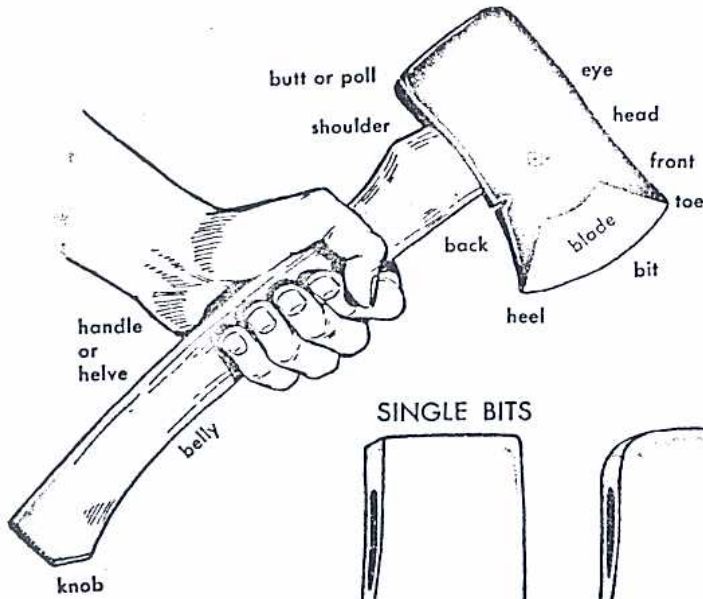


PARTS OF AN AX

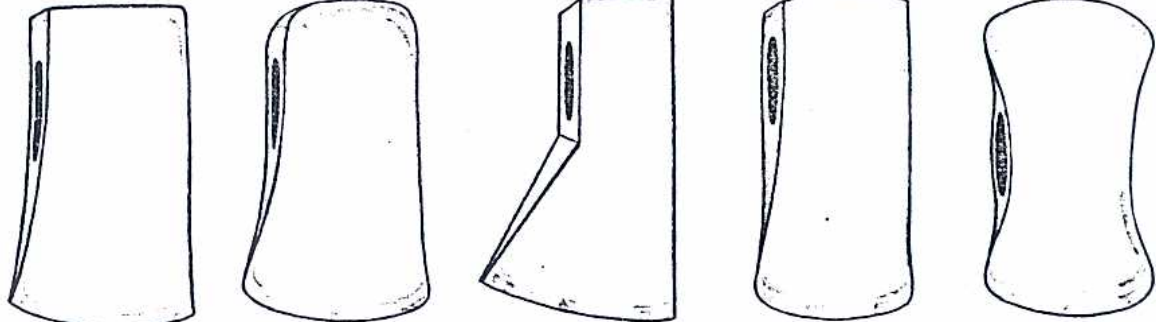


The Ax and Its Care

WHAT IS the first tool for camp that a new camper thinks of? An ax! But do you actually need one? If you intend to go in for real light-weight camping, you'll find a way of getting along without the added weight of an ax, even a small one. However, if you plan middleweight camping, you'll want a hand ax, and if you expect to do woodland camping, you may decide to take a three-quarter ax, or possibly even a felling ax.

