Making A Layout Knife, Version 1.0

By R. G. Sparber

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About 25 years ago, a generous man gave me this layout knife.



The flat side goes against a straight edge.

The genius of this design is that the flat side does not cut into the straight edge, and the beveled side tends to push the knife into the straight edge.



Just for fun, I decided to make a layout knife from a discarded single edge razor blade.

I first removed the edge using my belt sander. Then I beveled one side. After deburring, I used a piece of fine emery cloth to finish the edge.

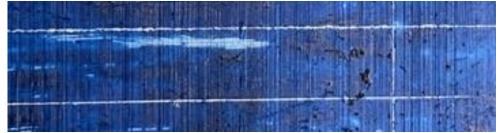


The resulting single bevel edge looks a lot like the original edge. But it sure doesn't behave the same against a straight edge.

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Here you see two parallel lines scribed through Dykem. I have no way to show you how nicely this blade moves along a straight edge.



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