



VICTORINOX

HOW TO MAKE CHARCOAL PENCILS

Creating your own drawing tools from natural materials is a simple and rewarding bushcraft skill. This charcoal pencil project was created by outdoor expert Mike Pullen, using just a few sticks, a small tin, a Swiss Army Knife™ and controlled heat. Follow the steps below or watch the full video for guidance.

1. Cut a straight stick about 2 cm in diameter into pieces roughly 7–8 cm long.
2. Use the blade on your Swiss Army Knife™ to carve a pointed tip on one end of each piece.
3. Place the sticks inside a small metal tin suitable for use on a fire.
4. Use the reamer to make a small hole in the lid so gases can escape safely.
5. Set the tin on the edge of hot coals, not directly in the flames.
6. Leave the tin on the coals for about 10–15 minutes. Thick smoke will appear at first.
7. When the smoke becomes thin and wispy, remove the tin from the heat.
8. If flames appear, briefly block the hole and move the tin slightly away from the fire.
9. Allow the tin to cool completely before opening.
10. Shape the charcoal with the blade. Sharpen for fine lines or flatten slightly for shading.



Watch the full tutorial video –
scan the QR code

Crafted in collaboration with Mike Pullen / TA Outdoors