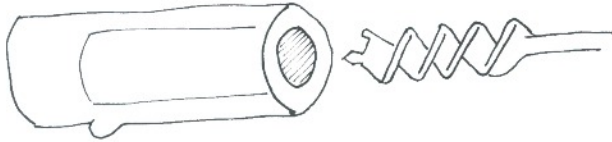


Carve a whistle

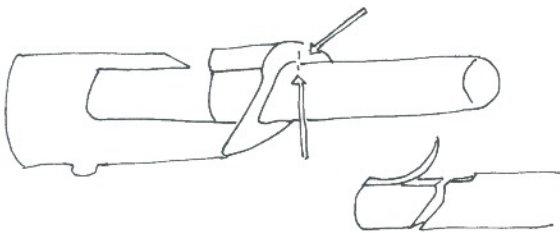
Carving a whistle can be a fun project, but a bit more challenging than a butter spreader because it requires some precision. Just go slowly and have fun. If you mess up or can't seem to get sound, try again.



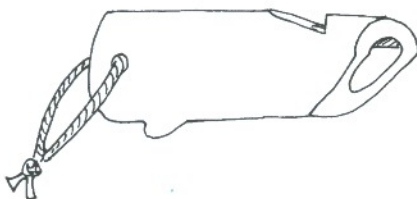
1. Select a branch about 1.5 inches in diameter and drill a hole. The depth of the hole does not matter much (I go about 3 inches), but the diameter of the hole determines pitch. Smaller diameter, higher pitch.



2. Next cut a slant at the front for the lips. Not strictly necessary, but it's more comfortable. Cut the top notch back at least 1 centimeter from the bottom of the mouth opening. This ensures that when you fit your plug you have enough wood to hold it in the hole.



3. Whittle a round plug from a stick several inches long so you can insert it and pull it out easily. The plug must fit your hole snugly. Carve a narrow flat across the top to allow air passage over your notch. Start small and increase the size until you get a good sound. The end of the plug should be flush with the opening of the notch when inserted. Fit the plug in and carve off the excess.



4. You are done! You may need to carve some feathering at the back of the notch where the air passes over. It needs to be thin, but loose wood fibers will interfere with the sound. Some require blowing harder, some softer. Have fun!