SINGLE BITS

DOUBLE BIT



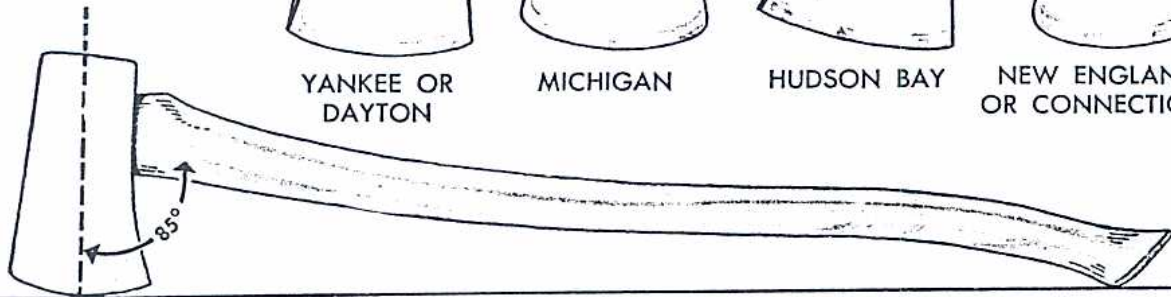
YANKEE OR DAYTON

MICHIGAN

HUDSON BAY

NEW ENGLAND OR CONNECTICUT

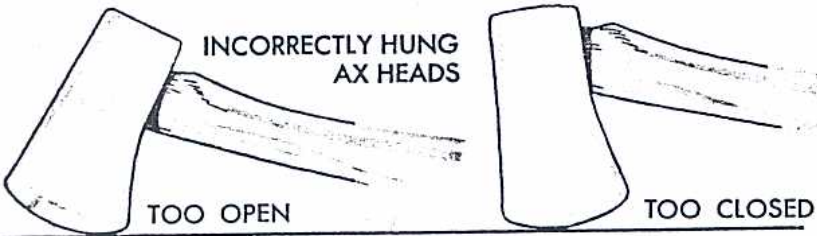
REVERSIBLE



A CORRECTLY HUNG AX HEAD IS SLIGHTLY OFF RIGHT ANGLE TO HANDLE.



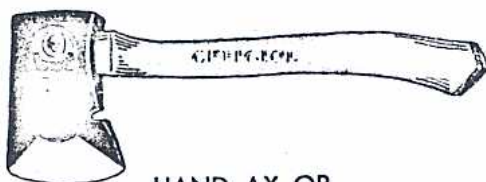
BIT SHOULD BE ABSOLUTELY STRAIGHT WITH THE HANDLE AND THE KNOB.



SINGLE BIT LOGGERS' FELLING AX

3½ TO 4 POUND HEAD
28" TO 34" HANDLE

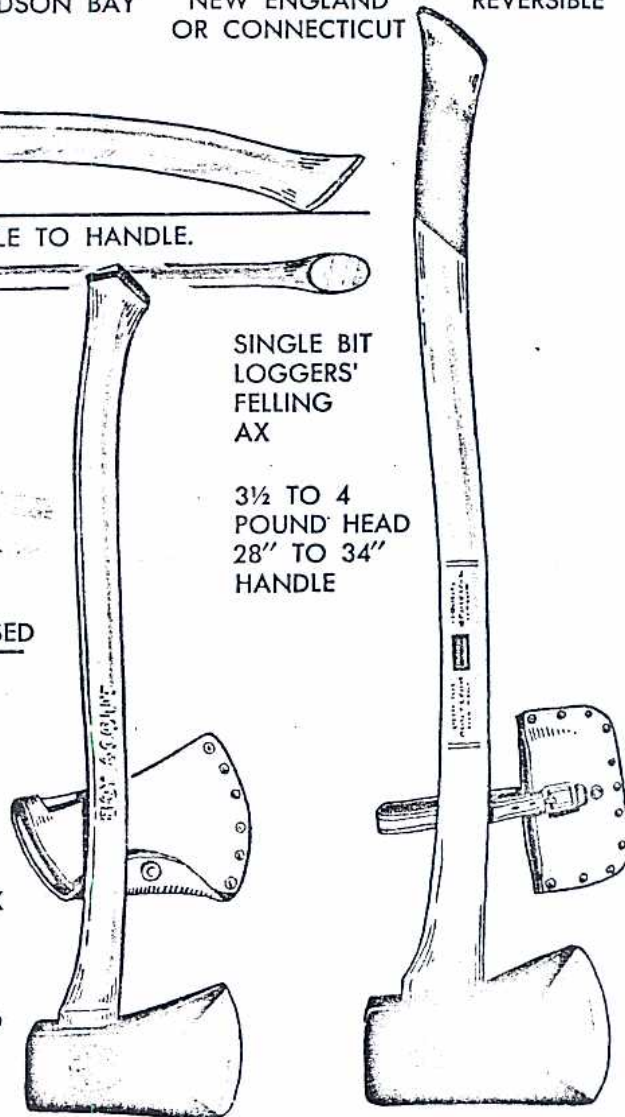
SOME AXES COME WITH A SPECIAL PLASTIC BONDING THAT PERMANENTLY LOCKS HEAD AND HANDLE TOGETHER. THIS ELIMINATES WORRIES ABOUT HEAD COMING LOOSE.



