



Benchmade 940-1 vs 940-2

Benchmade is a sacred company among knife lovers. Their name is synonymous with guality, and their designs are wildly popular with professionals in every field. Among the product line of such created company several models that have reached almost legendary status due to its design, guality and overall badassery. Benchmade 940 Osborne design has fallen into this category for some time, and recently Benchmade decided to kick it up a notch with their release Benchmade 940-1. Is the reputation well deserved, or is it a case of advertising the knife industry gone mad? I have now owned and carried this knife for most of the year and I am ready to share my views with you. Buy - AmazonBuy - BladeH'Carbon FiberAxis LockThumb StudFor is sure that it is not a cheap knife. Not everyone has \$260 to splash on the blade, and many of you will be scratching your head about who the heck buys expensive knives like these. Most of my readers will get it, but for the rest of you... if by the end of this review you don't go out and buy this knife or at least put it on the Christmas list, then I have failed. Just like that... BladeA's fairly recent surge of innovation has brought many new blade forms to the forefront of the game opener. Today, one of the most popular and useful, the new breed of blade form is reverse tanto. Sporting a sharp yet muscular tip allows this blade shape to excel in piercing cuts, and the long cutting edge gives it an excellent slicing ability as well. Benchmade 940-1 sports the top of the steel line: S90V throughout its powered metallurgy glory. Not too far into the specifics of chemistry, the S90V is a highly solidified, ultra hard stainless steel with above-average corrosion resistance - but in reality this steel is all about durability. The micro-coal processed Crucible steels display a super thin grain structure with an excellent distribution of elements, which means there are no brittle spots. A large vanadium carbide (think super solid steel chunks along the edge of the blade) will ensure the blade has a sharp working edge for a long time for the average user, resisting the edges of the rolls and rust spots no matter the climate you're in, keep in mind, however, that sharpeners won't walk in the park through so you need patience and if you want to keep that edge of the micro razor edge you have to touch regularly. Look, you guys know I'm a steel nut... and let me tell you that the S90V to the hardness of the Rockwell 59-61, which is slightly higher than the S30V base 940 model. The blade is finished in the classic blacked out benchmade stone, which does a fair job of concealing the use. Plant edges sharp, but a little to my taste, and and a little to my taste, and and a little to my taste, and and a little to my taste. to the tip. With a blade stock of 0.12 thickness, there's plenty of steel to deal with hard jobs without worrying about the blade being flexible, while the thin 3/4 width means it doesn't get bogged down slicing through a tomato, or take up a ton of real estate. There's a lot going on with this blade, but it's done with style and purpose. No blade is perfect, but Benchamde 940-1 proves that you can come damn close. Pen and ergonomics Presumably this is the most striking feature, the handle 940-1 is a beautiful combination of organic, smooth lines and beautiful materials. Benchmade needs to be praised for choosing materials when it comes to 940-1 because they managed to find the most gorgeous basket to weave carbon fiber that I've ever seen. Carbon fiber is completely free of voids and defects, and flickers even in low light. There is a flowing line to the top that creates a layout of the strengthening area, and the contours on both sides offers comfort and style. Three small black screws securely hold the nested liners on the scales of carbon fiber, and a slightly larger screw makes a support along with the flat black female side. For a knife of this length, almost 8 inches overall (7.87) with about 4.5 handles, it's surprisingly thin and slender: only 0.41 thick and about 1 wide in its largest. When it comes to stabbing that skinny, ergonomics and comfort can be a problem. The 940-1 addresses this with a gentle forward choil and a matching nested gimping on the front and back, giving traction to the thumb and index finger in the saber grip. The handle is equally comfortable in almost any grip, and the pocket clip disappears in the meat of the palm without any discomfort. The proportions on this knife are the most naturally balanced live seen in a long time. In fact, for such a light knife, the balance is inciden. While I ended up installing that Benchmade silver deep clip to carry on my 940-1, the knife is just as appealing and manageable with the stock clip as well. Deployment and LockupA is a huge part of Benchmade's claim to fame and popularity is the axis lock, which is used at 940-1, thankfully. Without giving details of how the Axis lock works, it allows the 940-1 to be perfectly easy to use in both the right and left hand. Deployment is achieved with a thumb stud and this blade clicks out guickly! For traction during deployment, thumb studs are a tiered design that creates ridges that allow the thumb to dig in. handles, and instead you place your thumb below thumbstud Flick the blade up. Also, with a bit of practice you can click the knife open using your index finger on the opposite side of the thumbstud. The knife open smoothly on a rather thick phosphorous bronze washer, and rests when the back of the blade comes into