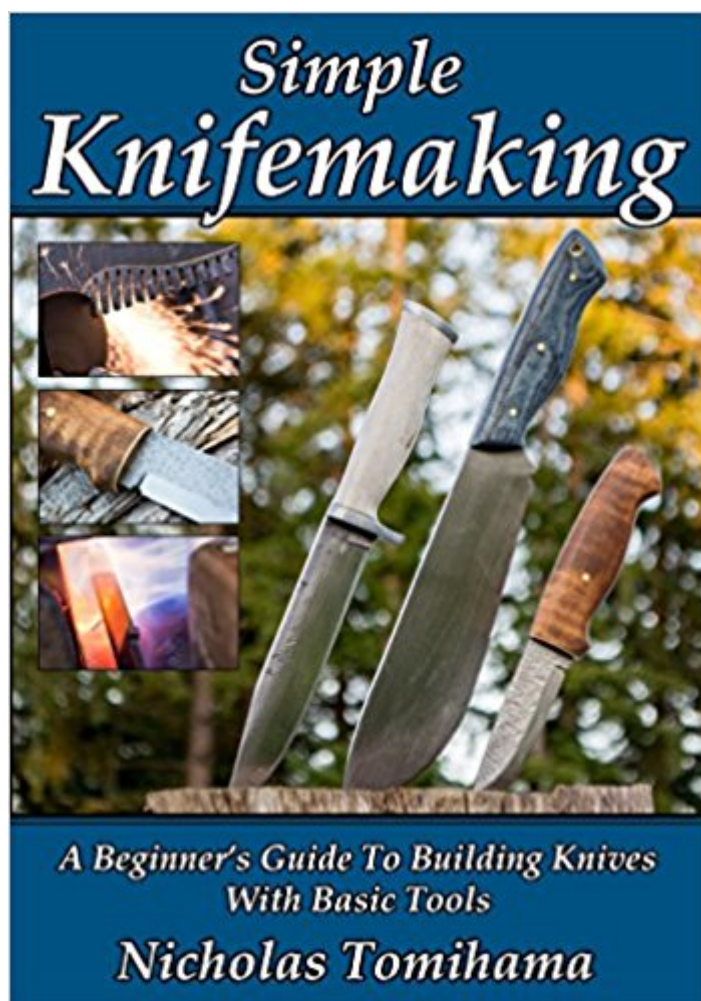




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# Simple Knifemaking: A Beginner's Guide To Building Knives With Basic Tools



## Synopsis

Simple Knife making Welcome to Simple Knife Making! I'm Nick, and I'll be your guide as we jump into some of the basics of making your own knives. Before we get started, here's a little bit about myself and how to get the most out of this book. I built my first knife over nine years ago. It was crude and extremely ugly, cut and ground from an old rusted butcher's knife. That knife was a bit of a stepping stone for me, a pivotal moment in my life. I had always loved the idea of building things with my hands, of creating beautiful and functional works of art. Yet I always felt as if it was out of my reach. I couldn't afford the right tools or find the right steel. I really felt like I didn't have the right anything. It was at that point I decided to make do with what I had, even though I didn't have any experience. It wasn't a beautiful or graceful start, but it was a start. Even as I built it, I knew that first knife was poor for many reasons. I had read several books, watched countless videos, watched many great knife makers at work. I had even handled lots of knives. The problem was that while I knew all these things, I had no idea how to translate that to making a knife. I had never done it before and didn't really know how to put everything I had learned into practice. It wasn't until I had finished that knife that it all clicked, like somebody turning on a light. The next day I set to work with the same meager set of files, a drill, and an angle grinder. With a better understanding of what I was doing, I built my second knife. This one looked and performed much better than the last one. It was a knife to be proud of. It felt good in the hand and worked well. After that, I was hooked. Soon I started making more knives, eventually working with stainless steel and having it sent out for heat treating. I began selling my work and kept improving. I had amassed quite a few tools and was all set up to start production. But after a big move, I had to give it up and start over again. I went back to the basic tools I had started out with and learned how to forge knives using a hammer and anvil. I also began building archery bows and other primitive tools and weapons. I enjoy these simpler things and it's the idea of starting out simple that is the core of this book. The information in this book is broken up into two different types. The first is mostly words with a smattering of pictures and diagrams. In these, I'll be explaining aspects of making knives in detail as well as giving examples and suggestions not covered in the main build-alongs. The build-alongs are mostly pictures of the steps I've taken to build something in particular. If you follow along, you should be able to build something very similar to what I've done. It's a great way to get started with a first knife or for trying out something you haven't done before. The three main knife builds each go over different knife styles, shapes, handle materials, and tools used. That way you get a good idea of what some of the different methods and styles look like in use so that you can mix and match parts from the different builds when coming up with your own designs or

finding what style you like best. You can also take the information from this chapter and the intro sections of each knife build as inspiration for trying out other design options. There are many ways to make a knife and as many different approaches as there are knife makers. I believe the best way to try something for the first time is in the simplest way possible. In this book, I'll show you how to use inexpensive tools to make a few knives in different styles. While using such tools can make the work more time-consuming and difficult, the reward and lessons learned make it all worth it. Everyone has to start somewhere. Starting out with a minimal investment can really help you get going quickly and working with basic tools will teach you the fundamentals.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The knife is one of mankind's oldest tools and companions. Yet in our modern world, the knife has become another mass-produced object. In spite of this, there are many who have taken up building knives as a hobby or even profession. There is something about using a knife that you built with your own hands that is special and satisfying. It's a skill and craft that's worthy of being revitalized and passed on. With over 400 black and white pictures and illustrations, Simple Knifemaking walks you through the process of building your own knives with simple and inexpensive tools. If you've always wanted to make knives but felt like you didn't have enough equipment, enough space, or that it was somehow out of your reach, this book is for you. -Follow along step by step in the construction of three unique styles of fixed blade knives complete with tips and suggestions to make it your own. -Develop your own style and eye for design by learning to work old knives and tools into finished blades without heat

treatment.Â -Advance your skills by learning the basics of hardening and tempering blades by building your own charcoal or propane forge with common materials.

I am a huge fan of this author and a subscriber to him on YouTube. When I heard his announcement of a knife making book I purchased immediately for two reasons 1) I am an amateur knife maker and 2) to support Nick for all the education he's given me over the years. I figured that I'd read this book and pass it along. However, there's a lot more in this book than I was expecting! I can just sense the dedication and focus that went into presenting all of this information. It's clear- simple- basic (in a good way) and is easy to grasp. Honestly- this would have been a book that I'd have bought if it existed when I made my very first home made knife. Highlights- the simplest forge I've ever seen that's absurdly easy to make- great general info about knives (things I thought I knew but didn't) -- some nice looking project knives he covers in detail. No ego, no high end tools the average person cannot afford.

Well documented visually in step-by-step. Excellent descriptive text.

Great book for a beginning knife maker and seasoned knife maker will pick up some great tips too. Nick shows how to make some great knives with simple tools and how to make some of your own as well. Highly recommended to add to your knife making library!

Good and interesting book about knife making.

excellent

Book is very informative for the begining knife maker. I would recommend it to anyone else I know that is interested in knife making.

excellent informative book

If you are going to make Bows, Knives etc. this is your guy. Excellent YouTube videos.

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