

1. Determine your Budget

The craftsmanship and detail of a custom knife come at a price. Custom knife prices start in the hundreds and can go up to tens of thousands. Before you begin shopping, decide how much you are willing to spend. Otherwise, you may fall in love with a knife beyond your budget. Not only can that cause disappointment, it will make it even harder to decide on a knife you can afford.



2. Research Prices

Even if the knife you love is within your budget, there's no reason to overpay. Research prices on similar knives from other sellers to confirm the price of the knife you've fallen in love with is fair. Resist the urge to throw caution to the wind and pay whatever someone asks. You want to not only find the perfect knife, but you want to find it at a fair price, too. That means researching similar pieces from the same brand to find comparable prices.

3. Select a Knife Type

Perhaps you are looking for an EDC knife that meets your needs, whether you are on an outdoor adventure or working in your garage. A custom Benchmade Bugout may be the way to go. If your sights are set on an OTF knife, that will narrow your list. Perhaps you want something more unusual, like a folding cleaver. Knowing what type of knife you want will narrow the options enough to keep you from being overwhelmed.



4. Think About What You Have

If you love knives, it's easy to have your head turned by a beautiful piece, especially if it's reasonably priced. However, this can lead to buyer's remorse if you end up with something you won't use or doesn't fit in your collection. To avoid regret, think about what you have and what you'd like to add. If your goal is to acquire as many models as possible from your favorite maker, look past that gorgeous specimen from another brand.

Look at Special Styling or Features

Custom knives allow knifemakers to have fun with styling and other details. That means you can find knives that speak to you and your interests. If you are a gun enthusiast, you may be tempted by a knife that reflects that hobby. Look for custom knives designed with gun-related styling. If you have a favorite color, seek options that come in your signature hue.