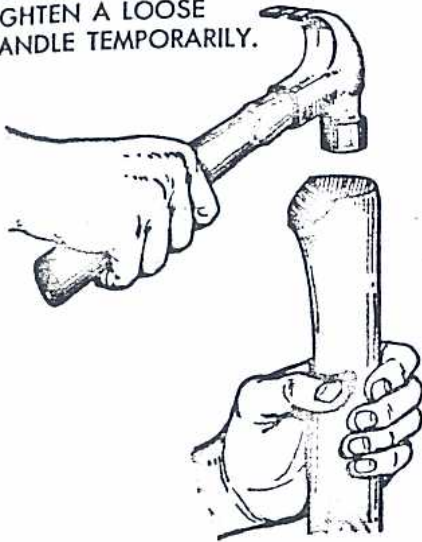
HAND AX OR PACK AX
1¼ POUND HEAD
13½" HANDLE

SINGLE BIT "BOY'S AX" OR THREE-QUARTER AX OR EXPLORER AX

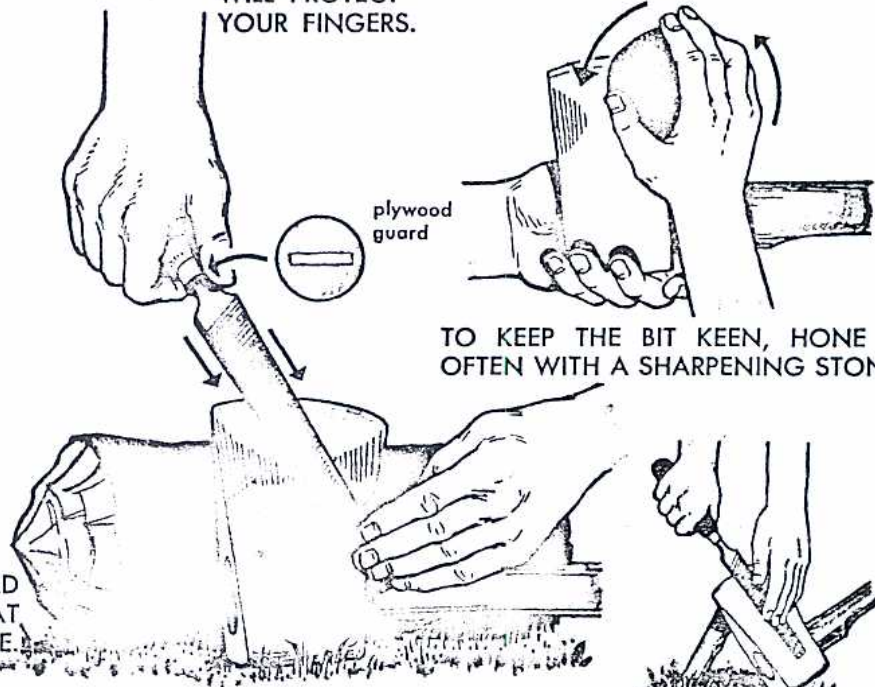
2¼ TO 2½ POUND HEAD
28" HANDLE



A QUICK WHACK ON THE KNOB WILL TIGHTEN A LOOSE HANDLE TEMPORARILY.



A PLYWOOD GUARD WILL PROTECT YOUR FINGERS.



TO KEEP THE BIT KEEN, HONE IT OFTEN WITH A SHARPENING STONE.

