EO M424.01 – SHARPEN A SURVIVAL KNIFE

1. **Performance**:Sharpen a Survival Knife
2. **Conditions**:
   a. Given:
      (1) Survival knife,
      (2) Sharpening stone,
      (3) Lubricating oil,
      (4) Cleaning cloths / rags,
      (5) Supervision, and
      (6) Assistance as required.
   b. Denied: Nil.
   c. Environmental: Classroom or training area large enough to accommodate the entire group.
3. **Standard**:The cadet shall sharpen a survival knife with a sharpening stone by:
   a. lubricating the sharpening stone;
   b. laying the sharpening stone on a flat surface;
   c. holding the survival knife by the handle;
   d. determining the sharpening angle of the knife blade;
   e. applying pressure to the blade while pushing it in a circular motion on the sharpening stone;
   f. turning the survival knife over and sharpening the other side;
   g. checking to ensure the survival knife is sharp;
   h. repeating to sharpen on both sides, if required; and
   i. cleaning the survival knife.
4. **Teaching Points**:

TP	Description	Method	Time	Refs
TP1	Identify types of knives, to include: a. folding blade, b. fixed blade, and c. multi-purpose.	Interactive Lecture	5 min	C0-111 (pp. 594–597) C2-008 (pp. 33–35)
TP2	Describe the parts of a survival knife, to include: a. blade, b. cutting edge, c. tip or point, d. back,	Interactive Lecture	5 min	C0-111 (pp. 595–597)

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TP	Description	Method	Time	Refs
	e. handle, f. tang, g. scale or slab, h. butt plate or pommel, i. pins or rivets, j. shank, k. spacers, l. hilt, m. finger grips, and n. hollow grind.			
TP3	Describe the characteristics of a survival knife, to include: a. length of the blade, b. width of the blade, c. composition of the blade, to include: 1. carbon steel, and 2. stainless steel; d. length of tang, to include: 1. full tang, and 2. narrow tang; and e. composition of the handle.	Interactive Lecture	5 min	C0-111 (pp. 595–597) C2-008 (pp. 33–35) C2-225
TP4	Explain the care and maintenance of a survival knife, to include: a. practicing proper usage; b. cleaning; c. storing; and d. sharpening.	Interactive Lecture	5 min	C0-111 (pp. 595– 596)
TP5	Explain, demonstrate and have the cadets sharpen a survival knife, by: a. lubricating the sharpening stone; b. laying the sharpening stone on a flat surface; c. holding the survival knife by the handle; d. determining the sharpening angle of the knife blade; e. applying pressure to the blade while pushing it in a circular motion on the sharpening stone; f. turning the survival knife over and sharpening the other side;	Demonstration and Performance	30 min	C0-111 (p. 596) C2-008 (p. 35)

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TP	Description	Method	Time	Refs
	g. checking to ensure the survival knife is sharp by: 1. rubbing the thumb lightly across the blade; 2. cutting a piece of paper without ripping or tearing; or 3. slicing fruit with ease; h. repeating sharpening on both sides, if required, until desired sharpness is achieved; and i. cleaning the survival knife. Note: Focus shall be placed on safety while using the survival knife.			

5. **Time**:

a. Introduction / Conclusion:	10 min
b. Interactive Lecture:	20 min
c. Demonstration and Performance:	30 min
d. Total:	60 min

6. **Substantiation**:

   a. An interactive lecture was chosen for TPs 1–4 to introduce the cadets to a survival knife and how to care for and maintain a survival knife.

   b. A demonstration and performance was chosen for TP 5 as it allows the instructor to explain and demonstrate sharpening a survival knife while providing the cadets the opportunity to practice these skills under supervision.

7. **References**:

   a. C0-111 ISBN 978-0-9740820-2-8 Tawrell, P. (2006). *Camping and wilderness survival* (2nd ed.). Lebanon, NH: Author.

   b. C2-008 ISBN 0-00-653140-7 Wiseman, J. (1999). *The SAS survival handbook*. Hammersmith, London: HarperCollins Publishers.

   c. C2-225 Fontaine, R. *Survival topics: Your online survival kit!* Retrieved February 11, 2009, from http://www.survivaltopics.com/survival/how-to-choose-a-survival-knife/

8. **Training Aids**:

   a. Folding knife,

   b. Survival knife,

   c. Multi-purpose knife,

   d. Sharpening stone,

   e. Sharpening steel,

   f. Lubricating oil,

   g. Water,

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h. Soap, and

i. Container.

9. **Learning Aids**:

a. Survival knife,

b. Sharpening stone, and

c. Lubricating oil.

10. **Test Details**:Nil.

11. **Remarks**:

a. This EO shall be conducted prior to the bivouac field training exercise.

b. The instructor shall remind the cadet to use the survival knife in a safe manner. Caution the cadet when working the blade on a sharpening stone. If it is dark, make sure a source of light is positioned nearby.

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