contact with the stop pin. At this point, the Axis lock presses into place, and the knife is to hold the lock axis and swing the handle, shaking off the blade and releasing the lock axis shortly before the stop-pin is reached. This is definitely part of the appeal of these Benchmade knives: while they make excellent tools, they also make addictive fun toy play. The lock is absolutely solid and there is no blade to play from side to side or back to the front. Features, Fit and FinishIn are all honesty, I have had problems in this department with Benchmade before. The two Griptilians I owned had a blade to play on the lock as well as centering issues. I had a Presidio and 530 that I couldn't center for me. While Benchmade 940-1 I can happing to deal with these issues, it can be depressing when your knife is not perfect out of the box. Benchmade 940-1 I can happing say it was, for all intents and purposes, no flaws when I got it. The blade was a dead center perfect, the lock was solid without compromising the speed and ease of deployment, and there was no sign or imperfection I could find. The pocket clip that comes with a knife benchmade split arrow pocket clip with a black painted trim. The black finish seemed to move away quite easily, which prompted me to call Benchmade and ask for a silver deep clip to carry. A week later I have a new pocket clip, and in my opinion, it is a much better stylistic and functional choice. The original 940 is a closed design with a backspacer, while the 940-1 is an end-to-end design with two blue anodized aluminum confrontations. Because of the design and material differences, the 940-1 is almost a full half-ounce lighter than its base counterpart, with a 940-1 weight in a light pen of 2.44 ounces. Having a knife as thin and light as a 940-1 in your pocket is a true treat, mainly because it's so easy to forget a knife even there. The TestWhen field comes down to a field-test knife like a 940-1, I try to be as realistic as possible. We're talking about a knife that weighs less than 3 ounces. My testing consists of day-to-day activities that I would expect to use a pocket knife for, with a few additional tests to make sure that the knife won't be the time I need it most. In the kitchen, 940-1 is allocated to processing vegetables and fruits, slicing bread, and basically anything you could use a parry knife, 940-1 can do. Cardboard processing is another where 940-1 shines, mostly Full ability to reverse the tanto on display: The piercing cuts through the cardboard and then slicing the cuts needed to process it down. I found that S90V Benchmade uses can continue cutting cardboard for much longer than I could imagine having to do so while maintaining the ability to shave my hair with my hands afterwards. My rope test gave no less impressive results. The blade also does a fantastic job, like writing and packing a knife without being superfluous using the sharp tip of the reverse tanto. Now, as I said earlier, I'm adding to a test that goes beyond normal use, entirely for my own amusement and peace of mind. I wrap the handle in a towel, fasten it in my vice grips, and hit the back of the blade with a rubber hammer several times, in a sort of pass/no test to see if the lock holds up to the pressure of the back. 940-1 thankfully passed this test as well. Alternatives Are All These Knives available on BladeHQ.So how else could you spend \$260? It's a pretty tough category for me against 940-1 because the knife world these days is such a vast landscape. Even with all the options out there, however, there aren't many knives that give you reach what 940-1 can, while still competing in the lightweight category. One knife that I owned, and feel compares relatively compact package, have an extremely high level of fit and trim, and are very well worn in your pocket. The 940-1 is lighter out of the two, and in my opinion more appealing, while Southard is beefier and better in terms of blade steel. Perhaps the most obvious alternative to the 940-1 obviously wins when it comes to blade steel, weight and processing material, but by almost \$100 more than the base model, it really comes down to how much you value the extras that the 940-1 carries. This is a decision you have to make for yourself, obviously, because we all appreciate different things more than others. Strictly speaking, as a tool in the first place, the 940 can do almost anything that 940-1 can do just as well while keeping an extra \$100 in your pocket. The way I was able to justify spending with it, and when I look at my knife I want a sense of pride in the property that 940-1 has in spades over 940. When you distribute that lifelong property, what is \$100 really? Wrap UpI hope you enjoyed reading this review half as much as I liked to write and if I was able to help decide to own Benchmade 940-1, the better. It's true that I'm in love with and congratulate Benchmade on an outstanding feat. I feel almost as if 940-1 is as much a work of art as it is a tool, and while I owned it, it was snapped open and caressed, covered in food and once even in a juice tree. One of the strengths of this knife is its ability to keep performing, looking damn sharp to do it, day in and day out. Just one of the best EDC your money can buy. I'm sad to say that my original 940 can rarely see the light, there's a new sheriff in town. Buy - AmazonBuy - BladeH'Beautiful, sleek, lightweight with insane performance levelsBlack pocket clip can lose color, a little expensive expensive

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