across. Each youth sits at the center, holds his sheathed knife at full extension, and sweeps it through the air. Anything inside the circle that he could hit — his own leg, another saint, the wall — gets named aloud and moved.
3. Rule 2 — grip and stance. Each youth takes a scrap stick and a sheathed knife. He demonstrates cutting away from his body, with his off-hand above the cut and his wrist locked. The leader walks the room and corrects any hand that drifts in front of the blade.
4. Rule 3 — passing. Pair up. Each pair passes a sheathed knife back and forth ten times. The giver offers the handle. The receiver says 'thank you' when he has a firm grip. The giver does not release until the word is said. Repeat with the hatchet — heavier tool, same protocol.
5. Rule 4 — carry and storage. Each youth shows how he walks with a sheathed knife on his belt, how he sets a sheathed tool down without leaving it open, and where he stores it at home so younger siblings cannot reach it.
6. Quick group check at the end: any saint who is unsure on a rule asks the leader to walk him through it again before the next block.

REQ 2A

BLOCK 3 · ROLEPLAY **Three tasks — pick the right tool**

⌚ 20 min

1. Lay the three sheathed tools on the table: knife, hatchet, folding saw. Lay out three printed task cards next to them: (A) make a feather stick to start a fire, (B) clear brush blocking a trail, (C) split kindling for a backpacking stove.
2. Split into three groups. Each group takes one task card. The group has four minutes to pick the tool, explain why it fits, name the tool they considered and rejected, and walk the cutting zone and grip they would use.
3. Each group reports back to the room. The other groups push back if they would pick differently. Right answers: feather stick — knife (control matters more than power); brush clearing — folding saw (a hatchet swung overhead is the wrong tool near other saints); kindling — hatchet (a knife is slow and dangerous for splits). Over-tooling — using a hatchet where a knife would do — is as wrong as under-tooling.
4. Quick teaching point: tool choice is the first safety decision. The wrong tool turns a clean task into an injury risk. The right tool for the job uses less force and stays under control.

REQ 2B

SESSION 2 · SAFE HANDLING AND TOOL CHOICE (PAGE 3 OF 3)

THE HOUR — CONTINUED

BLOCK 4 · DISCUSSION **Pass the rules back**

⌚ 10 min

1. Each youth takes a turn at the front. The leader names a rule (cutting zone, grip and stance, passing, carry and storage). The youth states the rule in his own words and demonstrates it with a sheathed knife.
2. If a youth misses on a rule, he watches the next saint demonstrate it correctly and then tries again. No youth moves on to Session 3's cutting stations until he has passed all four.
3. Leader keeps a short note on who passed cleanly and who needed a re-do. Re-dos are not a failure — they are why the gate exists before live cutting.

REQ 2A

BLOCK 5 · REFLECTION **Close — Cleared for the stations**

⌚ 5 min

1. Confirm each youth has been cleared for the Session 3 cutting drill. Any saint still working on a rule pairs with a leader before Saturday to finish.
2. Reminder for Session 3: closed-toe shoes, long pants, gloves if you have them, and your sheathed knife on a belt. The stations run outside, rain or shine.

AT THE CLOSE · DEBRIEF

1. Which of the four rules was hardest for you to remember when the leader called it cold?
2. On the three tasks, which tool choice surprised you — yours or another group's?
3. What is the rule you are most likely to skip when you are tired or rushing?

☑ *Initial 2a and 2b on each saint's BRC after this session. Note in the side margin which saints passed the four rules cleanly and which need a re-check before Session 3.*

SESSION 3 · PHYSICAL CORE

⌚ 60 min target

The three-station tool drill

Run each saint through three live cutting stations under direct supervision.

SESSION AIM

Saints cycle through three live cutting stations under direct adult supervision — whittling a stake with a knife, splitting kindling with a hatchet, and bucking a small log with a folding saw. Between stations they sharpen and store their own tools. Every saint demonstrates control and restraint at each station before he rotates.