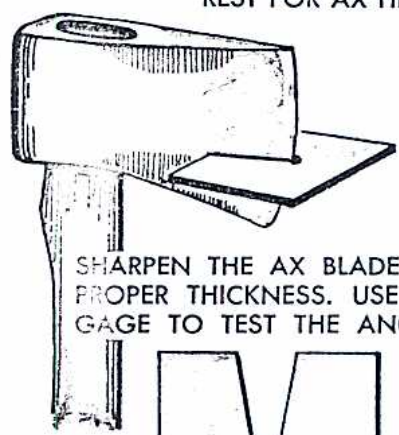
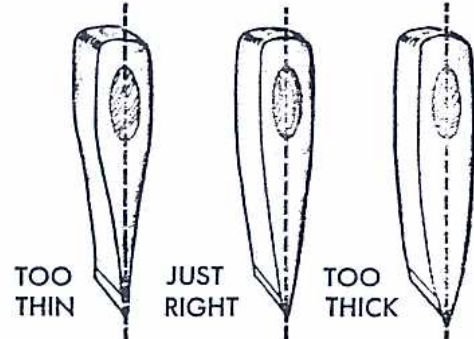
SHARPEN A DULL AX BY RESTING ITS HEAD AGAINST A LOG AND DRAWING A 10" FLAT MILL FILE FIRMLY DOWN OVER THE BLADE.



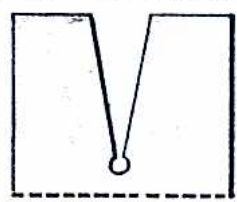
USING A PEG AS REST FOR AX HEAD.



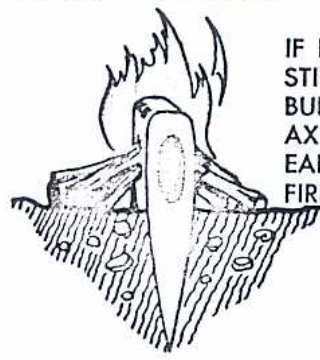
SOME AXES STILL COME WITH "FAWN FOOT" KNOBS. CUT OFF TIP WITH SAW TO PREVENT SPLITTING.



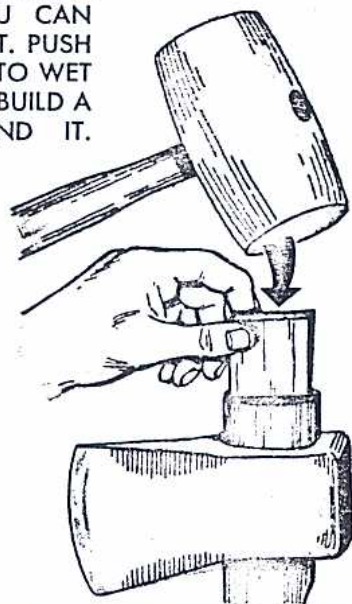
SHARPEN THE AX BLADE TO PROPER THICKNESS. USE AX GAGE TO TEST THE ANGLE.



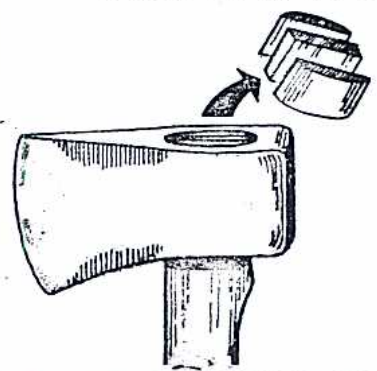
USE THIS PATTERN TO CUT AN AX GAGE FROM A STRIP OFF A TIN CAN.



IF BROKEN HANDLE STICKS, YOU CAN BURN IT OUT. PUSH AX HEAD INTO WET EARTH AND BUILD A FIRE AROUND IT.

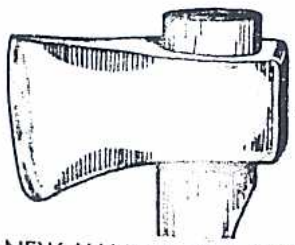


BUY A HARDWOOD WEDGE, OR MAKE YOUR OWN. HAMMER IT SECURELY INTO THE HANDLE.

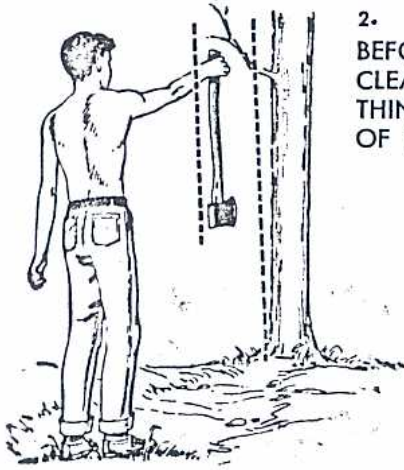


CUT OFF PROTRUDING PARTS OF HANDLE AND WEDGE CLOSE TO AX HEAD WITH A HACKSAW.

