
Assembling A Survival Kit



Survival planning is nothing more than realizing something could happen that would put you in a survival situation and, with that in mind, taking steps to increase your chances of survival. Planning is essential.

Preparation means knowing the environment in which you will travel and familiarizing yourself with the area.

Preparation means having survival items and knowing how to use them.

Stated in another way, survival planning means preparation.

Preparing and carrying a survival kit is essential. Even the smallest survival kit, if properly prepared, is invaluable when facing a survival situation. Before making your survival kit, consider your environment, and the worst environmental conditions that you might face. This is the place to start assembling the items of your kit.

Survival Kits

The environment in which you will be is the key to the types of items you will need in your survival kit. How much equipment you put in your kit depends on how you will carry the kit. A kit carried on your body will have to be smaller than one carried in a backpack.

Always layer your survival kit, keeping the most important items on your body. For example, your multi-tool, map and compass should always be in your pockets. Carry less important items in your waist pack. Place bulky items in your daypack or backpack.

In preparing your survival kit, select items that you can use for more than one purpose. If you have two items that will serve close to the same function, pick the one you can use for multiple functions. Always consider the **Utility to Weight Ratio** when choosing items that you include in your kit. Don't carry duplicate items, since that will increase the size and weight of your kit. Your survival kit does not need to be elaborate. You only need functional items that will meet your needs and a case to hold the items.



For the case, you might want to use a Band-Aid box, a first aid case, or another suitable case.

Your case should be:

- Water repellent or waterproof
- Easy to carry or attach to your body
- Adaptable to accept multiple, variable sized components
- Durable

Your survival kit should contain:

- First aid items
- Water purification tablets or drops
- Fire starting equipment
- Signaling items
- Food procurement items
- Shelter items

Some examples of these items are:

- Lighter, metal match, waterproof matches
- Snare wire
- Signaling mirror
- Wrist compass
- Fish and snare line
- Fishhooks
- Candle
- Small hand lens
- Water purification tablets
- Emergency blanket
- Sewing kit