



Knife Safety

Knife safety is essential for preventing injuries in both routine and high-risk tasks. Proper handling, maintenance, and adherence to safety protocols helps mitigate risks associated with cuts, punctures, and improper use.

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DON'T GET CUT

Naval Safety Command has identified a concerning trend in knife-related injuries, with 122 reported incidents across the Navy in the past three years. These injuries result from improper handling, lack of training, and failure to follow basic safety protocols. By reinforcing safe knife practices, we can reduce these incidents and create a safer Navy.

NAVSAFECOM has identified an overall lack of adherence to fundamental policy, proper knife handling, and personnel training when using knives. The most prominent concerns are:

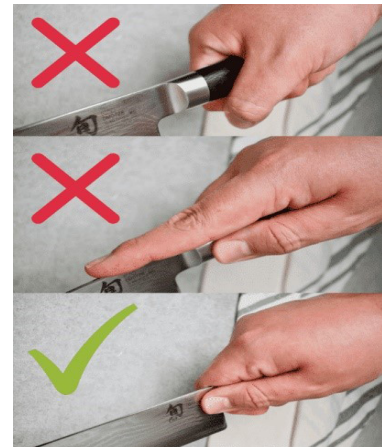
- Improper handling techniques leading to accidental cuts or punctures
- Failure to use cut-resistant gloves or appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Dull or damaged blades increasing the risk of slips and loss of control
- Unsafe storage and transport of knives, leading to unintended injuries
- Lack of training on proper knife use and maintenance



STAY SHARP, STAY SAFE: KNIFE SAFETY MEASURES:

Knives are essential tools but can be dangerous when mishandled. Proper safety practices help prevent injuries and ensure safe usage.

1. Store knives safely by never leaving them on the edge of counters where they can fall, be stepped on, or picked up by unintended users.
2. Keep knives sharp to reduce the force needed for cutting, improving control and lowering the risk of slips and accidents.
3. Use proper grip and handling techniques to increase control and significantly reduce the risk of accidents.
4. Always cut away from your body, just as you would never point a firearm at something you don't intend to shoot. Never point a knife toward yourself or others.
5. Supervisors must ensure compliance by requiring all personnel to follow proper knife safety protocols, including training, PPE use, and safe storage practices.



NAVSAFECOM RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

1. Ensure proper training and awareness
2. Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
3. Maintain and inspect knives regularly
4. Store knives securely
5. Handle knives with caution



AFLOAT SAFETY, NAVAL SAFETY COMMAND - Keeping our sea warriors informed and ready

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