

# Chop Chop

Pick the right axe for the job

## [1] HATCHET

**Job:** Cutting limbs for kindling. **Characteristics:** Small head, slightly curved blade, and a handle under a foot long. **Other chores:** Splitting small pieces of wood and cleaning big game. **Tip:** Use a stroke parallel to the trunk for limbing branches.

## [2] HUNTER'S AXE

**Job:** Butchering big game. **Characteristics:** Curved blade with a rounded poll (butt) and a 20-inch handle. **Other chores:** Light wood splitting. **Tip:** Push the poll between the hide and meat to skin an animal.

## [3] SPLITTING AXE

**Job:** Splitting dry wood. **Characteristics:** Straight, thin blade, lightweight head, and a 2-foot handle. **Other chores:** Felling small trees. **Tip:** Place the log to be split on a stump about knee-high.

## [4] SPLITTING MAUL

**Job:** Splitting all kinds of wood. **Characteristics:** Straight blade, heavy head, and a 2- to 3-foot handle. **Other chores:** The poll can be used as a sledgehammer. **Tip:** Sink this combination wedge-axe into the wood as far as it will go. Use a sledgehammer to drive the maul through the wood and finish the split.

