

Badfeather Raider Creek EDC ^{Featured}

Written by [David Bowen](#)

The Raider Creek EDC is not just a knife; it's a testament to clever engineering, embodying simplicity and utility in an elegantly minimal design. With a compact, 3-inch CPM-S35VN drop point blade that fully retracts into a sleek titanium handle, this knife's standout feature is its sliding bolt mechanism, providing a unique take on a sheathless EDC knife.



History and Backstory

The Raider Creek wasn't born from flashy marketing or influencer hype. It's a workhorse, designed for those who appreciate tools built for real work—whether that's in the field or at the workshop. From the outset, the knife was intended for users who value functionality over frills, offering a tool that performs as reliably as it is simple to maintain. For a long time, it flew under the radar, rarely making appearances in Instagram posts or knife enthusiast forums, which is part of its appeal. It's not here to be talked about, but to be worked hard.

I remember when I first read about the EDC. I was intrigued but didn't hear much about it after the announcement. A while later, I found myself getting my hands on one, and that's when I realized its true essence. This knife isn't about making a statement—it's about delivering in terms of build and function. Badfeather isn't catering to trend-seekers here. Instead, they focused on durability, precision, and usability.



First Impressions

Right out of the box, the Raider Creek left a lasting impression. Packaged with instructions for disassembly and a magnetic hook, which turned out to be a nifty tool for removing the locking nut during disassembly, the simplicity of the design immediately drew me in. It does exactly what it promises—no frills, no unnecessary components. The first thing you'll notice is the knife's impeccable construction. Despite having minimal moving parts, the knife feels tight, precise, and engineered to last.



The blade, with its near-mirror finish, surprised me. For a work knife, I would have expected a stonewashed or satin finish, but this added polish speaks volumes about Badfeather's commitment to craftsmanship. The titanium handle appears to be two separate pieces, but the machining is so seamless that you could easily mistake it for a single billet.



Blade and Handle Design

The blade is constructed from CPM-S35VN steel, offering superior edge retention and corrosion resistance. Its drop point profile, combined with the smooth flat grind, makes it versatile for various cutting tasks. The handle, while straight and simplistic, is surprisingly comfortable. I often expect discomfort from handles without curves, but the Raider Creek proves otherwise, even during extended use. The texture ensures a secure grip without being overly aggressive on the hand.



Opening the knife is a tactile experience. The blade is held in the closed position by both the lock tension and a magnet, adding an extra layer of security. To deploy it, you break that magnetic hold by applying force, often needing to use your leg or another surface to push the blade forward. While this might sound cumbersome, the process is surprisingly satisfying, especially with the lock moving into place with a reassuring resistance. This tension-based pivot system not only locks the blade firmly but also ensures there's no play.



Performance and Usability



In use, the Raider Creek functions virtually as a fixed blade, offering the rigidity and strength you'd expect from a traditional fixed blade, but with the convenience of a retractable design. The knife's lack of ergonomic flourishes in the handle is intentional—this is a tool for those who value simplicity, and despite its straight design, it's still comfortable in hand. The precision with which the blade slides into and out of the handle is impressive, devoid of any rattling or play.





When closed, the knife tucks away neatly, with the integral pocket clip disappearing beside the handle. While functional, the clip can be a little bulky in smaller pockets, causing the knife to ride diagonally. This might be a drawback for those who carry slimmer EDC knives, but in cargo or work pants, it's a non-issue.



In terms of cutting performance, the Raider Creek excels. The S35VN steel makes quick work of tough materials, and the blade's keen edge offers precision for finer tasks. I've taken to leaving it wet during various jobs, knowing that with its stainless components and titanium construction, rust won't be an issue. So far, it's held up remarkably well, even without much babying.

Final Thoughts

Overall, the Badfeather Raider Creek is a no-nonsense tool designed for those who need reliability over flash. The tight tolerances, durable materials, and unique locking mechanism make it stand out from more traditional hard-use knives. While it might not show up often in social media feeds, it's the kind of knife you know will get the job done—and come back for more.

If you're searching for something different from your typical hard-use EDC knives, the Raider Creek is worth a look. Bravo, Badfeather. You've crafted a workhorse that demands respect.

Knife assembly – length: 7.07" (180.0mm)
Knife assembly – height, highest point: 1.12" (28.4mm)
Knife assembly – thickness, widest point: 0.58" (14.7mm)
Blade length, full open: 3.0" (76.2mm)
Blade/tang thickness: 0.110" (2.8mm)
Total weight w. titanium handle: 0.33lbs (150.0g)
Blade/tang material: CPM – S35VN stainless steel
Hardness: 59-61HRC
Handle material: Titanium alloy (Ti-6Al-4V, aka "64Ti")
Lever Bolt, Lever Nut, and Lock Nut material: SS420

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As Co Founder of Multitool.org David has been a multitool enthusaist since the 90's. David has always been fascinated with the design ingenuity and usefulness of multitools.

David is always looking forward to what's new in the industry and how the humble multitool continues to evolve as it radically changes and improves the lives of users.