

Verlane's STRIKING STICK

Actual size
shown on
long diagonal

- Overall length: 11" or 11 1/4"
- Use 7-8 oz rawhide to cover weighted end

All "lacing" done with double #277 nylon thread. Other nylon lacing tapes would be suitable.

Use 4-5 oz chap leather for handle.

Skive handle cover to feather edge before lacing cover on.

Make from 2" x 2" oak. Turn to shape on woodworking lathe. Handle area could be narrower, especially for small hands. Leave striking faces flat. After turning to shape, bore a 1" hole, 2" deep in square end. Fill hole with lead shot to add weight. Pack shot in tightly so it doesn't move around. Then cover with wet rawhide.

Seal end with tape or leather before rawhiding end. Lace such that laced edge does not interfere with flat striking surfaces. Lacing is done on a diagonal across end.

Proper way to hold striking stick



Striking stick

Occasionally we've had discussions about striking sticks for stamping. This is one I made about 30 years ago. I put a lot of miles on it before getting some mauls. I think the page has enough information on it that a good woodworker could turn out the body for this and then you could finish it off yourself. It has a nice "swat" to it because of the lead shot in the flat striking end. These things last quite a while before you have to replace the rawhide. Just be sure to use 7-8 oz rawhide or you'll pound through it in no time. What I did is to use one face until it's rather beat up, then rotate to the next face, and so on. This stick has one good face left before I have to replace the rawhide.

These are really low tech and work quite well. They'll last almost forever if you just replace the rawhide now and again.

Verlane, February 2007