

The Mikov Kit by Nemo

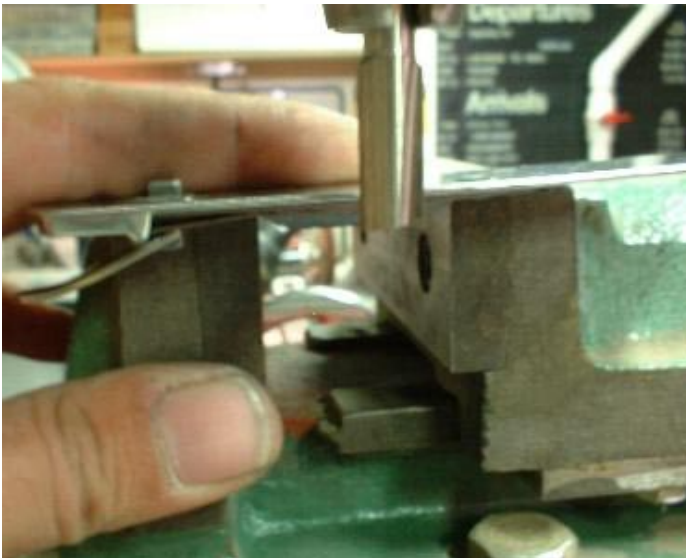
we will start with a basic tool and material list. For materials, you are going to need your kit, handle material that is at around 1/4" thick..a little more or less won't hurt. If you want to use different material for pins instead of what comes with the kit you will need 1/16" (top), 3/32" (middle and rear), and 3mm for the pivot.... Now tools... hopefully every one has or can get access to the following tools... belt sander, drill press, bandsaw, and a buffer.... that covers just about everything except what you need to router out for the lever area. Substitute tools where you need to.. for instance... use a handheld drill if you don't have a drill press and files if you don't have a belt sander. You need 1/16", and 3/32" drill bits for the handles, and a 5/16" router or milling bit for the lever. and if you do not have a router or milling machine... it can be done with a dremel.. but takes some time to get it right. I might of forgotten something ...like a ball peen hammer so if anyone has questions ...ask away..... and I hope this is fun for everyone.... I am going to show you how I do it... every step of the way... not just how it can be done.... so if something seems wierd.. just ask.... get your tools together.. and your kits.



First...make sure you have everything ready to go.....and I noticed in these kits...they include a little pin that looks like a mushroom....there is only one and I think it is used to attach the spring to the liner.... and since that is already donetoss it aside.....I am going to try and not go too slow or too fast for anyone....so get your kits and materials together and we will get to the fun stuff in the next day One of the first and most important steps..is to make sure both sides of whatever material you are using is dead flat....the top is just as important as the bottom...you will see why



Allright...using any flat belt sander ..make the bevel at the top of both handles it could take a few trys..just go slow and check it often....push the handle up against the bolster and once you like the fit and have no large gaps or light shining through you are ready for the next step which I should have posted later today



Here we go....routing out for the lever is one of the hardest parts...so I took lots of pics..hope they help!... first you want to make your handle material square... make sure one side is flat if you are going to use a router table with a guide....and both sides if you are using a milling machine like me.....you can use the lever spring as a guide on how deep to router...just flip the whole thing upside down and mark where the spring hits on the material and set your bit to go just a hair deeper (Picture)....then measure how far back the spring goes.. make your mark and router to your mark (picture).... then move your bit so it goes all the way through the material....measure how far back you need to go ..make a mark and router back to that point





Next...make sure you like how the handle fits...just slide it over the spring and see how it looks



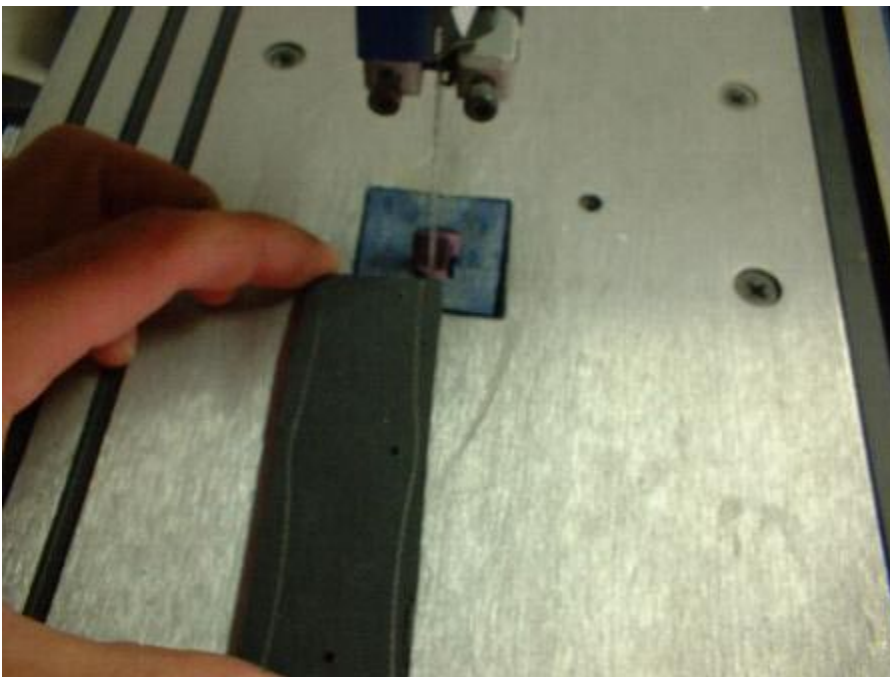
clamp both of your handles to the liners exactly where you want them to be when you are done



OK...next step...you have your scales clamped to your liners where you want them and they are flat on both sides...flip the whole thing over and drill your holes from the liner side



3/32 for the large holes 1/16 for the two smaller ones. As you drill the holes put a pin in each one to keep the material from moving while you drill the next hole. So when you get done you should have your material hanging over the edges of the liners and lots of pins sticking up.



trace the outline of the liner on the material with a pencil....take it off and cut as close to the line as you can with a bandsaw if you do not have a band saw...skip this step and go directly to this one....



put your handle material back on the liner...put your pins back in and grind as close as you can to the liner



these liners come with a rounded edge...so you know when you have hit it....if you do not like the rounded edge...grind it flat...but don't grind into it too far just yet. When you are done grinding the outline..take a pencil and mark if your material sticks up above the bolster this will give you a guide for shaping the handles



Ok here we go...take all of your mikov parts and put the entire knife together temporarily by pushing the pins through the entire knife



take the kife to your belt sander and grind everything so it is all flush around the outside of the knife....this will also straighten up the Mikov liners that are off center. It should look something like this when you are done



Next take it all apart, and using the line you put at the top of your handle material where you traced around the bolster....shape your handles the way you like. The line helps you make sure they match each other. When you are done take the lever side handle and see how the lever sits



.Wrap some sandpaper around your finger and hand sand the groove where your lever sits

check it often to get it the way you want it....when you are done with that it is time to hand sand and buff all of the parts of the knife....do any filework you want to do etc....basically we are getting it ready to put it together!!



put it together
scales on first



Then go for it and put the rest together....hopefully it should look something like this one.....and now is the point where I say that I have no idea what happened with my dye job on the bone....they were both done in blue dye together...I think one is darker cause it had more texture to it....well... good luck

