

# Knife Laws

More and more Cities and Counties are putting their ordinances online. The best way to find out the ordinances of any City/Co is to go to Municode and click on your state and see if they city you want to find info about is listed. If the City or County you want info about is not listed go to Google and type in NAME of City comma STATE and then ORDINANCES. This will most likely bring up a link to the City or County you are seeking information about. The Info below is just part of their knife laws giving length laws as found in their laws. Municode Link is below.

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[Go to Part 2](#)

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A good place to start in your search of City/County Ordinances is [Municode](#)

**In many states Knife Laws are not well defined. Some states say very little about knives. We have put together information on carrying a folding type knife in your pocket. We consider carrying a knife in this fashion as being concealed. We are not attorneys and post this information as a starting point for you to take up the search even more. Case Law has a huge influence on knife laws in all the states. Case Law is even harder to find references to. It up to you to know the law. Definitions for the different types of knives are at the bottom of the listing. Almost exclusively all places ban Switchblades, Gravity, Bal**

State	Law Title/Chapt/Sec	Legal Yes/No Folder/Length	Short description from the law. Wording edited to fit. Click on state or city name for more information
<a href="#">United States</a>	USC Title 15 Chpt. 29- § 1241- § 1245		Switchblade and Ballistic Knives are Illegal
<a href="#">United States</a>	USC Title18 - Part I - Chpt. 44 - § 930	< 2.5"	"dangerous weapon" does not include a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 1/2 inches in length.

<a href="#">Alabama</a>	13A-11-50 13A-11-55	<b>Y</b>	No Defined Knife Length in AL Law.
<a href="#">Decatur, AL</a>	16-22.1.		or knife or instrument of like kind or description
<a href="#">Elba, AL</a>	50-87.		or any other knife of like kind or description,
<a href="#">Enterprise, AL</a>	14-25.		or any other knife of like kind or description,
<a href="#">Gadsden, AL</a>	90-61.		or knife of like kind or similar nature,
<a href="#">Huntsville, AL</a>	19-5	<b>Y &lt;4"</b>	with the exception of pocket <b>knives</b> ... with a blade of less than four (4) inches
<a href="#">Lankett, AL</a>	20-6.		Pawn Shops to not sell or take in or any knife with a blade exceeding four (4) inches in length.
<a href="#">Mountain Brook, AL</a>	13-53.	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	or other knife having a blade of three (3) inches or more in length
<a href="#">Muscle Shoals, AL</a>	70-82.		or other knife or instrument of like kind or description,
<a href="#">Opp, AL</a>	10-14	<b>Y Except</b>	No Knife of any kind while on school property within the police jurisdiction of the city
<a href="#">Pell City, AL</a>	13-25	<b>NO</b>	It shall be unlawful for any person to carry off of his premises any <b>knife</b> or instrument of like kind
<a href="#">Saraland, AL</a>	15-2.	<b>Y 3"</b>	with a blade more than three (3) inches in length
<a href="#">Tuscaloosa, AL</a>	19-5	<b>Y &lt;4"</b>	with the exception of pocket <b>knives</b> ... with a blade of less than four (4) inches
<a href="#">Tuscumbia, AL</a>	11-7.	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	any knife with a blade three (3) inches or more in length,
<a href="#">Vestavia Hills, AL</a>	11-7.	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	knife having a blade of three (3) inches or more in length,

<a href="#">Alaska</a>	11.61.210	<b>Y None</b>	Law states "Ordinary Pocket Knife". No Defined Knife Length in AK Law.
<a href="#">Anchorage, AK</a>	8.25.020 & 8.25.060		other than an ordinary folded pocket knife (blade stored in handle and requires a physical pull to open knife.
<a href="#">Fairbanks, AK</a>	46-291. & 46-294. & 46-79.	<b>Y 3.5"</b>	knife other than an ordinary pocketknife having a blade not more than 3 1/2 inches in length. Not on School Property.
<a href="#">Juneau, AK</a>	42.20.085	<b>Y 3"</b>	any knife equipped with a blade over three inches in length.

