

10 FISHING METHODS FOR SURVIVAL SCENARIOS

So you find yourself in a wilderness survival scenario with a little fishing gear at hand. If you know some techniques and how to fabricate some gear in the field, there's hope to provide food for yourself at the nearest waterway. Take time now to practice some of these time-tested survival fishing techniques.

- 1. Hand fishing.** This is as primitive as it gets. Here you actually grab the fish from the water with your hands, so put on some gloves and wade into the murky water, because that's where the catfish are holed up.
- 2. Gill netting.** These nets are used to catch fish as they try to swim through the openings of the net and become entangled. Gill nets can be effective in different places at different times, but they yield the best results during a migratory fish run.
- 3. Dip netting.** Simply use a standard fishing net used for hook and line fishing to scoop up unaware fish in the shallows.
- 4. Spear fishing.** It's not always easy to skewer a moving fish, but spear fishing is still a worthwhile activity in most survival situations. Just make sure you compensate for refraction and aim below the fish.
- 5. Hand lining.** A simple hook and line, along with some bait, is really all you need to catch fish. Hand lines are usually handheld coils of line that are cast and retrieved by hand.
- 6. Gorge hooking.** Using a gorge hook is not the same as using curved steel hooks. The method here is to allow the fish to swallow the bait, which has a sharp thorn or bone shard sticking out of it. After you think a fish has swallowed the gorge hook, don't jerk the line to set the hook, just slowly coax it into a waiting dip net.
- 7. Striking iron.** One of the oddest fishing methods, this consists of stunning a large, slow-moving fish by striking it with a rod or slender bar of metal as the fish nears the surface.
- 8. Basket trapping.** A container with a funnel-shaped entrance are all you need to build an effective fish trap. Take into account the size and habits of the fish you hope to catch and build your trap to fit. Wooden slat traps for catfish are typically more than a yard long, with a large funnel opening wide enough to imprison even a fat blue cat. Minnow traps can be made from a soda bottle with the neck cut off and inverted inside the bottle.



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9. Fish weiring. A weir can be a wall, circular fence, or large funnel designed to direct fish into your trap. Some of the traditional weir construction styles of ancient times are still being used today. Why? Because they work. Weirs can be built of stone for permanent construction, or by driving stakes or posts into the mud or sand for semi-permanent installations. A weir can also aid your spear fishing and dip netting efforts.

10. Fish poisoning. Only to be used in dire emergencies, fish poison has traditionally been derived from crushed plant materials that release compounds into the water and stun or kill the fish. Poison is typically used in still water and small pools, though this ancestral technique has been used in rivers and larger waterways.

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES: CORAC runs a HAM radio net and Signal groups. If communication goes out for any length of time, meet outside your local Church at 9 a.m. on Saturday mornings if it is safe to do so. Tell friends at Church now in case you can't then. CORAC teams will be out looking for people to gather in and work with.



Offal (*organ meat and other animal cast-off parts*) is nutrient dense and generally inexpensive. Learn to cook and eat these rejected parts as part of sustainable food and nutrition.

I have made friends with a wonderful lady who raises and butchers all her own meat for herself and a handful of customers. Most people do not want any of the organ meats (heart, liver, kidneys), and when I am seeing her regularly she hands them all off to me for free. She also usually has more bones and pig fat than she can use and gives those to me. One day I even showed up while she was butchering so I could pick up some fresh pigs' feet and experiment with making broth with those.

Many of these healthy items are discarded by butchers or sold inexpensively. If you are able and willing to learn to cook them, it can be a very cost-effective way to feed your family. If you are a hunter, know hunters or butcher any animals, challenge yourself to use as many parts as possible, even if you just feed it to other animals.

It took me many tries to find a pate recipe I liked, but it is possible. Another great trick is to grind organ meat up and put it in your chili meat loaf or other recipes along with your normal ground beef.

This is a really good cookbook to learn more about offal "cuts" and how they are used:

<https://www.secondsale.com/p/offal-good-cooking-from-the-heart-with-guts-a-cookbook/17472709>

Here is a free website <https://offallygoodcooking.com/>

Podcast:

<https://www.westonaprice.org/podcast/eat-your-liver-other-organ-meats-too/#gsc.tab=0>



My Pâté Recipe

- 2 cups caramelized onions
- 1+ lb of pig liver
- 10 cloves garlic
- 1 cup red wine
- 1 Tbs beef bullion
- Salt, pepper, Spike Seasoning, Oregano
- 1/2 cup butter

Instructions

Roughly chop onion and cook on low heat in ghee (or other fat) until caramelized. Chop garlic and add to onion for about five minutes. Using a slotted spoon, remove the onions and garlic to a food processor or high-speed blender.

