



# NWS / USER GUIDELINES



*Always use extreme caution  
and proper fire control protocol  
when building fires.*

*Do not allow children to handle  
this tool without close supervision.*

*Seek guidance and practice with  
equipment before expecting to use  
emergency tools under pressure.*

# *Thank You...*

For entrusting Prival with this opportunity to create this handmade product.

Prival has developed the NWS as a multi-tool that can be used in multiple fashions. It is our hope that each user seeks education in the field as a preparatory baseline for exploring the outdoors. In the case where you need to make a fire with the NWS, it is best accomplished by separating the tool and shaving the pitchwood with the knife blade. Striking the ferro rod will create a spark that can ignite the pitchwood shavings.



Tony Pavlantos



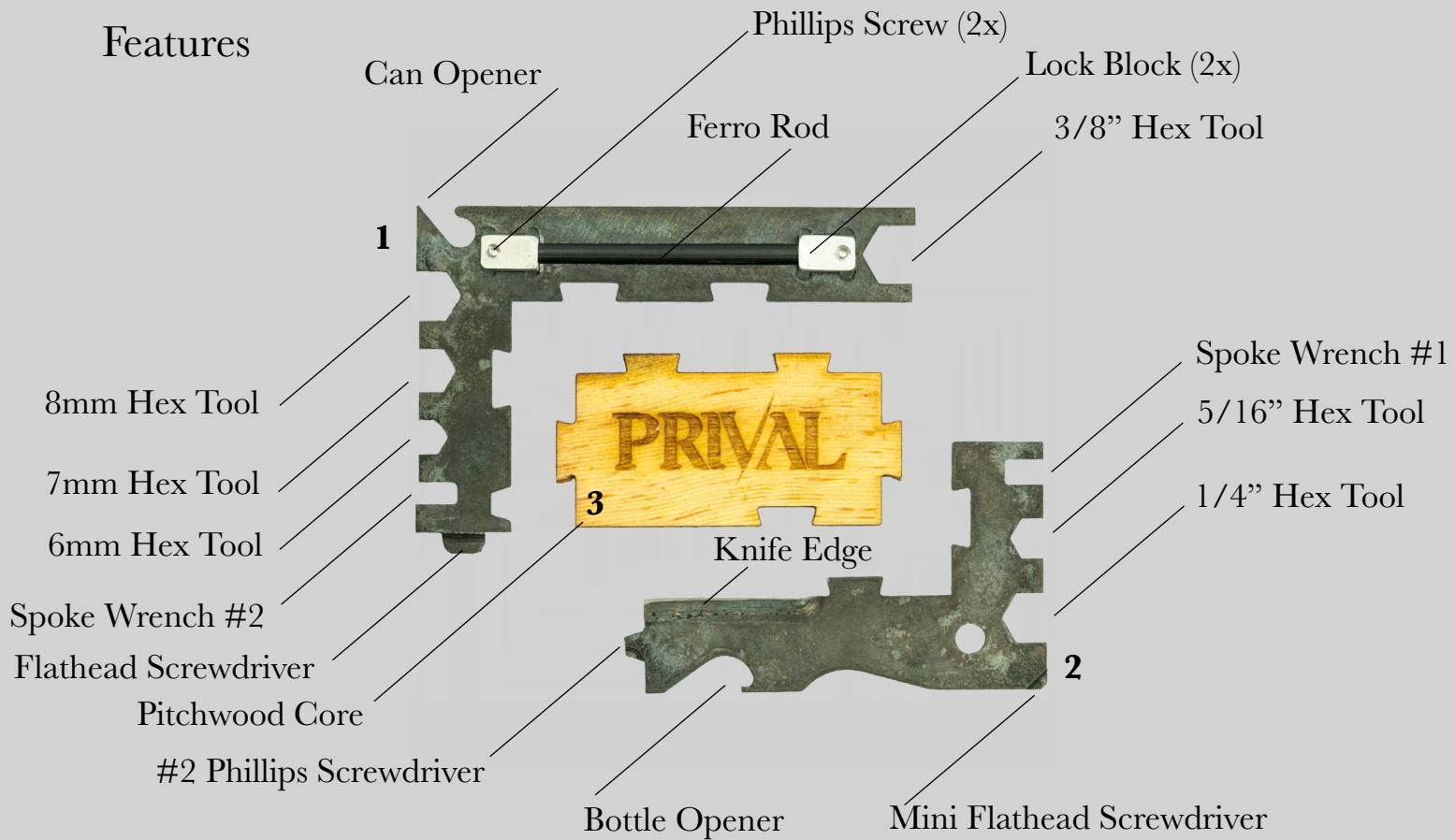
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# I. NWS OVERVIEW

The fire starter utilizes the following three primary components:

1. **Sparking** sub-tool
2. **Striking** sub-tool
3. **Pitchwood** core



**Use caution when separating tool pieces.**

The NWS tool features a pitchwood core, which doubles as a fire starter and a retention device for the two metal sub-tools.

