

### What?

- A bow saw is made up of a tubular steel frame and a saw blade. It is used for the fast cutting of trees and shrubs. The bow saw's frame is important, since the thin blade, usually  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide, must be held under high tension for fast cutting. This general-purpose saw has wide-ranging utility and is lightweight.
- A pole saw is similar to a standard hand saw, but with a curved blade and a long handle. It reduces the danger of getting injured from a high cutting job, as you can stand on solid ground and still trim the high branches.

### Why?

- A bow saw is used for coppicing, felling small trees, cutting woody vegetation and cross-cutting felled trees.
- A pole saw is used to cut down branches high up that would be beyond your reach with a hand saw.
- To stop the saw from bouncing about, it is a good idea to use your second hand on the corner of the frame at the back of the bow saw which helps to put more pressure downwards on the teeth of the blade, forcing them into the log much better than with one hand.

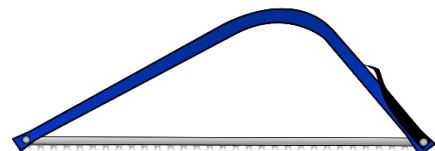


### Do ✓

- ✓ Check for dangers and nesting birds
- ✓ Wear a hard hat when cutting branches at head height and above
- ✓ Wear gloves with a good grip
- ✓ Beware of falling branches
- ✓ Cut on the down-stroke only; it is less tiring and prevents the blade jamming and possibly breaking
- ✓ Carry the saw holding the shaft in the centre, with the blade parallel to the floor
- ✓ Transport saws safely, use saw guards and place in a box or bag secured in the cage in the minibus
- ✓ Be aware of where people are around you, who is using saws and whether they have got supervision if needed

### Don't ✗

- ✗ Don't forget to take a break, sawing is hard work and remember to stay hydrated
- ✗ Don't cut branches right above your head, they may drop and cause injury
- ✗ Don't use your free hand anywhere near the cutting blade



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