

The Making Of A Mountain Man Replica Knife

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Why I Decided To Make My Mountain Man Knife Replica

I chose making a knife for my project because I thought that it would be fun and I also wanted to learn what type of knives that mountain men used.

The mountain men used knives that were kind of shaped like skinning knives but also shaped like a bowie knife. The reason that their knives were shaped like skinning knives was because mountain men were skinning game that they shot or furbearer that they trapped. The reason that their knives were shaped like bowie knives was because of a possible encounter with a bear or another predator and possibly a Native American.

Materials That I Used For Both Sheath And Knife

I used one horse hoof rasp, a two point mule deer horn that I cut down to the shape of a handle, one chain saw file, one hack saw, one rattail file, silver nail polish, one block of cedar, a little bit of wood glue, some sand paper, some leather, an awl with thread, a printed out knife on a piece of paper to trace, and a pencil to trace with.

Procedure For Both Sheath And Knife

To start with making the knife I traced the printed out knife picture on the piece of cedar, cut the knife shape out using the hack and coping saws, and filed the knife shape down with the horse hoof rasp so it was about a quarter inch thick, then made the knife smooth with the sandpaper. After smoothing down the knife and putting an edge on it I cut the handle of the knife down so the knife would fit in the notch of the mule deer horn. Knowing that the knife would fit in the notch I took the knife out of the handle and painted it silver, using the silver nail polish, then let it dry. After the knife dried I put glue down the notch in the handle and took a strip of leather that I cut out and soaked in water and wrapped it around the handle to cover up the notch.

To make my sheath I took a piece of leather that I had, cut it in half making two even squares and sewed the four corners of the top piece to the bottom piece therefore, they wouldn't separate apart from each other. After the two pieces were together I traced the blade of my knife on the top piece of leather using a pen then sewed what I had traced and cut out two notches for my belt that were one inch by a quarter inch.

Conclusion

Overall I enjoyed making my Mountain Man replica knife. Making the knife also showed me how hard it was for the Montana Mountain Men to make a real knife and time consume it was especially if they didn't have metal.

Works Cited

<https://youtu.be/9Svo9oelblg>