

Bladerunners

Quick start guide

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Our scythes are very, very, very sharp. Please handle them with care.

If you damage your blade, fix it immediately, or it WILL get worse.

1. Unwrap your blade and carefully scrape off the protective lacquer 5mm back from the cutting edge (at a minimum), right to the edge. Figure 1 shows lacquer removed from the middle of the blade.
2. Attach the blade to the snath (figure 2).
3. Fit the lower (middle of the snath) grip: with the scythe standing 'on end' (with the blade resting at your toe and the snath running up along your body), the bottom grip should align with your hip (the bumpy bit at the top of your leg, well below your waist). For field mowing, the grip should be 5 or 10cm higher.
4. Fit the top grip: with your elbow on the bottom grip, your fingertips should align with the top grip for trimming weeds or, for field mowing, the top grip should be around 10cm above your fingertips.
5. Stand with your feet just further apart than shoulder width (you're not trying to do the splits) and hold the scythe with the blade resting on the ground. Check that the edge lays nicely (figure 3). If it doesn't, adjust with the wedges supplied.
6. Set the hafting angle: the distance between the red dots in figure 4 should be a fingerwidth for a 50cm blade, and an extra fingerwidth for each additional 10cm of blade length.

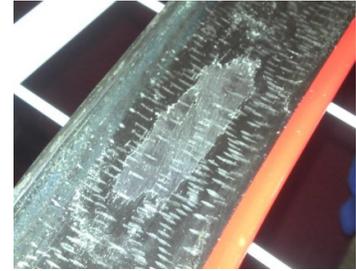


Figure 1



Figure 2

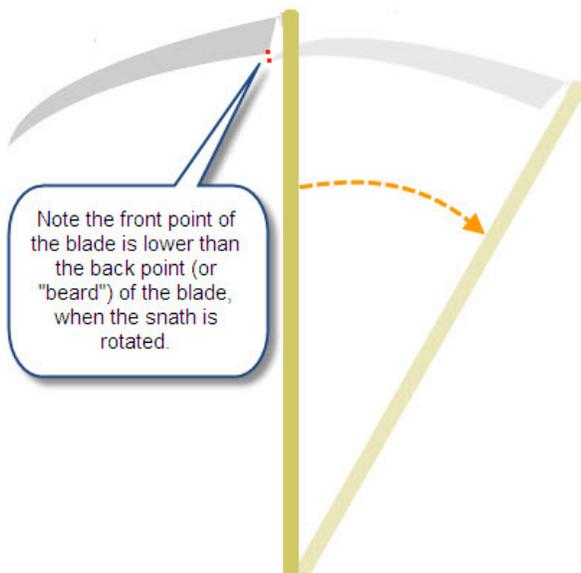


Figure 4



Figure 3

7. Tighten the attachment ring.
8. Start mowing! The blade stays on the ground – don't lift it up – and you should be 'drawing' an arc through the grass, shuffling forward an inch or several inches at a time, depending on the length of your blade. You do not need to apply a lot of force – a sharp blade will move through grass at a speed of a couple of feet per second, and still cut grass. Let the blade do its job. Check out our 'setup detail' online for fine tuning info.