



**Making a Whistle:** This is best done with spring wood when the sap is running. In Interior Alaska, wood cut in May or June works well. You will need a Bear Saw and a box cutter. Use an alder or willow green wood stick about a three quarters to an inch in diameter. We selected an alder branch.



Use a box cutter to cut a bevel on the end of the stick.



Showing the bevel. Note at the top how one part of stick is still flat.



Shows where to cut a notch in the stick.





Showing the shallow notch cut into the stick.



Scoring the bark so that you can slip the bark off the stick. Score all the way around the stick and through the cambium layer.



With another stick beat the scored section of bark to the end of the stick to loosen the bark on the stick. Beat all around the stick where the bark is to be slipped.



With one hand on the part of the stick with the bark to be slipped and the other hand beyond the score line, twist until you feel the bark to be slipping moving. In this image you can see that the bark has moved.



The tube of bark is free of the stick.



Here we are preparing the wood plug (branch that the bark was slipped from) for the whistle.





Flattening the top of the plug from where the notch was cut to the mouth end of the plug.



Cutting the plug for your whistle. Cut the plug at the notch.



Round the edges of the plug.



Insert the plug into the bark tube. Plug should fit snugly but have a gap from the flattening of the top.



Image shows the gap created when flattening the top of the plug.



Open tube end of the whistle with the plug in place.





Showing the top of the whistle with mouthpiece inserted into tube.



Showing the mouthpiece of the whistle.



Trying out the whistle. It might take a bit of playing around with it to get it to whistle for you.