



By John Kiriakidis

Hunters Element Classic Series Knives

Rob Wilson and his team at Hunters Element and have designed and manufactured a range of classic knives durable enough for the New Zealand market.

These are good looking knives, each is hand crafted with natural maple burl wooden handles, polished brass bolsters and premium quality 5Cr15 stainless steel blades. They all come also with a natural full grain leather sheath.

Blade

The blade is flat ground and highly polished to resist rusting. 5Cr15 stainless alloy is utilised for the blade and has a similar hardness to 440a, which a lot of large "name brand" American

knife manufactures use. 5Cr15 however has less chromium and carbon which Rob believes makes them hold an edge better and also they are easier to sharpen. 5Cr15 also has a higher percentage of vanadium added which increases tensile strength and impact strength.

The blades are hard and it took me a bit of effort to get a razor edge, however once it was there, the knives held that edge really well.

Handle

You can choose the wood for your firearm stock and you can with the Classic Series; each knife has its own unique maple burl grain. Beautifully finished with a brass bolster and full tang, they are well balanced and fit into your hand very nicely

Left; The Folding Companion was ideal for chunky goose legs.

Below; The Drop Point had a long cutting stroke for a short blade.



PRODUCT REVIEW



The Skinner in the middle is the classic New Zealand hunting knife.



Pig Sticker

Sheath

These are also good quality, decent thick well stitched 2.5mm leather and deep enough to allay any fears of losing your knife while hunting.

Every hunter has their own preferences when it comes to knives. The Hunters Element team have selected a range that will satisfy most hunters in NZ, from the pig sticker through to the classic drop point. For me the ideal combination is the Companion model which is always on your belt and the Skinner. The Companion is ideal for the fiddly work and the Skinner for the rest.

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Drop Point



Folding Companion



Folding Drop Point