<b>Am. Samoa</b>	46.4201 thru 46.4203	<b>Y 4"</b>	For purposes of this chapter, "knife" does not include an ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than 4" in length.
<b>Arizona</b>	13-3120.	<b>Y</b>	State Preempted all local laws. Knives are not allowed in schools. There is no blade length laws.
<b>Arkansas</b>	5-73-121.	<b>Y None</b>	Knife means any bladed hand instrument capable of inflicting serious physical injury or death
Ft. Smith, AR	Appendix A Personnel	<b>Y &lt;3.5"</b>	City Employees on the job. No bladed (a blade of three and one-half (3 1/2) inches or longer) hand instrument
Eureka Springs, AR	7.32.01	<b>Y 3.5"</b>	blade of which is over three (3) inches in length,
Palmer, AK	9.73.010 & 9.73.020	<b>Y ?</b>	"There are places off limits where sheathed knives can not be carried. Check Laws.
Texarkana, AR	15-12.		while aboard public transit system vehicles/at public transit facilities and other transit locations: Carry A Knife.
<b>California</b>	Penal Code 20310, 20410, 20610, 20910, 21110	<b>Y No Limit</b>	Jim March in his CA knife Law paper states there is no blade length for Pocket knives. No Knife with a blade Longer Than 2 ½ inches on the grounds of any Private/Public College or University (626.10)
Las Angles Co. CA	13.62.010 13.62.020	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	shall include any knife having a blade of three inches or more in length; unlawful for any person to carry on his person, in plain view, any knife
Alameda Co. CA	9.12.050	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	Any knife having a blade three inches or more in length
Belmont, CA	15-22	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	any <b>knife</b> with a blade three (3) inches or more in length,
Ceres, CA	9.12.010	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	Any knife having a blade three inches (3") or more in length,
Chino, CA	9.84.010	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	Any <b>knife</b> with a blade three inches or more in length,
Chino Hills, CA	12.40.170 & 12,40,240	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	in city parks, any knife having a blade of three inches or more in length
Citrus Heights, CA	33-73	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	any <b>knife</b> having a blade measuring from the handle of three (3) inches or more in length, any <b>knife</b> that will not shut,
Colton, CA	12-7	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	any <b>knife</b> with a blade three inches or more in length,
Colusa, CA	12-7	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	any <b>knife</b> with a blade three inches or more in length,
Commerce, CA	9.16.051	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	shall include any <b>knife</b> , dirk or dagger having a blade of three inches or more in length;
Contra Costa, Co. CA	9.16.050	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	shall include any <b>knife</b> , dirk or dagger having a blade of three inches or more in length;
Corte Madera, CA	9.16.051	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	shall include any <b>knife</b> , dirk or dagger having a blade of three inches or more in length;
Costa Mesa, CA	9.16.050	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	the terms " <b>knives</b> and daggers" shall include any <b>knife</b> , dirk or dagger having a blade of three inches or more in length;
E. Palo Alto, CA	9.24.010	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	any knife with a blade three inches or more in length
Fontana, CA	16-131	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	Any <b>knife</b> with a blade three inches or more in length;
Glendale, CA	9.24.050	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	having a blade three (3) inches or more in length,
Lake Forest, CA	13.04.010	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	having a blade of three inches or more in length in any Park or Recreation Facility
Marin Co. CA	6.52.010	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	Conceals any knife with a blade three inches or more in length on them on in a vehicle.
Maywood, CA	4-4.01	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	any <b>knife</b> with a blade three (3") inches or more in length
Mendota, CA	9.24.020	<b>Y 2"</b>	possess a <b>knife</b> with a blade longer than 2" while being present in any establishment serving alcoholic beverages.
Mission Viejo, CA	13.04	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	No person shall carry on his person, in plain view, any <b>knife</b>
Modesto, CA	4-2.03.1	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	Dangerous Weapon ... Any knife having a blade three inches or more in length
Morro Bay, CA	9.04.030		No Possession or Carrying of Knife during declared Emergency.
Mountain View, CA	21.9	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	any knife with a blade three (3) inches or more in length,
Newark, CA	12.16.240		<b>In Parks knife</b> other than pocket <b>knife</b> , capable of cutting, defacing or mutilating trees or shrubs

Oakland, CA.	9.36.010	Y <3"	Any knife having a blade three inches or more in length,
Orange, CA	5.72.075		During Special Pageant no carry of any knife
Pasadena, CA	9.84.020	Y <5"	in a concealed manner, any knife or other similar instrument with a blade or sharp edge 5 inches or longer
Patterson, CA	9.36.010	Y <3"	Any knife having a blade three or more inches in length
Perris, CA	7.22.040		In Parks.Recreation Facilities: No person shall carry in plain view, any knife with a blade in excess of three inches
Pismo Beach, CA	9.16.030	Y <3"	No person shall wear or carry in plain view any knife upon any public street or place or place open to the public.
Pittsburg, CA	9.92.040	Y <3"	unlawful for any person to carry concealed upon his person any knife having a blade three (3) inches or more
Plumas Co, CA	5-7.01		Carry on Fairgrounds any knife with a blade over three and one-half (3½") inches in length
Redding, CA	10.56.010	Y <3"	"dangerous or deadly weapon" means any knife with a blade three inches or more in length
Richmond, CA	11.12.010	Y <3"	Any knife having a blade three inches or more in length
Sacramento Co. CA	9.42.020	No	"dangerous weapon" includes any instrument or weapon of the kind commonly known as a ...knife
Salinas, CA	21-44 & 21-56.	Y <3"	The term "dangerous or deadly weapon" includes, or knife other than a pocket knife,
San Anselmo, CA	4-5.03	Y <3"	any knife with a blade three (3") inches or more in length
San Juan Capa, CA	5-21.01.	Y <3"	blade of three (3) inches or more in length
San Mateo Co. CA	3.16.010	Y <3"	any knife with a blade three inches (3") or more in length,
Sierra Madre, CA	9.28.020	Y <3"	any knife with a blade three inches or more in length
Temecula, CA	12.04.010 & 12.04.110	Y <3"	having a blade of three inches or more in length
Windsor, CA	15-32		<b>Knife</b> with a blade length in excess of four inches, not allowed in City Hall
West Covina, CA	15-32		<b>Knife</b> with a blade length in excess of four inches, not allowed in City Hall
Westlake Vill., CA	4.3.005.	Y <3"	carry in plain view on his or her person any knife having a blade of three or more inches

