



FOG HORN

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CRKT James Williams YUKANTO



Columbia River Knife and Tool YUKANTO – a James Williams design with a point.

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If you favor knife designs heavily influenced by Samurai feudal art form, James Williams and Columbia River Knife and Tool are for you.

James Williams' collaborations with CRKT have resulted in some fabulously successful offerings that include the Sakimori, Hissatsu, Shibu and more recently the Yukanto.

Unlike a European dagger, usually fashioned with a double edge, the Japanese Samurai era short blade Tanto is a single edge tool with a an aggressive tip. These knives were specifically fashioned for close quarters combat and possess enormous penetration ability, and with

their long flowing single plain edge they're also well suited for slicing.



Samurai feudal Tanto daggers

In keeping with that tradition, James Williams and CRKT launched the Yukanto.



Osoraku-Zukuri Tanto

The Yukanto is heavily influenced by the Osoraku-Zukuri Tanto but equipped with a more aggressive tip and dispenses with

the curvy spine typical of the feudal period; as such, it's ideal for thrusting.



Yukanto's blade is made from AUS-8 steel striking a very reasonable balance between cost, edge retention and corrosion resistance. The HRC rating of 58-59 combined with a blade thickness of 0.15 inches is tough enough for its intended use, which is purely defensive. The blade length is 4.56 inches, long enough to reach most vital organs. A well-placed thrust is guaranteed to incapacitate, and should you ever need to rake your assailant rest assured it will result in a scar they'll wear for a long long time.

Yukanto has an overall length of 8.7 inches and weighs an RCH under 4 oz. making this tactical fixed blade very manageable and very nibble; of course, it is a full tang design extending all the way through its G10 handle.

Aside from the fact that I view the Tanto art form as accounting for many of the more formidable edged weapons devised during the course of man's cultural development, the Yukanto offers us an illuminating glimpse into James Williams's extensive combat experience. Because bladesmithing is artistic expression at its finest, it is not uncommon to encounter

designs with a great deal of flair and quite often fluff – an attribute altogether missing from a Williams design. To say that James Williams is true to the Japanese feudal influence is an understatement and nowhere is this more evident than in Yukanto's handle design.

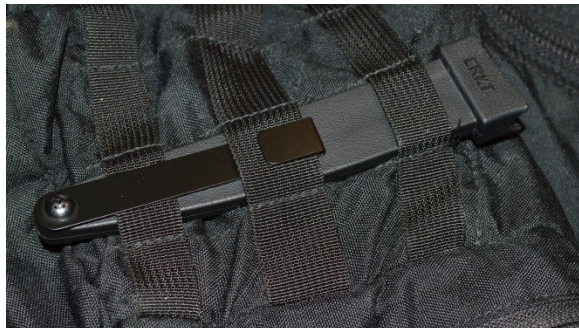
A visual inspection confirms a surgically clean handle totally devoid of design nuances that could snag on gear or clothes.



The G10 scales are highly textured and grooved to provide a very secure and solid grip with and without a gloved hand. What I love about the Yukanto handle is its ability to stabilize the knife regardless of grip; saber grip, icepick or reverse grips are no problem as are transitions between grips. The scales are also removable for cleaning and routine maintenance.



The sheath is a molded polymer made PALS webbing compliant with an ingenious rotating clip that locks it into position.



The clip is attached to the sheath via a Philips head screw and can therefore be removed for cleaning and lubrication; however it's also its weakest point. The screw will loosen with repeated use so you'll want to check it periodically to ensure that it does not fall off.

CRKT and James Williams have struck a perfect balance between cost and performance. Like its lineage, the Yukanto has enormous penetration and a plain edge that will slice with all the grace of a kabuki dancer. This is a fixed blade tactical knife designed for combat. Yukanto's designer addressed all of the essential requirements; a flat grind, AUS8 steel, blade length and thickness, and grip size and material with no excesses or frivolousness. CRKT sells it at an M.S.R.P. of \$99.99 that quite frankly belies its quality and function. If you're looking for a superb tactical fighting knife, CRKT's Yukanto is one you'll want to add to your kit. Check it out!

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Manufacturer Specifications

Dimensions

- Open Overall Length 8.69 inches
- Weight 3.9 ounces

Blade

- Length 4.56 inches
- Thickness 0.15 inches
- Material AUS 8
- Blade-HRC 58-59
- Finish Black Powder Coating
- Grind Flat
- Style Modified Tanto
- Edge Plain

Handle Material G10

Carry System Glass-Reinforced Nylon Sheath

Weight 1.6 ounces

M.S.R.P. \$99.99

For Additional Information:

<http://www.crkt.com/yukanto-fixed-blade-tactical-knife-2930>