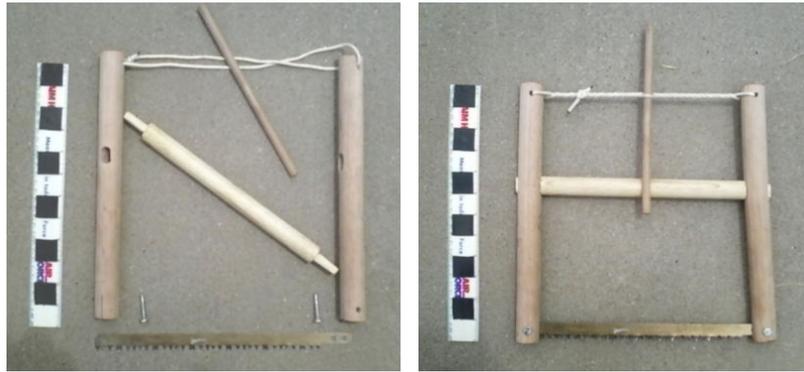# Buck Saw That Folds – A $6 DIY!

Make a collapsible, buck saw that cuts through 6- to 9-inch logs and folds into a package one foot long for about $6.

<u>Materials</u>: 1" dia. hardwood dowe1, 12" long (need 3); 3/8" dia. stick, 9" long (need 1); 24" replacement bow saw blade (need 1); 1/4" dia. bolts, 1" long (need 2); and 1/4" cord, 18" long.

1) Cut dowels to 12" long. Sand smooth. Two 1" dowels are for handles. Measure in 4-1/2" from one end and drill 5/8" dia. hole.

2) Draw line from center of 5/8" hole to long end of handle, on both sides of hole. On flat end of the dowel, connect the lines. With band saw, cut 1" deep into line on the long end of the handle. Turn 1" dowel so cut is horizontal. Measure 1/2" from flat end. Drill 1/4" hole through dowel, perpendicular to horizontal cut. Do the same thing on other end of dowel.

3) The remaining 1" dowel is the spreader bar. On each end, measure up one 1" and mark it. Mark the center on flat end of dowel. Use belt sander or file to sand the last 1" of dowel down to 5/16" diameter.

4) Cut 24" replacement bow saw blade in half with a band saw. Drill a 1/4" hole in end of blade that has no hole.

5) Check: A) Saw blade slides easily into bottom of handle. B) Bolts that hold the saw blade insert easily into bolt holes. C) Spreader ends fit loosely in handle holes. D) Cord inserts easily in holes into upper end of handles.

To use: Put spreader bar into handles. Put blade into bottom of handles. Secure with 1/4" bolts. Run cord through holes at top of handles. Tie ends of cord together. Put 9" long stick between cords and twist until saw blade is stiff. A slitted piece of round cardboard from a pants hanger makes a good saw blade guard. A carrying bag can be made by sewing edges of a piece of cloth 8" x 14".