Asian vs European vs Tri bevel convex sharpening

Posted by JerrieBarber - 28 Aug 2012 08:48

I thought I was a fanatic about sharpening until I started reading last night. Wow, a lot of you guys absolutely Rock!!! I am no where near as geeked out about sharpening as I thought. That being said what is the school of thought on these sharpening techniques? I like to whittle hair as much as the next guy, but I also want to have a blade the remains sharp and that does not have to be fooled with every day. The more I read the more confused I have become. So for EDC, in the field, day in and day out use what are the advantages and disadvantages of a straight (Asian) sharpening, a bi-hone or double honed European edge, or a triple honed convex edge?

Feel free to correct and instruct. Specifically I am carrying an Esee Izula (I have a job that allows such carry), and or a Hinderer XM-18 3.5. Obviously I want them both to be as cutting, whittling, hair splitting sharp as they can be and effective for every day use.

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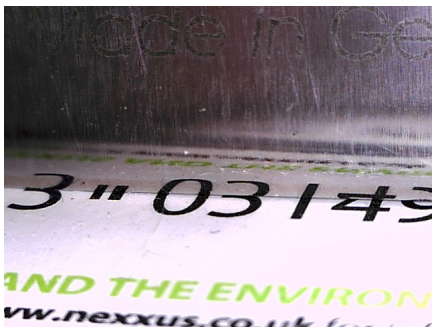
Re: Asian vs European vs Tri bevel convex sharpening

Posted by razoredgeknives - 30 Aug 2012 15:32

Thanks for the update Jerry! May I offer you a suggestion on posting pics? Get a gmail account, then sign up for Picasa web albums. Sign in and upload your pictures. Then you can post them... send me a pm w/ your phone number if you want I'll walk you through it - its super easy after you do it the first time and you get a gig of online storage for free. You can post some different size pics... as below.

From Large:



To Small:

CBW, I think you are exactly right... in fact, it may be worth its own thread - discussing the finer points of convexing and which technique is best.
I have not convexed too many blades, and haven't done any of my own because the method of going from low to high seems to remove more metal than necessary. On the few I have done I wend reverse, like Jerry, from high to low - but you have to be careful here not to use too low of a grit (which I have learned the hard way, lol). The magic marker trick really seemed to help me here to ensure that I was shaving a little bit of the edge off at a time, on each new facet. The issue I ran into was that I would develop inconsistant "magic marker" widths on the edge of the edge for some reason... I will try to post about it at some point.

No doubt for the most consistancy the original method is better... but it just seems to remove too much metal. Clay, you have any thoughts on this at all? I still want to play around w/ mounting a mouse pad and some PSA lapping films to a WE paddle!
But for whatever reason, I stay WAY too busy, lol. Always seems as if I have a project going on... especially hard w/ 4 young kiddo's! Anyone else "project" oriented constantly?

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Re: Asian vs European vs Tri bevel convex sharpening

Posted by JerrieBarber - 31 Aug 2012 10:34

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Hinderer XM-18 3.5

Hinderer XM-18 3.5

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