🎯 WALK AWAY WITH

- Has cut safely with three different tools under direct supervision
- Has sharpened a knife at a steady angle and tested the edge on paper
- Has stopped and reset at least once when his grip, stance, or zone changed

📦 BRING / SET UP

- Each saint brings: his sheathed knife, closed-toe shoes, long pants, gloves
- From the church kit: two small hatchets, two folding saws, one chopping block, a stack of scrap 2x2 lumber and a few small dry logs
- Two sharpening stones (medium grit), one leather strop, and two sheets of paper for the edge test
- Three station signs labeled WHITTLE, SPLIT, SAW and chalk for marking cutting circles on the ground
- A stocked first-aid kit at the leader's station, kept open
- A timer (phone is fine) for the station rotations

📅 THE HOUR**BLOCK 1 · DISCUSSION Opener — Outside the cutting yard**

⌚ 5 min

Stand the group in a circle outside, away from the stations. Round the room: each saint names the one rule from Session 2 he is most worried about slipping on today — cutting zone, grip and stance, passing, or carry and storage. The answers tell the leader where to watch each saint hardest at the stations. Saints stay outside the cutting yard until the safety brief in the next block clears them in.

SESSION 3 · THE THREE-STATION TOOL DRILL (PAGE 2 OF 3)

THE HOUR — CONTINUED

BLOCK 2 · SKILL PRACTICE **Safety brief — three stop-the-line rules**

⌚ 6 min

1. Walk the group to the cutting yard, sheathed tools in hand. Point out the three stations, the chalked cutting circles, and where the first-aid kit sits open.
2. Name the three stop-the-line conditions for the hour: a tool point or edge swings outside its cutting circle; a saint touches a tool without sheathing first; a saint cuts toward his own body or another saint. Anyone who calls 'stop' is heard the moment he calls it.
3. Restate the four handling rules aloud as a group: cutting zone, grip and stance, passing, carry and storage. Each youth holds his sheathed tool up while the rule that fits it is said.
4. Final check: leader points to each saint and asks 'cleared to cut?' Each youth answers 'cleared' if he is ready or names the rule he needs walked through again. Any youth not cleared stays with a leader until he is.

REQ 2A

BLOCK 3 · PHYSICAL **Run the three stations**

⌚ 29 min

1. Set up three stations, well separated. Station 1 (Whittle): each youth carves a tent stake from a length of scrap with his own knife — point on one end, flat on the other. Station 2 (Split): each youth splits three pieces of dry log into kindling with a hatchet, using the contact-split method (blade resting on the log, both lifted together onto the chopping block). Station 3 (Saw): each youth bucks a small log into two pieces with the folding saw, holding the work steady against the block.
2. Chalk a cutting circle on the ground at each station — an arm's reach in every direction. Only one saint cuts at a time per station. The next saint waits outside the circle. Anyone not cutting is sheathed.
3. Adult supervision at each station — direct, not roving. The supervisor watches grip, stance, zone, and pace. He calls stop the moment any of the four rules slips and walks the youth through the reset before any cut resumes.
4. Ten minutes per station. The leader calls the rotation. Each youth sheathes his tool before he stands and walks sheathed to the next station — no exceptions, no walking with an open blade.
5. Saints who finish a station early stand outside the circle and watch the next saint work. Watching is part of the drill — most of what saints learn at the stations is what they see another saint do wrong and correct.

BY TIER

- ENTRY** Run each station at the slowest pace in the group. The supervisor walks you through the first cut before you do it alone. Finish what you can in ten minutes — output does not matter, control does.
- ESTABLISHED** Run each station at your own pace. The supervisor only steps in on a rule break. Aim to finish all three pieces (stake, kindling, bucked log) cleanly.
- MENTOR** Run your own station first. Then stay at one station for the rest of the rotation as a second supervisor — call rule breaks, walk the next saint through the reset, do not cut for him.

REQ 3A

SESSION 3 · THE THREE-STATION TOOL DRILL (PAGE 3 OF 3)

THE HOUR — CONTINUED

BLOCK 4 · SKILL PRACTICE **Sharpen, test, and store**

⌚ 15 min

1. Set up two sharpening stations — a stone at one, the strop at the other. Each youth brings his own knife after he has finished his last cutting station.
2. Walk the angle. Lay the blade flat, lift the spine until two stacked quarters fit under it. That is the sharpening angle for most pocket knives. Hold it steady — the most common sharpening mistake is rocking the angle stroke by stroke.
3. Ten strokes per side on the stone, edge pushing into the stone like the blade is slicing a thin layer off it. Feel for a burr with a thumb run across the edge, not along it.
4. Twenty passes per side on the strop, spine leading, edge trailing — opposite direction from the stone. Test the edge by slicing a sheet of paper held up by one corner. A sharp blade slices clean; a dull blade tears or skates.
5. Wipe the blade dry. A drop of oil on a carbon-steel blade keeps rust off overnight. Sheath the knife before walking back to the group. Hatchets and saws get the same treatment — wiped, edge guarded, stored sheathed.
6. Discussion point: a sharp blade cuts where you aim it. A dull blade slips and finds your hand. Maintenance is part of safety, not a separate hobby.