Slice the liver, removing any membrane (white filmy layer). Cook the liver on med heat in the remaining fat, wine and bullion, until no longer bloody. Let the liver and fat cool for a few minutes, then add to food processor.

Add salt, pepper and other seasonings. Blend until smooth add a little milk or water if too thick. After this mixture has cooled in the food processor add your butter cut into tablespoon pads and blend until smooth.

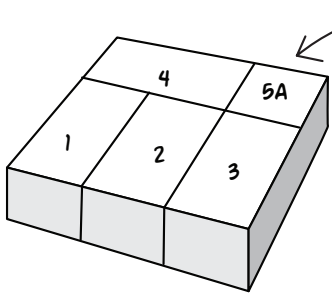
Line a container with plastic wrap and smooth the pate into the container so that when it chills, you can turn the container over and peel away the plastic wrap, making the pate slice-able. Alternatively, as I've done here, just put the pate in a bowl or any vessel and scoop it out as needed. Eat fresh or chill to harden and further meld flavors.



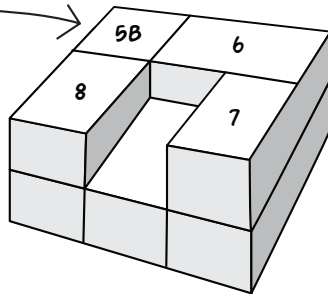
DO-IT-YOUSELF ROCKET STOVE

This rocket stove can be built in minutes with 16 bricks (2 are half bricks). It uses a minimal amount of fuel (small sticks, twigs, leaves etc.) to cook full meals with efficient heat funneled directly up under the pan. It is also wind and "light rain" resistant.

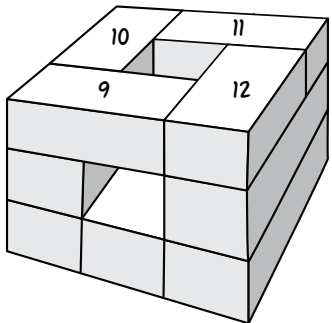
STEP 1:
Lay your brick base.



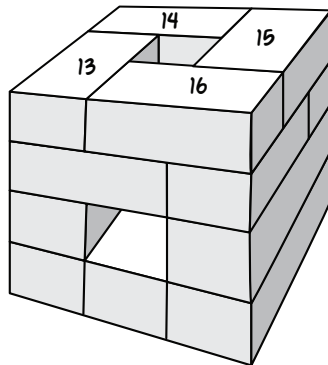
STEP 2:
Add the 2nd level of bricks.



STEP 3:
Add the 3rd level bricks.

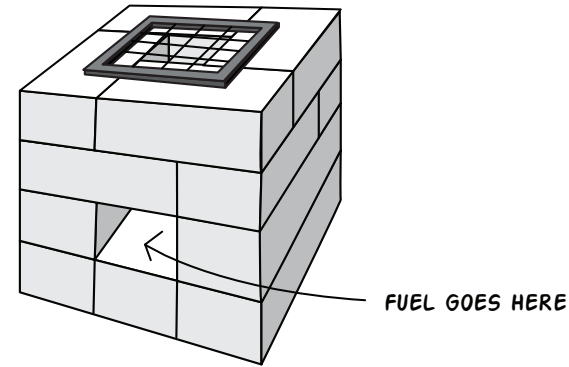


STEP 4:
Add the top level of bricks.

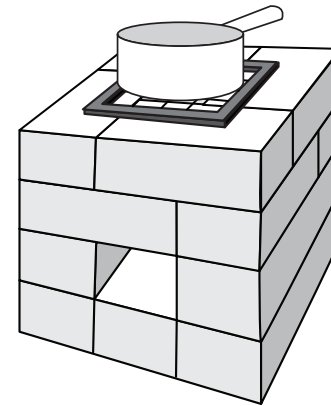


DO-IT-YOUSELF ROCKET STOVE

STEP 5:
Add a sturdy metal grate or screen to cover the hole for your cooking surface.



STEP 6:
Add kindling, small sticks and twigs to the oven and light your fire for cooking. If you want a longer burn, use a bit harder wood and larger pieces. You can also use charcoal if available.



