

Knife Use, Storage and Handling



Practice safe use, storage and handling of knives (and other sharp utensils) to avoid cutting yourself. Here are some other tips to keep in mind:

- Keep knives sharp for better control.
- Use the right knife for the job.
- Use a knife only for its intended purpose. For example, do not use a knife to pry open a lid.
- Cut on a stable surface, preferably a knife-friendly plastic or wood cutting board.
- Take your time when cutting — no need to rush.
- Carry knives with the point down and the sharp edge facing behind you.
- Store knives in racks, wood blocks or in a sheath (case or covering).
- Clean knives immediately after use keeping the blade away from you, place in dishwasher or place in container labeled “knives only”.
- Curl your fingers and thumb that are holding the food under and away from the blade.
- If able, wear a protective, cut-resistant glove (like the butcher glove above) or finger guard.



NEVER do the following:

- Touch the knife blade or lick food off the knife.
- Try to catch a falling knife.
- Hand a knife to someone. Instead, put the knife on a clean counter - let the other person pick it up.
- Put a knife in a sink of water.
- Place or leave a knife near the edge of a counter or table.
- Talk to others when using a knife.
- Use the palm of your hand as a cutting board.

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