



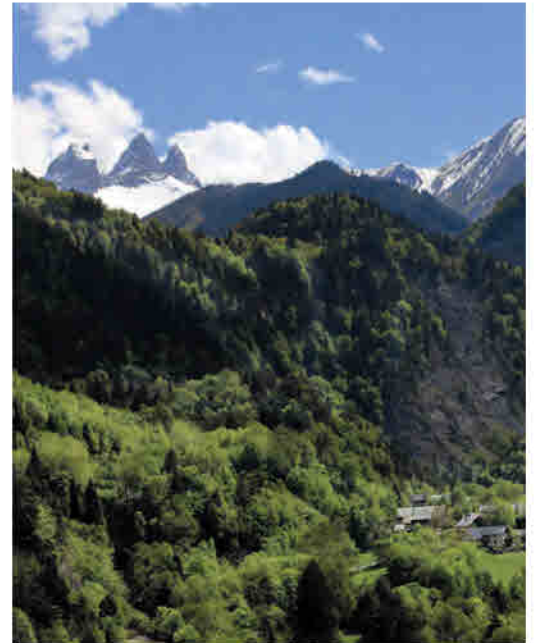
History and Know-how

The Opinel was born on the banks of a stream overlooked by the Savoie mountains. Invented in **1890** by Joseph Opinel, its simplicity, robustness and functionality make it a noble tool. The Opinel has been adopted by everyone and passed on from one generation to the next. It is now considered as a unique and timeless household object. Made in Savoie, in Chambéry, the Opinel pocket knives and tools have remained faithful to the brand's origins.



JOSEPH OPINEL

In 1890, Joseph as an 18 year-old young man had been working for several years in the family forge. Against his father's wishes, he designed and developed a small pocket knife aimed at farmers and local villagers. Very quickly, in response to an increasing demand, he installed his own workshop and designed ingenious machines for larger scale manufacturing. In 1897, he produced a series of twelve different sizes where the knives were numbered from No. 01 to No. 12. To follow the cutlery tradition, in 1909, he chose the "Crowned Hand" as his trademark. As an entrepreneur, an engineer, a designer, a salesman, Joseph Opinel has marked the family history and that of the business. As an inquisitive and inventive person, he was extremely interested by the latest technical advances of his time. He designed and built his own camera and became the events' photographer of the area. As a nature lover, he took up beekeeping which he carried on throughout his life.



THE CROWNED HAND

In 1565, King Charles IX of France ordered each master cutler to add his emblem to his products to guarantee their origin and quality. To follow this tradition, Joseph chose the crowned hand emblem in 1909.

The blessing hand is that of Saint Jean-Baptiste appearing on the arms of Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne, the closest town to Albiez-le-Vieux, home of the Opinel family. Joseph Opinel added the crown as a reminder that the Savoie was a duchy. Since, every single Opinel blade and tool is stamped with the Crowned Hand.



History and Know-how

Invented by Marcel Opinel in **1955**, the Virobloc® safety ring is fitted to every folding knife from the No. 06.

Cut out of stainless steel, the **Virobloc®** includes a fixed part and a sliding part. It locks the blade in its open position (safety in use) or in its closed position (safety in transport).

In 2016, a new Virobloc® generation was designed: more reliable, more comfortable, this new version will be available on the No. 07 and, by the end of 2017, on the other sizes.

MADE IN FRANCE

All our pocket knives and tools are manufactured in our factory in Chambéry, Savoie, at the heart of the French Alps.



CONVEX PROFILE

The convex profile of the Opinel blade provides greater resistance to cutting when compared to a flat ground blade of similar height and spine thickness.

Furthermore, the contact between the sides of the blade and the cut material is minimised which significantly reduces friction and therefore the cutting power required.

