

Sound the Whistle

Teach your section to carve a whistle from a piece of wood using a Victorinox Swiss Army Knife

STAY SAFE!

Head to scouts.org.uk/victorinox for guidance on using knives safely.

Suitable for Cubs, Scouts, Explorers

TIME: 45 minutes

You will need

- Victorinox Swiss Army Knife with saw, knife, scissors tools
- Awl (a small pointed tool)
- Non-toxic wood, such as elder

Instructions

1 Only source your wood from the forest floor; never cut a branch from a tree. Find a piece that is undamaged and has a diameter of a 20-pence coin.

2 Cut a length of wood around 5–6cm using the saw tool on your Swiss Army Knife. Tidy up the ends with the small knife tool.



3 Remove the pith from the centre of the wood using a thin stick. Use the awl to remove any leftover pith and blow into the wood to get rid of any final bits.

4 Cut a notch around 1cm from the end. About 1cm further in, cut a shallow slice sloping down towards the first notch.

5 Find a stick and push it a little way into the tube at the other end of the whistle. It needs to fit snugly. Cut away the waste wood.

6 Take a similarly sized stick, saw the end flat and slice 2mm from one side, as shown above. Insert this into the whistle as far as the notch and then cut the stick, leaving 3cm of waste protruding.

7 Test the whistle and, if it doesn't sound, adjust the slice depth on the stick. When your whistle makes a sound, cut away the protruding waste wood.



TIME NEEDED

45 minutes

BADGE



Victorinox partners the Scout Survival Skills Activity Badge

PARTNER



VICTORINOX

🐦 @victorinox

📘 Victorinox

Visit scouts.org.uk/victorinox.

OUTCOMES

Your Group will be equipped to use natural materials to safely make a whistle with which to call for help in an emergency.

MORE INFORMATION

Victorinox partners the Scouts Survival Skills Activity Badge. For more information or to download the resource packs, visit scouts.org.uk/victorinox.

HOW TO USE

To attract attention, blow six long blasts, stop for a minute and repeat. If you hear a reply don't stop, keep repeating blasts on your whistle until help arrives.