<b>Colorado</b>	18-12-101 thru 18-12-111	Y 3.5"	prosecution must prove that defendant intended to use this short-bladed knife as a weapon.
Aurora, CO	94-141.	Y 3.5"	<i>Knife</i> means any dagger, dirk, knife, or stiletto with a blade over 3 1/2 inches in length,
Boulder CO.	5/8/2009	Y ?	No person shall have a knife or firearm concealed on or about such person's body
Commerce City, CO	14-111.	Y 3.5"	with a blade over three and one-half (3 1/2) inches in length
Denver CO.	38-117 & 38-119.	Y 3.5"	having a blade greater than three and one-half (3 1/2) inches in length,
Englewood, CO	7-6C-0: thru 7-6C5	Y 3.5"	<i>Knife</i> means any dagger, dirk, knife, or stiletto with a blade over 3 1/2 inches in length,
Lafayette, CO	75-46. thru 75-52	Y 3.5"	<i>Knife</i> means any dagger, dirk, knife, or stiletto with a blade over 3 1/2 inches in length,
Longmont, CO	10.02.010 & 10.28.020	Y 3.5"	knife or stiletto with a blade more than three and one-half inches in length
Manitou Springs, CO	9.52.010 & 9.52.020 & 9.52.030	Y 3.5"	with a blade over three and one-half inches in length
New Castle, CO	9.64.010 & 9.64.050	Y 3.5"	with a blade over three and one-half inches in length,
Sheridan, CO	50-288. thru 50-294	Y 3.5"	<i>Knife</i> means any dagger, dirk, knife, or stiletto with a blade over 3 1/2 inches in length,
Steamboat Sps. CO	10-169.	Y 3.5"	any knife having a blade of more than 3 1/2 inches in length
Thornton, CO	38-236 thru 38-239 & 42-156.	Y 3.5"	as measured from the hilt, over three and one-half inches in length,
Wheat Ridge, CO	16-81. thru 16-86	Y 3.5"	with a blade over three and one-half (3 1/2) inches in length,
Woodland Park, CO	9.70.010 thru 9.70.060	Y 3.5"	knives having blades less than three and one-half inches shall not be considered dangerous and deadly weapons.

<b>Connecticut</b>	943-53-206	Y <4"	Legal to carry a knife longer than 4 Inches if valid hunting, fishing or trapping license. salt water fisherman carrying such knife for lawful hunting, fishing or trapping activities,
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Cheshire, CT	20-Nov	?	No Knives in Parks or Recreation Facilities
Bristol, CT	16-2.		within the public parks of the city or any knife the edged portion of the blade of which is four inches or over in length

<b>Delaware</b>	11-2-222	<b>Y 3"</b>	ordinary pocketknife carried in a closed position
Dover, DE	70-2. 74-24.	<b>Y 3"</b>	"weapon" shall mean any knife, whether it is called by any name set forth above or by any other name. park, recreation center, playground, ball field, swimming beach, walk, support facility recreational area in the city
New Castle, Co. DE	24.01.014.	<b>Y 3"</b>	In Parks & Rec Areas can't carry a knife upon his or her person having a blade three (3) inches or longer
Newark, DE	2-71.	<b>Y 3"</b>	In Parks & Rec Areas can't carry a knife upon his or her person having a blade three (3) inches or longer

<b>DC</b>	22-4514 & 10-503.26.	<b>Y 3"</b>	Knife with a blade over 3 inches
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<b>Florida</b>	XLVI-790-06 & 18 & 115 & 225	<b>Y Unk</b>	A pocket knife definition when concealed is up to the Jury. Much Case Law that goes in different directions.
Alachua Co. FL	113.01. & 123.40.	<b>Y 3"</b>	the blade does not exceed a three-inch length. / No Knife of any length in court houses /
Altamonte Sps., FL	12-37.		Whoever shall carry concealed arms of any kind except a common pocket knife,
Belle Glade, FL	18-68.		or by carrying any arms, such as pistols, knives except small pen or pocket knives,
Boca Raton, FL	13-100. thru 13-102		unlawful to carry, possess or display any weapon while participating in any special event/demonstration.
Bradenton Beach, FL	6-33.		possess any folding knife with a blade that exceeds 2 1/2 inches in length.
Casselberry, FL	62-1903.		City Employees can't possess a knife of any kind even in their Auto on City Property.
Citrus Co. FL	58-78.		No Weapons in Court House including knives commonly referred to as pocket knives
Coconut Creek, FL	17-27. & 21-12.2.		carry any knife while participating in a parade/picket line/group demonstration/block party.. Emp. on City Property
Coral Gables, FL	62-186.		at any special event, parade or public assembly to carry or possess any weapon, Knife
Crestview, FL	54-7.	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	knife (other than a small pocket knife with its blades under three inches in length)
Delray Beach, FL	132.02.		by carrying any arms, such as pistols, knives (except pocket knives),
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	26-202.1.		Parade and public assembly prohibitions (no knives.)
Ft. Pierce. FL	11-15.	<b>Y &lt;4"</b>	an ordinary pocket knife containing a blade not longer than four (4) inches.
Gainesville, FL	17-5.	<b>Y 3"</b>	In City owned buildings, pocket knife, provided the blade of the pocket knife does not exceed a three-inch length.
Gulfport, FL	14-55.		It shall be unlawful to carry or have concealed about one's person or other weapon except a common pocket knife
Miami Beach, FL	106-375.		Any participant in a demonstration, rally, picket line or parade within the city who carries a knife
Oakland, FL	50-53.		It shall be unlawful for any person other than an authorized office to carry a knife
Oakland Park, FL	8-16.		are prohibited from carrying secretly about their person any clasp knife, more than an ordinary pocketknife.
Palm Beach Co. FL	1-1.		<i>Weapon</i> shall mean a knife, or any other like instrument utilized to coerce, intimidate or injure an individual.
Port Orange, FL	58-51.		At Special Events knife, hatchet or any other instrument customarily used or intended for use as a dangerous weapon.
Sarasota, FL	21-143.		No person shall carry or have concealed about his person any weapon, except a common pocket knife.
South Daytona, FL	10-3.		No person shall carry or have concealed about his person any weapon, except a common pocket knife.
South Miami, FL	15-15. & 15-18.		are prohibited from carrying secretly about their person any clasp knife, more than an ordinary pocketknife.
Starke, FL	66-34.		are prohibited from carrying secretly about their person any clasp knife, more than an ordinary pocketknife.