REQ 3B

BLOCK 5 · REFLECTION **Close — Hands and tools accounted for**

⌚ 5 min

1. Quick round: each youth shows his hands. Anyone with a cut — even a small one — names it now so the leader can check it before the saint leaves.
2. Quick round: each youth shows his tool, sheathed, edge guarded. No tool leaves the yard open or unsheathed.
3. Reminder: bring the BRC and a half-sheet of paper to Session 4. The last session is short on cutting and long on talking about what changed.

AT THE CLOSE · DEBRIEF

1. Which station forced you to stop and reset, and what changed in your grip or stance after you did?
2. When you tested your sharpened blade on paper, what did the slice tell you that the burr did not?
3. Which saint at the stations did something that you watched and then changed in your own next turn?

☑ *Initial 3a and 3b on each saint's BRC after this session. Note any saint who needed more than one reset at a station — he gets a one-on-one before he carries his tool unsupervised.*

SESSION 4 · PHYSICAL CORE

⌚ 60 min target

Restraint and the years ahead

Reflect on the Session 3 drill and connect the skills to the year ahead.

SESSION AIM

Saints reflect on the Session 3 drill in pairs — when they stopped and reset, when they wanted to push through and did not, and what restraint felt like in the hand. They name one long-term use for the skills (camp service, hiking with younger saints, fire-building at home) and finish with BRC sign-off. No live cutting.

🎯 WALK AWAY WITH

- Has named a specific moment of restraint from Session 3 and what it taught him
- Has connected the skills to one long-term outdoor or service use
- Has a signed BRC

📦 BRING / SET UP

- Each saint brings: his BRC and his sheathed knife (for storage check, not cutting)
- Half-sheets of paper and pens (one per saint)
- The four-rules handout and the sharpening reference (for the closing review)
- A stocked first-aid kit (kept visible — the session is not in a cutting yard, but the kit travels with the badge)

🔧 THE HOUR**BLOCK 1 · DISCUSSION Opener — One moment from Saturday**

⌚ 5 min

Stand the group in a circle. Round the room: each saint names one moment from the Session 3 stations in a single sentence — a station, a cut, a stop and reset, a thing he watched another saint do. Do not comment on the answers; let each saint name his version. The range of answers sets up the paired stories in the next block.

SESSION 4 · RESTRAINT AND THE YEARS AHEAD (PAGE 2 OF 3)

THE HOUR — CONTINUED

BLOCK 2 · DISCUSSION **Restraint stories**

⌚ 20 min

1. Pair up with a saint who was not at your station rotation. Eight minutes each — one talks, the other listens. No advice and no comparing.
2. Each youth describes a single moment from Saturday when he stopped and reset, or when he wanted to push through and did not. What was happening in his grip, his stance, or his head? What did he do instead?
3. After both saints have talked, each pair picks one phrase from his partner's story to share back to the room — only what the partner gave permission to share.
4. Quick teaching point: restraint with a tool in the hand is the same restraint that shows up elsewhere — refusing to escalate an argument, stopping a joke before it stings, finishing a chore before playing.
5. Each youth writes one sentence in his BRC margin: 'My restraint moment was ____, and what it taught me was ____.' Specific enough to read in a month and remember.

REQ 4A

BLOCK 3 · CREATIVE **Where these skills go next**

⌚ 18 min

1. Each youth writes for four minutes on a half-sheet. Column A: 'Three places I will use these skills in the next year — camp, home, service, hiking, building.' Column B: 'One adult or younger saint I will work alongside, and what I will teach him about safe tool use.'
2. Each youth reads both columns aloud. No commentary from the group. The leader notes any saint whose answers feel thin and follows up in the close.
3. Open round: who has a real plan with a date — a campout, a service project, a Saturday in the yard with a younger sibling — where the tools come out next? Name the date. Two or three saints share.
4. Quick teaching point: a saint who can be trusted with an edged tool gets handed more responsibility because the trust is real, not assumed.

REQ 4B

BLOCK 4 · REFLECTION **Storage check and BRC sign-off**

⌚ 12 min

1. Walk the BRC with each saint one at a time while the rest of the group reviews the four-rules card and the sharpening reference.
2. For 3a, confirm against the station notes from Saturday — the saint cut with three tools under direct supervision and met the rules. For 3b, confirm the sharpening and storage drill is logged.
3. Storage check at the table: each youth hands the leader his sheathed knife. Leader inspects — sheath closed, edge guarded, blade clean. Anything off gets fixed before the saint leaves the room with the tool.
4. Leader and saint each sign the BRC. The saint takes the BRC home.