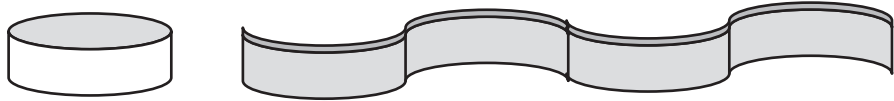
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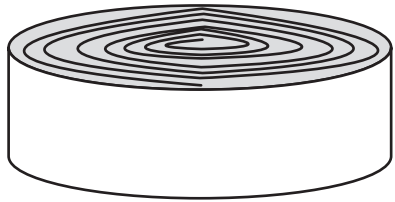
DYI EMERGENCY FUEL

This emergency cooking fuel in a can is easily assembled with cardboard, small metal cans and cooking oil. It won't completely replace a stove or standard cooktop, but can be used in a pinch to heat liquids and cook small meals, much like a small sterno stove used on hiking expeditions.

STEP 1: Cut cardboard strips from a corrugated box to match the height of a clean, empty can. (e.g. - a catfood can).



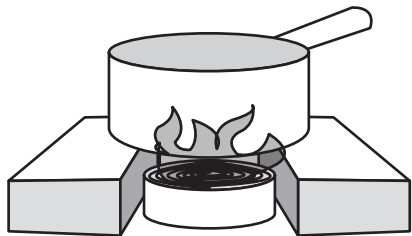
STEP 2: Roll up the strips and put in the can.



STEP 3: Pour melted wax or cooking oil into the can.



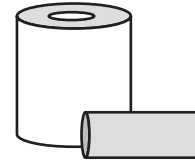
Step 4: Put your can on a solid, flame-proof surface and light the cardboard. When the flame is suitable for cooking, put two bricks on either side of the can to support a small pot.



DYI EMERGENCY FUEL

BONUS FUEL

STEP 1: Remove the cardboard tube from a roll of TP.



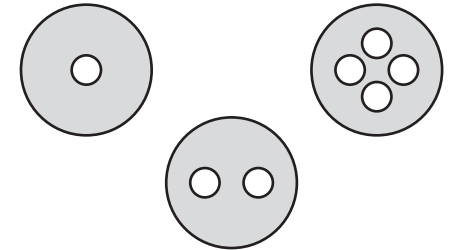
STEP 2: Put the TP into a clean coffee can.



STEP 3: Pour rubbing alcohol on the TP.



STEP 4: Punch holes into metal lids and use these to control the flame intensity.



STEP 5: Place a whole metal lid over the can to extinguish the flame.
Warning: Never add rubbing alcohol to the flame.



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EMERGENCY/TEMPORARY ROOF REPAIR



Trap is secure (tucked under) the asphalt shingles higher on the elevation and with cap nails around the entire perimeter. Note that water cannot flow over the damaged section and is thus watertight until permanent repairs can be made.

How to make an emergency/temporary roof repair on the exterior of your home:

1. Be sure you are physically capable of reaching required elevation heights or climbing/walking on roof slopes; seek help if not comfortable.
 - a. All subsequent steps would ideally not be conducted during a weather event (Avoid tarping a roof during a storm while it's windy or raining).
2. Assess the damage on the roof and around the entirety of the home exterior and take measurements if necessary.
3. Prepare your temporary materials: spare siding, roofing, tarp, millimeter plastic sheets, screws, nails, tape, caulking, etc.
4. Secure the patch and make plans to secure permanent repairs with the help of an experienced person, neighbor, friends, contractor or professional.
 - a. Consider patches good for 90 days or less without requiring additional re-work.

Please consider knowing what type of materials are on your home and how to repair the exterior in a way to maintain a watertight and weather resistant barrier from all interior elements.



EMERGENCY/TEMPORARY ROOF REPAIR

Helpful repair items to have access to include:

- Exterior Nails (cap nails 1 - 1 ½ inches long)
- Roofing nails 1 ¼ - 2 ½ inches long)
- Exterior screws (metal roofing screws with rubber grommets and metal washers 1 ¾ - 2 ½ inches long)
- Hammer (I like smooth faced)
- Tarps (at least 5 mil thick)
- Synthetic roofing felt (15lbs)
- Ice and water guard (roof underlayment)
- House wrap (siding product similar to roof felt)
- Tape for house wrap
- Staples (3/8 inch - 5/8 inch) and staple gun to match the staples that you have
- Exterior caulking (roof or asphalt rated window door trim application)
- Caulk gun to apply tube caulking
- Pry bar
- Lumber (furring strips, 2"x4")