<b>Georgia</b>	16-11-126 & 16-11-127.1,	<b>Y &gt;5"</b>	requires a carry permit to carry in public, openly or concealed, knives with blades over five inches.
Atlanta, GA	106-306	<b>Y 3"</b>	School or school events are much more strict (no dirks, bowies, switchblades, or knives with blades over 2").

	106-307 138-236. 106-305		Any knife of any kind, the blade of which when open projects from the handle more than three inches It shall be unlawful for any person at any parade or public assembly to carry or possess any weapon Any <i>knife</i> which has any obstruction or other device of any kind which holds the blade partly open,
Auburn, GA	9.20.070	Y 3"	when open projects from the handle more than three inches.
Avondale Est., GA	12-12.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
Clarkston, GA	12-31.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
College Park, GA	12-25.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
Colquitt, GA	46-281.	Y <3"	knife having a blade of three or more inches;
Columbus, GA	14-65.	Y 4"	or any knife with a blade exceeding four inches in length;
Covington, GA	9.12.010	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which when open projects from the handle more than three inches
Decatur, GA	70-16.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
DeKalb Co. GA	16-66.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
Doraville, GA	11-9. & 11-17. & 17-40.		No knife outside the home / to draw from a place of concealment about his person any knife. / At special Events
Dublin, GA	14-22.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
East Point, GA	13-1027.		On City Property, A knife designed for offense and defense,
Eatonton, GA	46-176. & 58-68.		City Emp can not carry on job Any knife of any kind, of which when open projects from the handle more than 3"
Elberton, GA	28-16.		A person commits the crime of carrying a concealed weapon when he knife designed for offense and defense,
Fitzgerald, GA	18-13.		A person commits the crime of carrying a concealed weapon when he knife designed for offense and defense,
Forest Park, GA	11-1-22.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
Forsyth Co. GA	54-1.		No knives in parks
Griffin, GA	78-68.		No parade participant or spectator shall carry knives in a public assembly, parade or gathering.
Hapeville, GA	26-2-7.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
Henry Co. GA	3-4-206.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
Hinesville, GA	12-12.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
Kennesaw, GA	66-2.		To have in City Parks a knife that could be used as a weapon.
Kingsland, GA	15-51.		A person commits the crime of carrying a concealed weapon when he knife designed for offense and defense,
Lilburn, GA	42-3.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
Macon, GA	13-26.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three (3) inches
Milledgeville, GA	62-8. & 43.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which when open projects from the handle more than three inches.
Morrow, GA	11-1-7.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which, when open, projects from the handle more than three inches.
Moultrie, GA	74-28.		It shall be unlawful to draw from a place of concealment about his person any pistol, dirk, or knife.
Newman, GA	14-64.		It shall be unlawful to draw from a place of concealment about his person any pistol, dirk, or knife.
Palmetto, GA	14-73.	Y 4"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which when open projects from the handle more than four (4) inches.
Riverdale, GA	50-9.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind the blade of which when open projects from the handle more than three inches.
Rome, GA	13-16.		Weapons not allowed in municipal courtroom and adjacent facilities.
Statesboro, GA	70-61.	Y 3"	At Parades no knives of any kind or any type having a blade in excess of three inches in length
Sumter Co. GA	.46-157. & 6-151.		knife in court house / premises where beer and wine are served
Tifton, GA	46-86.	Y 4"	to sell or barter any knife which has a blade which exceeds four inches in length,
Union City, GA	10-24.	Y 3"	Any knife of any kind, the blade of which when open projects from the handle more than three (3) inches

Washington, GA	46-41.		Any obstruction or other device that holds the blade partly open, the blade when open projects from the handle >2"
<b>Guam</b>	Unk		
<b>Hawaii</b>	134-12.5 & 134-51 thru 134-53	<b>Y None</b>	"Other deadly or dangerous weapon" is limited to instruments whose sole design and purpose is to inflict bodily injury or death. 55 H. 531, 523 P.2d 299. / A "diver's knife" is neither a "dangerous weapon" nor a "dagger". "Deadly and dangerous weapon" is one designed primarily as a weapon or diverted from normal use and prepared for combat. 56 H. 374, 537 P.2d 14. There is no Length limit found in HI Law.
<b>Idaho</b>	18-3301. & 18-3302	<b>Y</b>	Except in the person's place of abode or fixed place of business, a person shall not carry a concealed weapon In Courthouses, Jails, Juvenile Detention Facilities & Schools no blade length less than 2 ½ inches is not a deadly or dangerous weapon.
Boise	6/4/2002		It shall be unlawful for any person to carry concealed upon or about his person any knife
<b>Illinois</b>	720 ILCS 5/24-1 & 720 ILCS 5/33A-1	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	A Category I weapon knife with a blade of at least 3 inches in length
Auburn, IL	18-47.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Beach Park, IL	9.08.040	<b>No</b>	concealed about his person any other dangerous or deadly weapon
Bourbonnais, IL	22-13.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Braidwood, IL	58-222.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Buffalo Grove, IL	9.28.010	<b>?</b>	Carries or possesses with intent to use unlawfully against another, a dangerous knife
Burbank, IL	9-21.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Calumet City, IL	62-251.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Carol Stream, IL	14-3-15	<b>Y &lt;3"</b>	Any knife having a fixed or locking blade which is three or more inches in length;
Carpentersville, IL	13-29		Any Knife on any School Property when Under 21 years of age
Centralia, IL	13-29		Any Knife on any School Property when Under 21 years of age
Chicago	8-24-020	<b>Y &lt;2.5"</b>	any knife with blade greater than two and a half inches,
Chicago Hts. IL	30-101. & 30-62.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Cicero, IL	62-191. & 62-6.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Cook Co. IL	46-62.	<b>?</b>	Contraband. .... Knife
Crete, IL	13-29		Any Knife on any School Property when Under 21 years of age
DeKalb Co, IL	30-123.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Galesburg, IL	3-101.	<b>No</b>	knife or other deadly weapon within any licensed premises.
Loves Park, IL	54-240.	<b>Y &lt;1.5"</b>	Any person who shall within the city possess carry any knife, the blade of which is longer than 1 1/2 " in length,
McCook, IL	54-162. & 6-4.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Peoria Co. IL	7.3-31.	<b>No</b>	No Knife in Court House.
Peoria, IL	20-188.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Pontiac, IL	16-30.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Roselle, IL	13-9.	<b>?</b>	No person shall carry concealed about his person a knife or other dangerous or deadly weapons
Savoy, IL	12.28.190	<b>?</b>	shall possess, have, or carry any... Hunting Knife

