

Silverline Expert Multi-Tool

PRICE: £12.23 PLUS VAT (£6.49 online)

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Stainless steel with retro wood-effect inlay on the handles, at 115mm long folded and with 10 individual tools it was easy to forget that this was among the cheapest of the multi-tools tested. A common phrase used during the testing was: 'It's not at all bad for the price.'

When you pull the knife out all the other tools on that side come with it, which is not ideal when handling sharp tools.

This multi-tool comes with an adaptor and set of 12 bits in a nylon pouch. Its tools did not perform to the high standard of some of the pricier models in the tests, but at a tenth of the price in some cases it certainly punched above its weight. Coarse serrations on one of the knives made it impossible to cut rope.

FUNCTIONS

Bottle opener, can opener, plain and serrated blade knives, pliers, saw, files, slotted screwdrivers and Phillips screwdriver, adaptor and set of 12 bits in nylon pouch.

RESULTS

Knife test: Non-locking serrated and non-serrated blades, **Dyneema**, non-serrated 14.6s, serrated wouldn't cut; **braid**, non-serrated 5.6s, serrated wouldn't cut; **three-strand**, non-serrated 11.8s, serrated



wouldn't cut;

Polyprop, non-serrated 4.3s, serrated wouldn't cut.

Saw: Not much of a saw, more a thick-bladed serrated knife – it wouldn't saw wood.

Can opener: Proved more of a 'can't opener'. Took a lot of perseverance to use.

Pliers: Cut through the cable in three chomps.

Bottle opener: Good. One swift movement and it was open.

Screwdriver: The bits don't inspire confidence when on the shaft – the whole thing is very wobbly, though used with care it worked.

Tomato test: Required some pressure to pierce the skin, but then worked perfectly well.

Corrosion tank test: It looked bad and appeared to be dripping rust, but nothing had actually seized up.

After clean-up: Took some time to bring back a respectable appearance, with rust in grooves impossible to shift. All tools still functioning, however.