



**Blade of a "Sax" (utility sword)**

**Date**  
500s–600s

**Primary Maker**  
Frankish

**Medium**  
steel

**Description**  
Iron, in excavated condition. Robust, short, and broad blade. Straight, single-edged blade, with wide flat back, edges parallel for about 3/4 of overall length whence they gently curve towards an off-center point. The back edge is followed by pair of parallel

narrow, shallow recessed lines. Shoulder taper only slightly to broad tang that tapers abruptly into "rat-tail," with slightly bent end; tang is quite long overall.

**Dimensions**  
60.3 x 21.3 cm (23 3/4 x 8 3/8 in.), 1 lb, 2 oz (weight)