BUY A NEW HANDLE IN A HARDWARE STORE. IF NOT ALREADY SPLIT, CUT A SLIT IN IT WITH A SAW, OR SPLIT WITH OLD KNIFE.

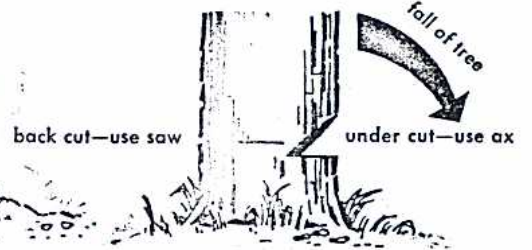
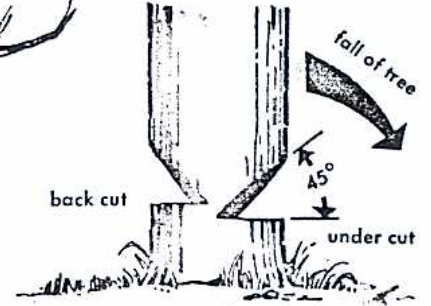
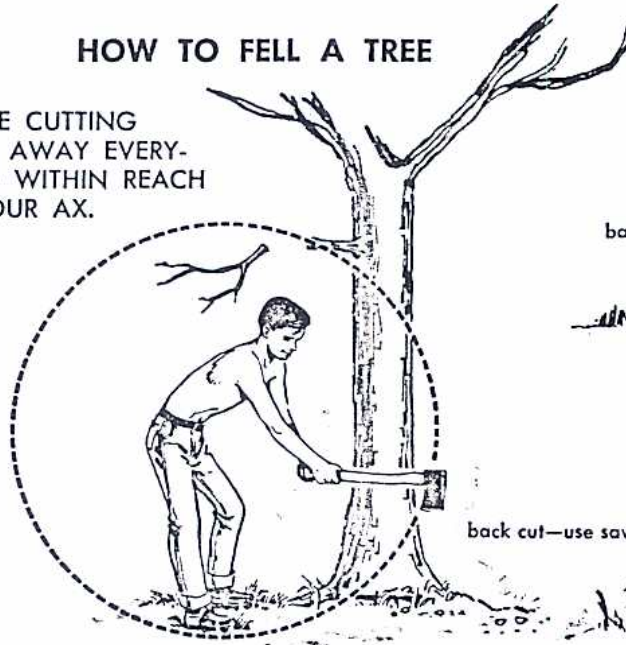


HOW TO FELL A TREE

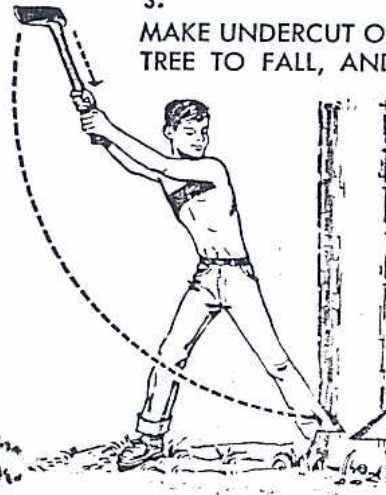
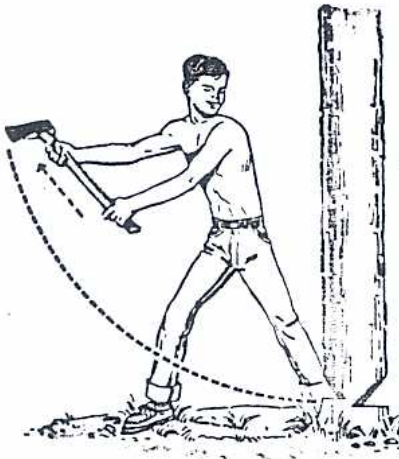


