

SMART Angler's Notebook

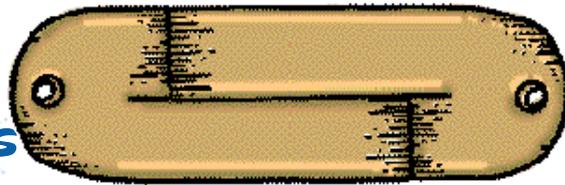
by Carl Richardson

illustrated by Ted Walke

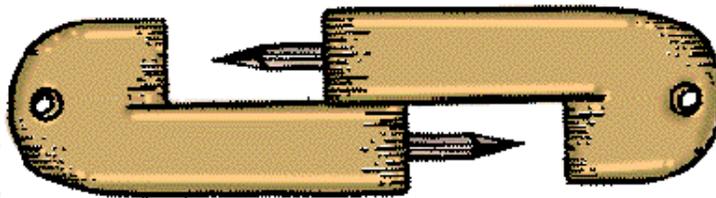
Ice Awls

DIRECTIONS

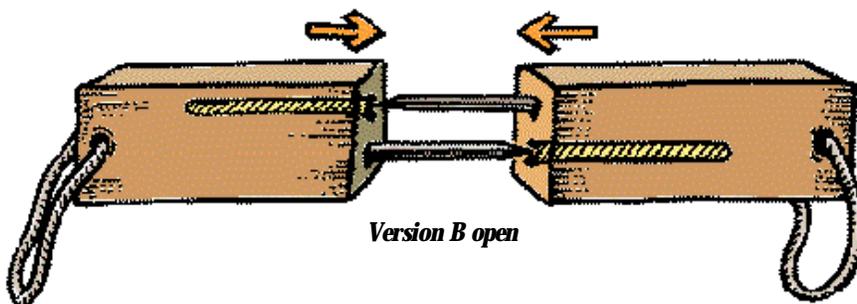
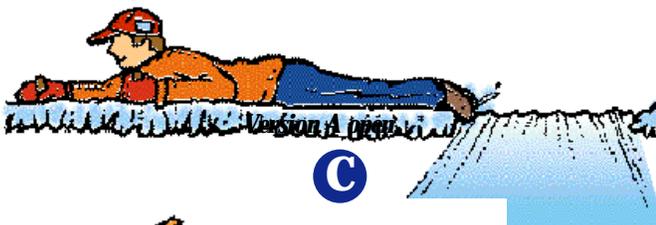
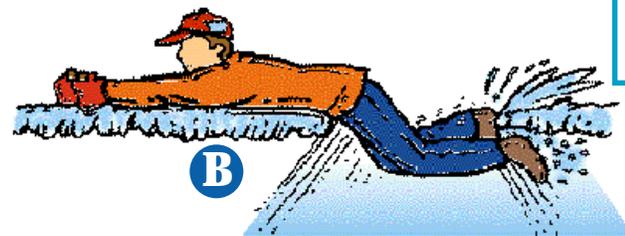
Trace the pattern on the wood and using the saw, cut out the two pieces. Note: If a coping or jig saw is unavailable, the awls can be made just by cutting the piece in half. Using the 3/16-inch bit, drill one hole at the end of each piece. On the end of each piece drill the following holes: One the same diameter as the nail, the other slightly smaller. The hole that is the same diameter serves as a "sheath" for the nail. The other is a pilot hole to prevent the wood from splitting. Make sure that the pilot hole on one side lines up with the sheath hole on the other piece. Drive the nail into the pilot hole on each piece leaving at least 1 1/2 inches of the nail exposed. Using the cutters or hacksaw, cut off the head of the nail. File or grind the head of the nail to a point. Put nylon line through the hole at the end of each piece. Knot the line so that it won't pass back through. Repeat on the other end. Assemble the two pieces and wear the awl around the neck when on the ice. □



Version A closed



Version A open



Version B open

- Drill
- Hand coping saw, jig saw or scroll saw
- Drill bits:
 - 3/16-inch
 - same diameter as the nails
 - slightly smaller than nail diameter
- Hammer
- Hacksaw or bolt cutters for cutting nails
- File or grinder

- Any hardwood, dimensions: 2" x 2" x 8"
- Galvanized or masonry nails, 16 penny or larger
- 3/16-inch nylon rope, at least 24 inches long

After falling in, the awls are used to pull yourself to safety. To do this, **A** firmly drive each spike into the ice and **B** pull yourself onto the ice. **C** Don't stand up once on the ice! Slowly roll to safer ice.