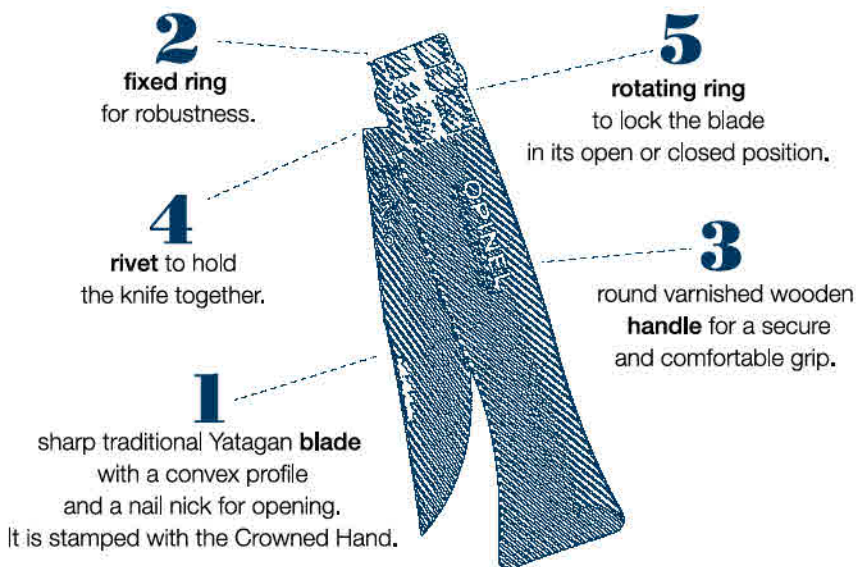
TWO TYPES OF STEEL

When it was first designed, the OPINEL blade was made from **carbon steel**. We still use a similar grade today, with an approximate carbon content of 0.90%. Our carbon steel is first produced in Germany and finished in France before being worked in our workshop.

This grade is easier to sharpen, and with regular maintenance, its cutting power is always perfect. Furthermore, when cutting a soft abrasive material such as wood, paper or cardboard, the cutting edge gets worn and tends to resharpen when in contact with the soft material.

A carbon steel blade is more sensitive to corrosion and requires more maintenance than a stainless steel blade. It should not be used in a damp or acidic environment.

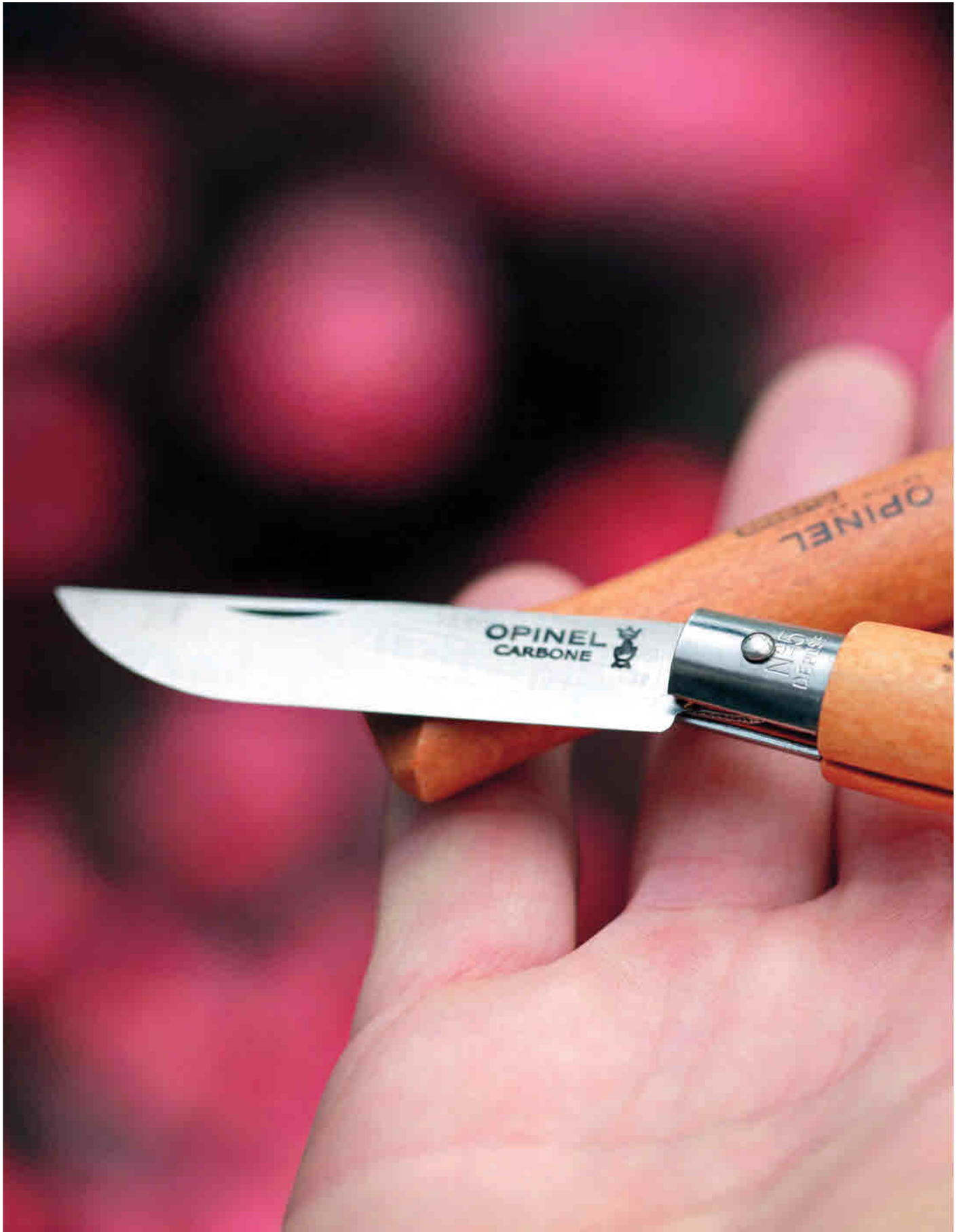
As a **stainless steel**, we have chosen the Swedish 12C27 modified stainless steel (Sandvik). It is highly resistant to corrosion thanks to the addition of chrome and requires no special maintenance. Its carbon content of at least 0.40% gives an excellent cutting edge. This grade provides strong resistance to abrasion which allows the blade to regularly be in contact with hard material such as ceramic, without needing to be resharpened.



