

Utility Knives and Replacement Blades

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Hand Tools



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Utility knives (stanley knives) cut card, board, film and most soft workshop materials with replaceable snap-off or retractable blades. They are everywhere in the workshop for opening boxes, trimming materials and fine cutting - and demand careful handling.

Key Features

- Retractable blade designs for safety
- Snap-off blade styles for fresh edges
- Plastic or metal bodies with belt clips
- Heavy-duty and slimline versions
- Replacement blade packs

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Open boxes and cut packaging
- Trim card, foam and veneer
- Cut sheet materials for models
- Scoring lines for clean folds

Safe Operation

1. Extend only the blade length needed
2. Cut away from your body on a self-healing mat
3. Score and snap for clean straight cuts
4. Retract the blade after every cut
5. Change blades when they dull

SAFETY NOTES

- Always attach knives fall-safe: blade in, closed
- Cut away from hands and bodies
- Never use a blade that is loose or over-extended
- Watch the blade pop-up on snap-off knives
- Store and dispose of blades safely

Maintenance & Consumables

- Check the lock mechanism works
- Replace blades regularly for clean cuts
- Keep spare blade packs at benches
- Clean the blade channel of adhesive
- Dispose of used blades in a sharps tin

Specification & Buying Notes

Buy retractable utility knives with secure locks in a class set, plus snap-off knives for scoring work. Blade packs in bulk keep the benches cutting clean.