## II. SEPARATING THE TOOL

While caution is necessary when separating the tool components, there is a technique that will allow you to do so without damaging the wooden core. The wooden tabs will break if the tool is taken apart too quickly.

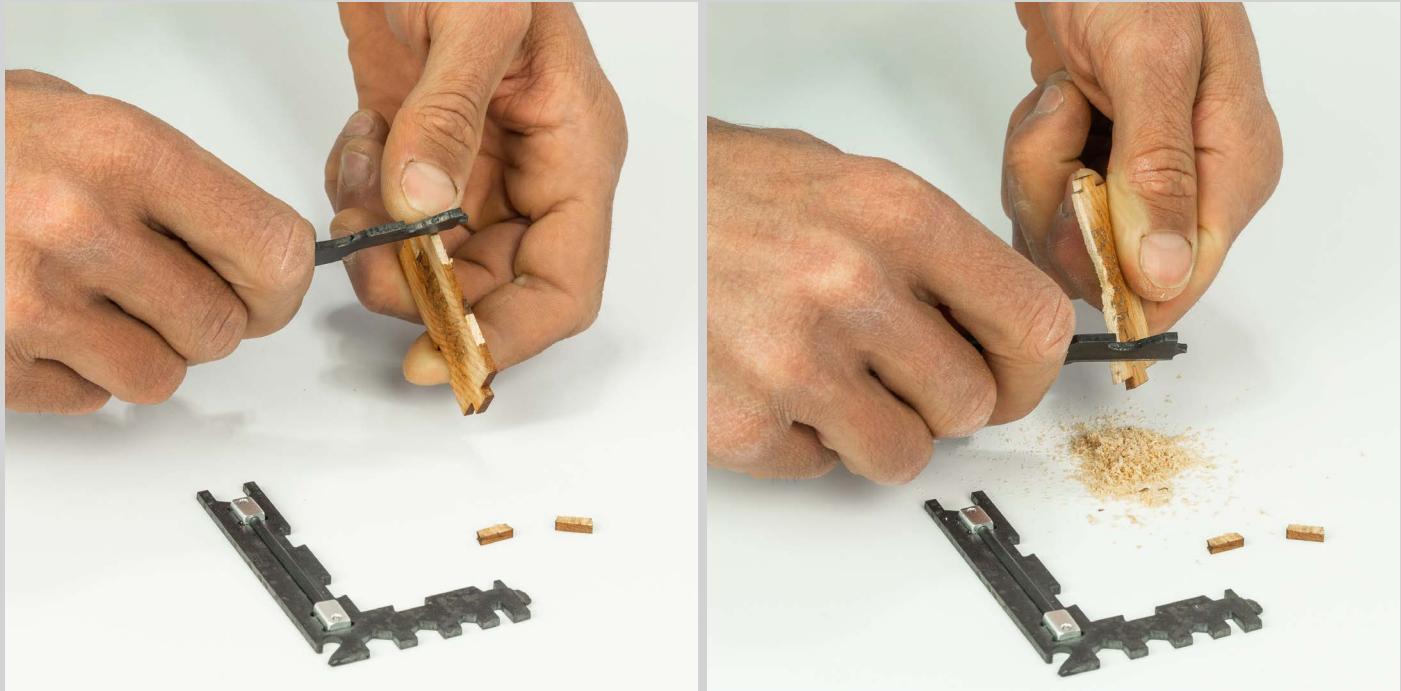
Removing one sub-tool at a time, slowly push on two tabs that hold the side you are removing. Take your time with this, considering the connection needs a tight fit to keep from becoming loose.

Note: The connections will become looser with each cycle of separating and assembling the tool, with the rate of degradation resulting from the method of tool separation. If the wood piece gets worn out or if you've used it for a number of fires, you can order new cores (and spark rods) from [www.privalusa.com](http://www.privalusa.com).



### III. PITCHWOOD SHAVINGS

Shaved pitchwood is arguably the best fuel to start a fire in any survival circumstance. The resin-filled wood will catch fire easily from sparks, including while it's wet.



**Scrape the blade edge across the flat section of pitchwood, facing backwards at about a 30° angle. Repeat until an almost marble-sized mound of pitchwood is achieved.**

Adjust your angle and pressure to attain your personal pitchwood-shaving sweet spot.

