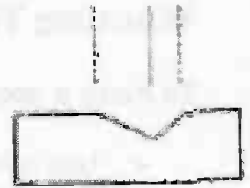


Basic Cut 3: V-Cut, Using the Knife Point

When carving, you may need to make special cuts to show hair, fur, or distinct lines to distinguish particular features on the finished carving. This v-shaped cut is based on the thumb cut and push-away cuts.



Basic Cut 4: Stop Cut, Using the Knife Point

A stop cut is very similar to a v-cut. One side of the cut is straight; the other slopes in.



How to Make a Thumb Pad for Your Knife-Holding Hand

Using a thumb pad is cheaper than band-aids and stitches!

- **LEAST EXPENSIVE:** Use masking tape, preferable 1-inch wide.
 1. Wrap sticky side out around the thumb of the knife holding hand. Cover down to just below the knuckle and over the top, completely covering the thumb.
 2. Wrap the sticky side in and cover the thumb with about 6 or 7 layers of tape.
- **BETTER WAY:** Use duct tape the same way and cover the thumb with 5 layers of tape.
- **BEST SOLUTION:** Buy a pair of inexpensive leather work gloves with the cloth back. Cut the fingers off and wrap duct tape around and over the top of the thumb with about 4 layers of tape.

CAUTION!!! Little leather thumb pads with an elastic back, available in some stores and catalogs, are not very thick or long-lasting when you use a very sharp knife!

Notes:

- When the blade starts coming through the pad, don't throw out your thumb pad -- just add more tape.
- When the pad gets too big from added tape, then throw it away and make a new one.
- Remember, most of your carving is the thumb (paring) cut, so **always protect the thumb of the knife-holding hand by using a thumb pad!**
- Kevlar gloves can be used, but are needed for the knife-holding hand only. They will protect against a slicing-type cut, but can be compromised by a stabbing-type cut.