Wicked Edge - Wicked Edge Precision Knife Sharpener

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The ESEE brand knives and 1095 steel

Posted by leomitch - 18 Jul 2012 07:40

I have the ESEE 4, 5,6, and Laser Strike knives which all use 1095 carbon tool steel. When any of these knives arrive at your door, they are each ground with a toothy 20 degree per side bevel edge...very effective for general cutting and use around the camp. Great for making fuzz sticks or for batoning kindling wood. This type of edge cuts reasonably effectively but soon requires re-sharpening.

I have found that moving to a 21 or 22 degree per side bevel edge useful. After raising a burr along the whole length of the edge, I carry right through the paddles and then the strops using 5 and 3.5 diamond paste. During daily use I utilize a large leather hand strop with Green compound to touch up the edges. Within a short time I have a nicely rounded shoulder and the bevel has changed to a very nice convex edge. The 1095 retains its edge very well and is easier to sharpen than either D-2, VG-10 or 3-G steels. The aforementioned steels however retain their acuity for a much longer time.

Of course being a carbon steel, a little care will assure that no rust problems occur. Usually a wipe with a dry cloth after use is enough. When I store the knives i wipe the blade with a thin coating of mineral oil and so the blades are well protected.

I really like 1095 steel and find it mates well the kinds of things I do. The WEPS makes short work of any sharpening chore with this steel.

Leo			