Tip: In situations where a quick fire is critical, smell the NWS core for the most fragrant section; this is the most turpenoid-saturated region. Break the piece (along the grain) at a height where you can directly access the “pitchiest” section of wood and scrape away. **Keep in mind that if a lighter is available, there is no reason not to use one.**

## IV. USING THE SPARK ROD

**The goal here is to create a directed flood of sparks.**

While holding the sparking sub-tool firmly against a hard surface, use the blade of the striking sub-tool to firmly strike the ferro rod. We recommend striking with the blade at about a 30° angle.

Prop one end of the striker side of your NWS tool on a hard surface near the pile of pitch wood, and use the striker to push hard on the spark rod in a striking motion to generate sparks. Adjust your positioning until the sparks are aimed directly at the pile of pitchwood.

With a strong spray of sparks and good aim, the pitchwood should light very easily.



## V. FIRE PREPARATION TIPS

Before striking your tool, it is important to collect the necessary kindling required to assure your fire has enough fuel to grow before blowing out. Set three large piles of kindling beside the fire pit.

The fist pile should be dry twigs that are about pencil lead thickness (no dry grass and no dry pine needles as these both burn too quickly).



- The second large pile should contain sticks about pencil to pinky finger thickness and consist of pieces no longer than two feet.
- The third large pile should contain pinky finger to 1" thick dry sticks no longer than two feet.

After gathering enough fuel, use a small portion of the three piles to make a teepee shape. Start with the smallest size on the inside and use the largest on the outside. Remember keep to the teepee hollow with an opening on one side so you can insert your burning pitchwood inside.

**Stockpile 10 times more kindling than what initially seems necessary to ensure your fire stays lit. Don't forget to make/use a firepit of some form to maintain fire safety.**

Once your kindling and firepit are ready, begin pushing the tool apart. By pushing directly on the tabs, the wood will come free without any damage!

Next, use the striker tool to shave enough pitchwood to form a pile on a small rock or surface that can be moved to the firepit once lit. In general, it is wise to use plenty of pitchwood to increase your likelihood of sparking the fire on your first try.

In extreme cold, this could make up the time it takes for your fingers to lose dexterity if too many unsuccessful attempts are made (this is a good reason to light the pitchwood with a match or lighter in an emergency).

## V. FIRE PREPARATION TIPS (CONTINUED)



While pitchwood lights easily and retains energy for a surprising amount of time, your likelihood of success increases with a larger pile of pitch.

Move the surface with the pitchwood fire into the firepit, under your teepee. As the fire grows through the pile of kindling, begin carefully adding larger pieces of kindling until large enough pieces of wood are caught to sustain the fire.



Practice is both useful and fun! But please don't practice indoors.

**Slow is smooth; smooth is fast. Practice patience when making fires, especially in high-stress scenarios.**

# VI. TOOL MAINTENANCE

General tool maintenance should be performed.  
This may include the following:

## **1. Store tool in plastic bag, custom tool sheath or wallet**

Prevent breaking your pitchwood or loosing a tool by keeping everything tight.

## **2. Keep knife edge sharp by using a file, sharpener, or bench grinder**

A sharp knife edge is critical. Be sure to follow safety protocol when sharpening.

## **3. Tighten lock blocks that hold down your ferro rod**

You can loosen the lock blocks to spin the ferro rod, giving you more spark once it is worn on one side.

## **4. Replace ferro rod when worn flat**

Once your ferro rod is worn flat, it is time to replace it. You can do so by unscrewing the lock blocks and removing your old ferro rod from the slot. Reverse order of removal for assembly.

## **5. Replace pitchwood if cracked in half or mostly used**

Pitchwood is not always easy to find in the field. Be sure to have yours handy and well cared for. We suggest having another core or some larger pieces as backup.

## **6. Prevent rust and corrosion**

Prival polished and sealed each NWS sub-tool with a dry-film lubricant. We suggest you do this after exposure to moisture.

**The NWS tool is most commonly used for day-to-day tasks, so keep it in your wallet or backpack so it is handy. Feel free to share how you used your NWS with us!**

## Replacement Parts Available

- Ferro rods
- Pitchwood
- Lock blocks (threaded rectangle)

These parts can be purchased through contacting us at [Contact@Privalusa.com](mailto:Contact@Privalusa.com)

**At Prival, we guarantee our product is free of manufacturer's defects for the life of the product.**

**If your NWS tool has a defect, contact  
[Reggie@Privalusa.com](mailto:Reggie@Privalusa.com)**

\*Please Note: This tool is intended for single-use fire building. We cannot acknowledge there is enough pitchwood in one tool to light multiple fires. If you are in an emergency situation and can call 911, please do so. Otherwise please use the pitchwood wisely and keep your fire going strong.