Stickney, IL	54-10.	Y 3"	bring, carry, have in his vehicle any knife having a blade longer than 3" in any park,
Wheeling, IL	8.18.010	Y <3"	any type of knife, the blade of which is three inches in length or longer.
<b>Indiana</b>	35-47-5-2.	Y None	Only Switchblades and gravity knives are mentioned in Indiana Law as being illegal.
Merrillville, IN	10-25. & 10-27.	Y 2"	pocket knife, instrument apparently capable of producing bodily harm cutting/stabbing, exceeding in length by 2"
<b>Iowa</b>	16-702.7. & 16-724.1. & 16-724.4.	Y 5"	702.7 A "dangerous weapon" is any instrument or device designed primarily for use in inflicting death or injury upon a human being. (Shorter knives designed for fighting are considered Weapons. No. 4-086 / 03-1638)
Cedar Rapids, IA	63.07	Y <3"	or knife having a blade of three inches or longer in length.
Council Bluffs, IA	8.75.010	Y <3"	or any knife having a blade of three inches or longer
Des Moines, IA	70-77.	?	No person shall carry whether concealed or not, any knife on primary or secondary school property within the city
<b>Kansas</b>	21-4201	Y 4"	an ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four inches in length shall not be construed to be a dangerous knife, or a dangerous or deadly weapon or instrument;
Atchison	Sec. 22-5.		unlawful to carry any firearms, dangerous or deadly weapon, concealed or otherwise, in any public park of the city.
Derby	9.32.130		unlawful to possess, on owned parks by the city, any dangerous knife or any other dangerous weapon of like character,
Sedgwick Co. KS	4-36. & 4-81.	Y 4"	An ordinary pocketknife with no blade more than 4" length shall not be construed to be a dangerous knife
Wichita, KS	5.88.010	Y 4"	except that an ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four inches
Overland Park, KS	11.60.010	Y 4"	an ordinary pocket <b>knife</b> with no blade more than four inches in length
<b>Kentucky</b>	500.08	Y None	No Length in KY Law (4) "Deadly weapon" means any of the following: (c) Any knife other than an ordinary pocket knife or hunting knife. Stout v Commonwealth 33 S.W.3d 531 (2000) held that a 3" locking folder is deadly weapon.
Owensboro, KY	19-2.	No	<i>Park</i> means all parks, owned or used by the city playgrounds, ball fields, swimming pools, tennis courts etc
<b>Louisiana</b>	RS 14:95	Y ?	A. Illegal carrying of weapons is: (1) The intentional concealment of any firearm, or other used or intended for probable use as a dangerous weapon, on one's person; No Carry in Schools. "School" means any elementary, secondary, high school, or vo-tech school. School means School Bus also. Rescue Knives Illegal RS 14:95 (J) a "rescue knife" is a folding knife, which has a blade made to remove seatbelts. Only Police Officers can buy and own them.
Baton Rouge/E Baton Rouge Parish, LA	13.95	Y	to have in his possession a firearm, or other instrumentality customarily used or intended for probable use as a dangerous weapon, in any premises where alcoholic beverages are sold and/or consumed on the premises
Bossier City, LA	38-277.	?	rescue knives by full-time LEO only. rescue knife" is a folding knife, readily and easily opened with one hand
Lake Charles, LA	13-28. & 13-28.1	Y 4"	or any knife with a blade in excess of four inches, in an establishment where alcoholic beverages are sold.
	13-28.2.	Y 2"	or any instrument with a blade in excess of two inches,
New Orleans, LA	54-342.	?	Weapons any knife, Possessing or to have in any vehicle while participating or attending a demonstration
	54-410.	No	In those publicly owned, operated, or leased buildings or places where the administrators Introduce any weapon
	106-296.	No	LA Nature and Science Center No Knives
Shreveport, LA			
St. Landry Parish. LA	2-18.	No	"Dangerous weapon" includes any firearm, knife, or other bladed instrument, in court rooms

Sulphur, LA	95	?	rescue knives by full-time LEO only. rescue knife" is a folding knife, readily and easily opened with one hand
West Monroe, LA	Nov-11	Y 3"	Display a pocket knife with a blade more than three (3) inches long,

