

How to Cut Down the Handles of Japanese Tools

1. Measure the length from the web between the first finger and thumb to the top of the middle finger (see illustration). This will become the new length of the tool.
2. Measuring down from the tip of the blade, mark this point on the handle. **If in doubt, cut the handle long; you can always shorten it.**
3. Cut the handle at this mark. The wood is soft, so a small saw like a hack saw will do the job.
4. Sand the rough edges smooth with coarse and then fine sand paper.

