

MINT 1969-72 Buck Kalinga 401 – RARE Brown & Gold Box – Unsharpened w/ Brown Sheath

A rare, investment-grade **Buck Kalinga (Model 401)** in a complete set from **1969–1972**. This is a prime example of the transition era, featuring the highly sought-after brown leather sheath, brown and gold factory box and original paperwork.

**Collector Specifications:**

- Blade: Unsharpened factory mirror-polish. This is the stamped version (BUCK / KALINGA / USA) used before model numbers were added in 1973.
- Handle: Flawless **laminated wood with brass guard**.
- Includes the period-correct rare **brown leather sheath with heavy brass rivets**. This earlier tan/brown version is much harder to find than the later black sheath.
- Original authentic **brown and gold box** used briefly during the early production.
- Includes original **factory documentation**.

**Vintage Kalinga ~ Early 1970`s**

The [Buck 401 Kalinga](#) is a premium, fixed-blade knife featuring a distinctive 4.6–4.8 inch upswept skinner. Known for its ergonomic, curved design, it features a full-tang construction, brass guard, and a 10-inch overall length.

The original Buck model 401 Kalinga came out in late 1969/early 1970 as a premium hunting knife. It was designed by Frank D Buck, the brother of Al Buck, who had taken over the business originally founded by his father Hoyte. The Kalinga became one of Al Bucks favorite knives. He even named his boat the Kalinga.

Early 1969/1970 versions had black micarta grips, 4 3/4 stainless steel skinner style blade, brass riveted scabbard and a presentation case. Shortly after the introduction Buck changed over to the laminate wood handles.

The original line was discontinued around 1988 because it was very expensive to make but has been re-introduced with the newer versions having a stitched scabbard and some design changes to the blade etc, to make them easier to manufacture and reduce manufacturing cost.

The blade marking on this knife does not have the date code, which was not introduced until 1986. The stamping does not include the model number which puts the date of manufacture between 1969 and 1972.

Similar knives, with and without documentation or even boxes, have sold for \$500 to \$800 (CDN) or more on the open market.