SESSION 4 · RESTRAINT AND THE YEARS AHEAD (PAGE 3 OF 3)

THE HOUR — CONTINUED

BLOCK 5 · REFLECTION **Close — Three things to keep**

⌚ 5 min

1. Each youth names one thing he is keeping from the four weeks — a rule, a habit, a thing he watched another saint do. One sentence per saint.
2. Reminder: the four rules and the sharpening steps are on the two handouts. Print them and keep them with the kit at home.

AT THE CLOSE · DEBRIEF

1. Which moment of restraint from Saturday do you think will hold the longest — and which one are you most likely to forget?
2. Who is the adult or saint you named for next year, and what will you actually do alongside him?
3. What is one thing about your tool storage at home that you are changing this week?

📝 *Initial 4a and 4b on each saint's BRC after this session. With 3a and 3b confirmed from the Session 3 station notes, the BRC should fully sign off tonight.*

HANDOUT 1 OF 2

FROM SESSION 2 — WALK THE FOUR RULES — DRILL EACH ONE

Edged-Tool Safe Handling — Four Rules

Walk every rule before any saint picks up a blade. Saints repeat the four rules back at the close.

EDGED TOOLS · FIELD CARD

Four rules before any cut.

Walk every saint through these before he picks up a blade.

SAFE HANDLING — FOUR RULES

1

Cutting zone

an arm's reach in every direction — yours and the blade's

THE RULE

Sit or kneel. Nothing soft — leg, hand, sleeve — inside the arc your blade can travel. No one within reach.

PRACTICE

Mark a circle on the ground with a stick. Sit at the center. Sweep your tool through the air slowly. Note what is in range. Move it out.

2

Grip and stance

cut away from the body — both hands accounted for

THE RULE

Cut away from your body and your other hand. Lock your wrist. Stop and reset if your hand drifts in front.

PRACTICE

Hold the stick with your off hand above the cut. Pull the knife away from you in short strokes. Reset your grip every few cuts.

3

Passing

handle first — wait for the word — then let go

THE RULE

Offer the handle. Say "thank you" when you have a firm hold. The giver does not let go until then.

PRACTICE

Pair up with a sheathed knife. Pass it back and forth ten times. Both saints say the word every time before the giver releases.

4

Carry and storage

sheathed when not in use — never set down open

THE RULE

Sheath the blade between cuts. Walk with it sheathed. Store it dry, edge guarded, away from kids.

PRACTICE

After each cutting drill, sheath your tool before you stand. At the end of the session, wipe it dry and store it edge-protected.

Stop and reset whenever your grip, stance, or zone changes. Speed is not the goal.

Print this handout for in-person reference during session 2 — walk the four rules — drill each one.

Sharpening and Storage Reference

Use during the sharpening station so every saint reads the same angle.

EDGED TOOLS · FIELD CARD

Sharpen low and slow.

A sharp blade cuts where you aim it. A dull blade slips and finds your hand.

SHARPENING — FOUR STEPS

1

Read the angle

about twenty degrees for a knife — same on both sides

THE MOVE

Lay the blade flat on the stone.
Lift the spine until two stacked quarters fit under it. That is your sharpening angle.

spine lifted, edge on stone



~20°

2

Work the stone

push the edge into the stone, heel to tip — never drag back

THE MOVE

Hold the angle. Push the blade across the stone like you are slicing a thin layer off it.

THE CUE

Ten strokes on one side, then ten on the other. Keep the angle the same. Run a thumb across — not along — to feel a burr forming.

3

Finish on the strop

opposite direction — drag the spine, not the edge

THE MOVE

Lay the blade on a leather strop at the same angle. Pull the spine away from you, edge trailing.

THE CUE

Twenty passes per side. Test the edge on a sheet of paper — a sharp blade slices, a dull blade tears or skates off.

4

Clean and store

dry the blade — guard the edge — store it where kids cannot reach

THE MOVE

Wipe sap and grit off the blade. Dry it. A drop of oil on carbon steel keeps rust off.

THE CUE

Sheath every tool before it goes into the pack. Hatchets ride with the head guarded. Store at home out of reach of younger siblings.

Hold the angle steady and let the stone do the work. Slow strokes sharpen better than fast ones.