1. USE FELLING AX AS PLUMB LINE TO DECIDE FALL OF TREE.

2. BEFORE CUTTING CLEAR AWAY EVERYTHING WITHIN REACH OF YOUR AX.



3. MAKE UNDERCUT ON THE SIDE TO WHICH YOU WANT TREE TO FALL, AND BACK CUT ON OPPOSITE SIDE.



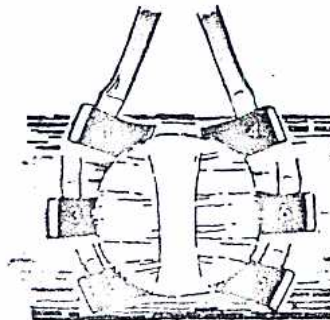
4. IN RAISING AX, SLIDE UPPER HAND AWAY FROM LOWER HAND TOWARD AX HEAD, FOR MOST EFFECTIVE LIFT.

5. AS YOU SWING AX DOWN, SLIDE UPPER HAND TOWARD LOWER HAND. WEIGHT OF AX HEAD DOES MAIN JOB.

6. MAKE DIAGONAL CUT FIRST. THEN HORIZONTAL BOX CUT. NEXT CUT THE OTHER SIDE.

LOPPING MEANS TO CUT OFF SIDE BRANCHES. CUT FROM BOTTOM OF TREE TOWARD TOP.

LOGGING A TREE IS DONE WITH V-SHAPED NOTCHES OF THE SAME DIAMETER AS THE TREE. WHEN HALF THROUGH, CUT FROM THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF TREE.



WHEN SPLITTING, PLACE PIECE AGAINST FAR SIDE OF THE CHOPPING BLOCK



Using the Ax in Camp

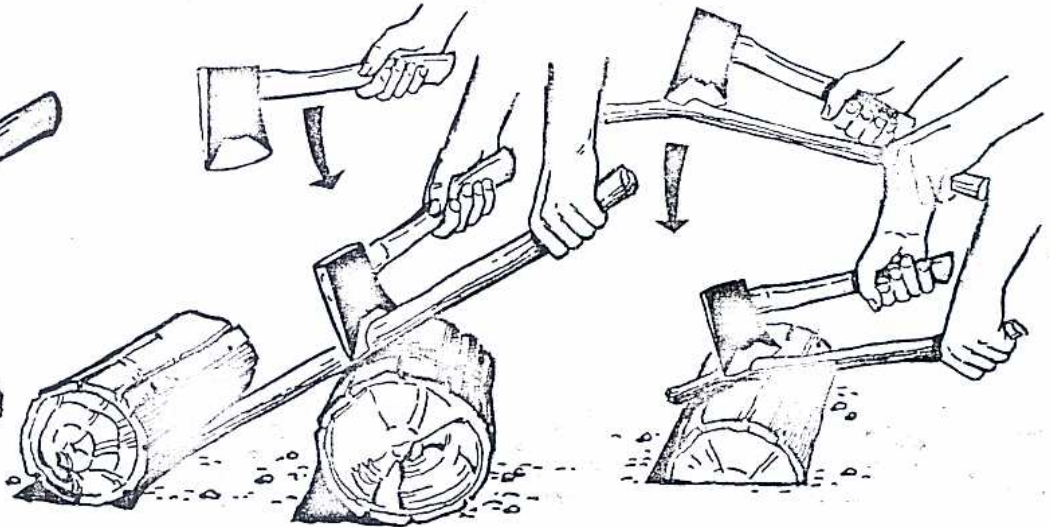
FOR GOOD axmanship in camp, use an ax that is sharp, and use it safely. The sharper the ax, the safer it is. It's hard to believe, but it is the truth. You can trust a sharp ax because it will stick where you strike. But a dull ax may be deflected; you have no control over it.

Most of your chopping and splitting will be done with the small hand ax. The best position for using this ax is kneeling on one or on both knees. Always use a chopping block underneath what you are cutting. That way there's no danger of having the ax land in the ground and nicking

the edge. Keep other campers at a safe distance when you wield your ax.