<b>Maine</b>	25-252-2001 & 17A-43-1055	Y None	No person may display in a threatening manner, or wear under his clothes or conceal about his person, any firearm, slung shot, knuckles, bowie knife, dirk, stiletto or other dangerous or deadly weapons usually employed in the attack on or defense of a person. No dangerous weapons in Courts. No Max Blade Length in laws.
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<b>Maryland</b>	4-101 & 4-105	Y None	(ii) "Weapon" does not include: 2. a penknife without a switchblade. (Intent written into the law puts it back on the person carrying the knife. You must be carrying it without any intent to do harm. No Defined Length Limit in Laws.
Cambridge, MD	12-19.	Y 3"	knife with a blade longer than three inches
Howard Co. MD	19.205.	?	knife, or any other dangerous weapon on park property;
Laurel, MD	9-13.	?	wear or carry or other dangerous or deadly weapon of any kind whatsoever, except penknives,

<b>Massachusetts</b>	269-10 thru 269-12 & 71-37H	Y 1.5"	See The law sections listed. It is very wordy. (Part IV Title I 269-10 No Limit for Class A License Holders)
Boston, MA	16-45.1	Y 2.5"	having any type of blade in excess of two and one-half (2½ ) inches,
Cambridge, MA	9.16.110	Y ?	give or loan to any person under eighteen (18) years of age any ...lock back knife
Revere, MA	9.20.020	Y 2.5"	knife having any type of blade in excess of two and one-half inches
Salem, MA	24-5.	Y 2.5"	any knife having any type of blade in excess of 2 1/2 inches, except when actually engaged in hunting,
Somerville, MA	9-96.	Y 2.5"	any knife having any type of blade in excess of 2 1/2 inches, except when actually engaged in hunting,

<b>Michigan**</b>	Act 328 of 1931 750-226 thru 750-226a	Y 3"	It's illegal to carry anything above a 3" statutory limit with intent to use unlawfully. One armed people can carry a switchblade knife.
Ann Arbor, MI	0.560416667	Y 3"	Knife having a blade longer than 4". Knife with a mechanism to lock the blade opened, longer than 3".
Auburn Hills, MI	46-170	Y 3"	or other knife with a blade that exceeds three inches
Birmingham, MI	74-214.	Y 3"	carry or use in any manner any knife with a blade in excess of three inches
Center Line, MI	46-266.	No	carry or use in any manner any knife,
Dearborn, MI	14-261	Y 3"	or carry or use in any manner any knife having a blade over three inches
Dearborn Height, MI	20-333.	Y 3"	any knife with a blade in excess of three (3) inches,
Detroit, MI	38-10-39. thru 38-10-44.	Y 3"	be in possession of a knife with a blade more than three (3) inches in length
DeWitt, MI	46-43.	Y 3"	A person who carries a knife having a blade of three inches or more
East Lansing, MI	26-62. & 26-194.	Y 3 or 4"	A knife, either folding or non-folding, in excess of 4" / 3" in City Parks Recreation Facilities.
Fenton, MI	20-94	Y 3"	unlawful for any person to be in possession of a knife with a blade more than three inches in length
Ferndale, MI	12-85. & 12-136.	Y 3"	possess a knife, whose blade is three inches or more in length
Fowlerville, MI	54-167	Y 3"	carry or use in any manner any knife with a blade in excess of three inches
Fraser, MI	16-143.	?	nonfolding stabbing instrument of any length;
Grosse Pt. Shores, MI	20-411. & 20-412.	Y 3"	sharp-edged or sharp-pointed instrument or weapon in excess of three inches in length.
Grosse Pt. Woods MI	54-291 & 54-244 & 54-216.	Y 3"	knife with a blade in excess of three inches in length
Hastings, MI	54-83.	Y 3"	knife having a blade over three inches in length.
Highland Park, MI	692.07 & 1062.06	Y 3"	possess a knife with a blade more than 3" in length / No in City Park, Play ground, School or School Rec area.

Holland, MI	20-12.	Y 3"	knife having a blade over three (3) inches in length,
Jackson, MI	18-185.	?	dangerous weapon except hunting knives adapted and carried as such.
Kalamazoo, MI	22-55.	?	any knife in Schools
Lake Odessa, MI	18-328.	Y 3"	any knife with a blade in excess of three inches,
Lansing, MI	696.04. & 696.05	Y 3"	any knife having a blade over 3" / student, guest or other person shall not have A knife on any College Campus
Lathrup, MI	46-76.	Y 3"	a knife, whose blade is three inches or more in length,
Livonia, MI	9.94.020 & 9.94.060 & 9.94.070	Y 3"	knife with a blade over three (3) inches in length,
Novi, MI	22-128. & 22-129.	Y 3.5"	blade is by length greater than three and one-half (3 1/2) inches.
Oak Park, MI	50-294.	Y 3"	knife having a blade over three inches in length
Owosso, MI	19-128.	Y 3"	blades which exceed three (3) inches in length
Plymouth, MI	54-201.	Y 3"	knife having a blade over three inches in length,
Pontiac, MI	86-266.	Y 3"	knife with a blade that exceeds three inches
Richmond, MI	54-223.	Y 3"	knife with a blade in excess of three inches,
Romeo, MI	26-279.	?	Knife or any form of weapon potentially dangerous to human safety on School, Grounds, Building, Activity
Saline, MI	58-186.	Y 3"	knife having a blade over three inches in length,
St. Clair Co. MI	38-229.	?	any knife, dagger, dirk, razor, stiletto or any other sharp edged or pointed instrument or weapon,
Taylor, MI	19-226.	?	All weapons, knives, other sharp edged or pointed instruments carried are hereby declared forfeited to the city
Warren, MI	22-168.	Y 3"	knife having a blade over three (3) inches in length
Westland, MI	62-283.	Y 3"	Any knife with a blade which exceeds three inches in length;
Woodhaven, MI	66-447 & 66-452 & 66-453	Y 3"	knife with a blade in excess of three inches,
Wyandotte, MI	25-98.	Y 3"	knife with a blade more than three (3) inches in length
Wyoming, MI	50-266.	Y 3"	A knife shall be defined as an instrument having a handle and at least one sharp edged blade over 3" long.
Ypsilanti, MI	74-126 & 74-54	Y 3"	knife having a blade three inches in length or longer, / Give good reason to have Knife.
			<b>** Michigan will allow persons who are missing an arm to own and use switchblade knives. Check with your</b>
			<b>Chief of Police if you are missing an arm.</b>

