

Penguin

Be sure your knife is sharp. Always keep a center line. Cut with the grain and not against it. If you cut against the grain, the blade of your knife will follow the grain and cut off too much. Always control your knife strokes to avoid having the blade slip and cut you or something else that shouldn't be cut.

Three principal styles of cuts are:

Thumb-controlled cut. With the piece held in the fingers of the left (right) hand, use the left (right) thumb to either push the blade or use it as a fulcrum.

Paring. With the blade facing you and knife handle held with the four fingers and the thumb resting on the piece, pull the blade toward you slowly so as to control the amount of wood removed.

Stop-cut. After determining where the cut is to end, cut down into the wood. Then using either the previous strokes, cut toward the cut. The knife will stop when it gets to the cut.