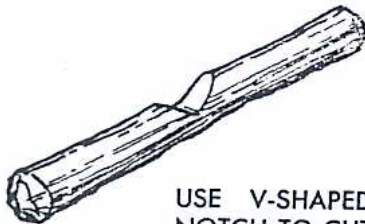
The felling ax requires a lot more skill than the hand ax. The main principle in felling a tree is to make a deep notch in the trunk a few inches above the ground on the side toward which the tree is leaning, and to finish the job with a similar cut from the other side. When the tree starts to totter, run crosswise to the direction in which it is falling. Remember never to touch a living tree except with permission, and only if absolutely necessary.

WHEN NOT IN USE, PUT AX IN ITS SHEATH, OR STICK IT IN A CHOPPING BLOCK.

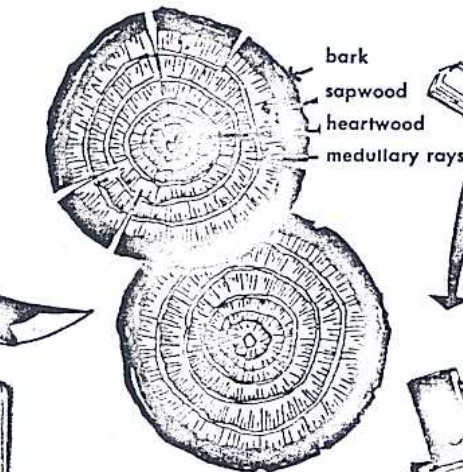


WHEN CUTTING STICK, ANCHOR ONE END AGAINST A SMALL LOG, CUT AT THE POINT WHERE STICK RESTS AGAINST CHOPPING BLOCK.

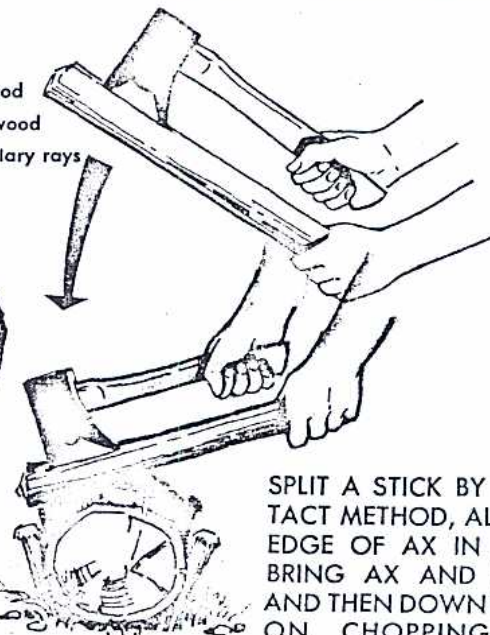
ANOTHER WAY OF CUTTING A STICK IS TO PLACE AX EDGE IN CONTACT WITH STICK AND BRING BOTH UP AND DOWN ON CHOPPING BLOCK TOGETHER.



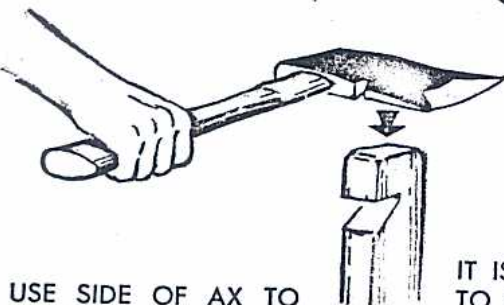
USE V-SHAPED NOTCH TO CUT THICK BRANCH IN TWO PIECES.



IT IS EASIER TO SPLIT A DRY LOG THAN A GREEN ONE. IN DRYING, RAYS OPEN UP INTO CRACKS.



SPLIT A STICK BY THE CONTACT METHOD, ALSO: PLACE EDGE OF AX IN A CRACK. BRING AX AND STICK UP AND THEN DOWN TOGETHER ON CHOPPING BLOCK.



USE SIDE OF AX TO DRIVE WOODEN PEGS. NEVER DRIVE METAL PEGS WITH YOUR AX.