<b>Minnesota</b>	609.66	Y None	possesses any other dangerous article or substance for the purpose of being used unlawfully as a weapon against another.
Blaine, MN	50-111 & 50-114		Deadly weapons concealed or in public park. Deadly weapons means the following: Daggers, dirks and knives.
Eagan, MN	10.10.		Weapon: any device designed as weapon capable of producing death/bodily harm. Any double-edged knife
Minneapolis, MN	393.10.	Y 4"	"Weapon" does not include, except when used as a weapon, a folding knife with a blade of 4" or less in length,
	393.60.		any knife or weapon in any school building/grounds school bus, school parking area or sidewalks adjacent thereto

<b>Mississippi</b>	97-37-1 / 37-5 / 37-7 & 97-37-17 / 37-19	Y None	bowie knife, dirk knife, butcher knife, switchblade knife are illegal but pocket knives are not mentioned. No Length Limit in MS Law.
Jackson, MS	86-12	?	deadly weapons as referred to in state law can be brought into a meeting of the council, or a political rally, parade or other official political meeting in or on any building or property owned, leased or used by the city
Tupelo, MS	19-4.	Y 3.5"	knives, the cutting blade of which is longer than three and one-half (3.5) inches,
Vicksburg, MS	17-163.	Y 4"	any other knife with a blade over four (4) inches long and not used as a hand tool

Missouri	571.010 thru 571.020	Y 4"	"knife" does not include any ordinary pocketknife with no blade more than four inches in length;
Ballwin, MO	17-54.	Y 2.5"	Conceal or carry about the person having a blade in excess of 2 1/2 inches in length;
Ava, MO	62-178.	Y ?	Carries concealed on or about his person a knife, firearm, blackjack or any other weapon capable of lethal use;
Blackjack, MO	11-55.	Y ?	Carries concealed on or about his person a knife, firearm, blackjack or any other weapon capable of lethal use;
Butler, MO	14-76.	Y ?	Carries concealed on or about his person a knife, firearm, blackjack or any other weapon capable of lethal use;
Cameron, MO	8-30.	Y 4"	The word "knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four (4) inches in length.
Cape Girardeau, MO	17-96.	Y 4"	The word "knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four (4) inches in length.
Carthage, MO	13-145.		Carries concealed upon or about his person a knife or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use.
Clinton, MO	17-121.	Y 4"	The word "knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four (4) inches in length.
Creve Coeur, MO	18-172.		Carries concealed upon or about his person a knife or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use.
Des Peres, MO	16-186.	Y 4"	The word "knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four (4) inches in length.
Grandview, MO	17-41		Carries concealed upon or about his person a knife or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use.
Hillsboro, MO	14-14. & 14-14.2.	Y 4"	The word "knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four (4) inches in length.
Independence, MO	12.03.001. & 12.03.002. & 12.03.008.	Y 4"	"knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four inches in length.
Jackson, MO	45-500.	Y 4"	"knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four inches in length.
Joplin, MO	82-191.		Carries concealed upon or about his person a knife or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use.
Kansas City, MO	50-261		Carries concealed upon or about his person a knife or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use.
Ladue, MO	18-80. & 18.81.	Y 4"	"knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four inches in length.
Lamar, MO	15-3.		Carries concealed upon or about his person a knife or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use.
Lee's Summit, MO	17-161.	Y 4"	"knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four inches in length.
Liberty, MO	22-8.	Y <3.5"	Carry a knife (other than pocket knife with 3.5" Blade Max in/on Taxi, Cab or other public vehicle
	22-21.	Y 4"	"knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four inches in length.
Licking, MO	58-331. & 58-333.	Y 4"	"knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four inches in length.
Maplewood, MO	22-103.	Y 2.5"	having a blade in excess of two and one-half (2 1/2) inches in length
Olivette, MO	170.010.	Y 4"	"knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four inches in length.
Raytown, MO	13-67.	Y 4"	"knife" does not include any ordinary pocket knife with no blade more than four inches in length.
Springfield, MO	78-257.	Y 4"	Dangerous and incapacitating instruments shall include knives with blades in excess of four (4) inches
Webster Groves, MO	70.225.		Carries concealed a knife or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use;
West Plains, MO	58-74.		Carries concealed a knife or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use;

[Go to Part 2](#)

#### Arkansas Toothpick

Is essentially a heavy dagger with a pointed, straight 12-20 inch blade. The "toothpick" is balanced and weighted for throwing and can also be used for thrusting .  
and slashing

### **Bowie Knife**

The historical Bowie knife was not a single design, but was a series of knives improved several times by Jim Bowie over the years. The version most commonly known as the historical Bowie knife was rather large and of massive construction, as knives go, usually having a blade of at least 6" (15cm) in length, some reaching 12 inches (30cm) or more, with a relatively broad blade that was an inch and a half to two inches wide (4 to 5 cm) and made of steel usually between 3/16" and 1/4" thick (from 4.8 to 6.4 millimeters). The back of the blade often had a strip of soft metal (normally brass or copper) inlaid intended to catch an opponent's blade, a concept borrowed from the medieval Scottish dirk, and also often had an upper guard that bent forward at an angle, also intended to catch an opponent's blade. The back edge of the curved clip point, also called the "false edge," was often sharpened in order to allow someone trained in European techniques of saber fencing to execute the maneuver called the "back cut" or "back slash." A brass quillon was attached to protect the hand, usually cast in a mold. It is likely that the blade shape was derived from the Spanish Navajo clasp knives carried in Spain and the Spanish colonies in the Americas.