WOOD

To prevent a negative impact on the environment (pollution from transport, deforestation ...), 95% of the wood for handles comes from sustainably managed French forests. Our main supplier is based in the Jura region and holds a PEFC certification. Most our knives are made from beech wood which has a fine homogeneous grain providing excellent mechanical strength. We apply a varnish which has been selected for its highly protective properties against moisture and staining. The varnish is tinted for the carbon range and clear for all the other ranges.

To create coloured handles, we use hornbeam to which we first apply a water-based wood stain before varnishing. Handles shaped from rare and precious tree species are buffed with wax applied with a cotton disk.



Carbon TRADITION

Tinted varnished beech handle



Boxed sets



No.02 - blade 3.5 cm
ref// 111020 - gencod// 312384 111020 6 - PCB// 12

No.03 - blade 4 cm
ref// 111030 - gencod// 312384 111030 5 - PCB// 12

No.04 - blade 5 cm
ref// 111040 - gencod// 312384 111040 4 - PCB// 12

No.05 - blade 6 cm
ref// 111050 - gencod// 312384 111050 3 - PCB// 12

No.06 - blade 7 cm
ref// 113060 - gencod// 312384 113060 0 - PCB// 12

No.07 - blade 8 cm
ref// 113070 - gencod// 312384 113070 9 - PCB// 12

No.08 - blade 8.5 cm
ref// 113080 - gencod// 312384 113080 8 - PCB// 12

No.09 - blade 9 cm
ref// 113090 - gencod// 312384 113090 7 - PCB// 12

No.10 - blade 10 cm
ref// 113100 - gencod// 312384 113100 3 - PCB// 6

No.12 - blade 12 cm
ref// 113120 - gencod// 312384 113120 1 - PCB// 6

Wooden gift box No.08

+ sheath

ref// 000815
gencod// 312384 000815 3
PCB// 4



Display tray T085

4xNo.06 + 4xNo.07
+ 4xNo.08

ref// 182085
gencod// 312384 182085 3
PCB// 1



P30

6xNo.06 + 6xNo.07
+ 12xNo.08 + 6xNo.09

ref// 000739
gencod// 312384 000739 2
PCB// 1



Collection box

the ten Nos.

ref// 183102
gencod// 312384 183102 6
PCB// 1



Change tray

the ten Nos.

ref// 183104
gencod// 312384 183104 0
PCB// 1



Stainless steel TRADITION

Varnished natural beech handle



Boxed sets



No.02 - blade 3.5 cm
ref// 001070 - gencod// 312384 001070 5 - PCB// 12

No.03 - blade 4 cm
ref// 001071 - gencod// 312384 001071 2 - PCB// 12

No.04 - blade 5 cm
ref// 121040 - gencod// 312384 121040 1 - PCB// 12

No.05 - blade 6 cm
ref// 001072 - gencod// 312384 001072 9 - PCB// 12

No.06 - blade 7 cm
ref// 123060 - gencod// 312384 123060 7 - PCB// 12

No.07 - blade 8 cm
ref// 000693 - gencod// 312384 000693 7 - PCB// 12

No.08 - blade 8.5 cm
ref// 123080 - gencod// 312384 123080 5 - PCB// 12

No.09 - blade 9 cm
ref// 001083 - gencod// 312384 001083 5 - PCB// 12

No.10 - blade 10 cm
ref// 123100 - gencod// 312384 123100 0 - PCB// 6

No.12 - blade 12 cm
ref// 001084 - gencod// 312384 001084 2 - PCB// 6

Collecting wooden case

the ten Nos.

ref// 001311
gencod// 312384 001311 9
PCB// 1



Display tray T095

4xNo.06 + 4xNo.07
+ 4xNo.08

ref// 000938
gencod// 312384 000938 9
PCB// 1

P30

6xNo.06 + 6xNo.07
+12xNo.08 + 6xNo.09

ref// 001159
gencod// 312384 001159 7
PCB// 1



Change tray

the ten Nos.

ref// 001314
gencod// 312384 001314 0
PCB// 1