### **Butterfly Knife / Balisong**

The Balisong, called a Butterfly knife in the West, and sometimes known as a Batangas knife, is a form of folding pocket knife with two handles that counter-rotate around the tang such that, when closed, the blade is concealed within grooves in the handles. In the hands of a trained user, the knife blade can be brought forth quickly using one hand. Manipulations (flipping) are performed for art or amusement and require great skill. Translated from Tagalog, the word "Balisong" means "Broken Horn" (literally, "baling sungay") as the original Balisongs were made from carved animal horns and recycled knife blades. The name butterfly knife is a term coined in the United States much like "drumbox" for the kahon.

### **Claspknife**

A claspknife is a folding knife, strictly speaking one equipped with some means of holding the blade in the open position when in use, so that it cannot close accidentally on the user's fingers. The term tends to refer to a medium-sized to large knife, and implies a locking mechanism such as a twisting ring or catch that must be released in a distinct action before the knife can be folded, as opposed to the more usual sliding spring which requires only that a sufficient force be applied to the back of the knife in order for it to fold into the handle, and for which the term penknife is normally used. The term lock-knife or lockback knife also exists to make this distinction.

### **Dirk**

Dirk is a Scots word for a long dagger; sometimes a cut-down sword blade mounted on a dagger hilt, rather than a knife blade. Dirks were made with either double-edged or single-edged blades, and there was no standard blade configuration. Reference books covering naval dirks invariably show the popularity of both blade types.

### **Gravity Knife**

A gravity knife is a knife which can be opened solely by the forces of gravity or centripetal force. One method of opening is where the blade exits out the front of the handle point-first and locks into place. Another form is like a switchblade, but instead of a button or spring, the knife is "flipped" out of the handle, and locked into place. To retract the blade back into the handle, a release lever, or linerlock is pressed. Should the knife be equipped with a spring to open the blade, it is then referred to as an Out-The-Front Automatic knife or OTF for short, or a switchblade if it exits out of the side. Knives commonly mistaken for gravity knives include OTF automatic knives, the switchblade and the butterfly knife (or balisong), and occasionally common folding knives (see penny knife).

### **Gimlet Knife**

A gimlet is a weapon that looks like an ice pick and opens like a switchblade knife.

### **Penknife**

**A penknife or pen knife is a small folding pocket knife, originally used for cutting a quill to make a pen nib. It may have single or multiple blades and additional tools incorporated into the design. Over the last hundred years there has been a proliferation of multi-function knives with multifarious and often ingenious gadgets including awls, reamers, scissors, nail files, corkscrews, tweezers, toothpicks and so on, and the tradition continues with the incorporation of modern devices such as ballpoint pens, LED torches and USB flash drives. The most famous example of a multi-function knife is the Swiss Army knife, some versions of which number dozens of functions and are really more of a folding multi-tool, incorporating a blade or two, than a penknife with extras.**

### **Jackknife**

**A large clasp knife. To fold or double. A large knife with one or more folding blades.**

### **Stiletto**

- a. A small dagger with a slender, tapering blade.**
- b. Something shaped like such a dagger.**

### **Switchblade**

**There are two basic types of switchblade, side-opening and out-the-front (OTF). A side-opening knife's blade pivots out of the side of the handle (in the same manner as an ordinary folding knife). An out-the-front knife's blade slides directly forward, out of the tip of the handle. There are two types of OTF (out the front) knives: double action and single action.**

**Double action OTFs allow the user to extend or retract the blade with the press of a sliding button. Spring tension in these knives is actually provided by the movement of the button, which makes them much safer to carry since they will not open accidentally. However, the extra force the spring requires can also make intentional opening more difficult.**

**Single action OTFs require the user to retract the blade manually and compress the spring. Because they often use a lever to compress the spring, stronger springs can be used. This makes them open more vigorously than the double-action type, and allows them to achieve tighter lock-up.**

### **Updates to this Page**

4/9/10 – AR State Law Info Updated.

4/14/10 – File broken into 2 parts to manage size

4/18/10 – CA Knife Length on College/University Property Added

8/11/10 – AZ New Preemption law added

1/10/11 – AR, CO, CT, LA & MS Cities added to their listing. AR, AK, HI, KY, ME, MD, MN & MS No Length Law found in their state laws added. MA, No Carry In Courts. ID More Defined State Law.

2/14/11 – Arkansas Law Statute Updated.

2/22/11 – Georgia State Law on Knives updated.

7/28/11 – MA Entry on Class A License Holders exempt from law added.

11/14/11 – Mobile AL Info Added. Link to Municode added in top header to aid in your search of Local Ordinances.

12/1/11 - Search wording listed at top of Page 1. Approx. 15 CA City/County Entries Added. 3 AL Cities Added.

1/6/12 - CA Moved Knife Laws to Different Places in their Code.