

HOW TO START A CAMPFIRE, REAL MAN STYLE

Nothing is worse than a camping trip without a decent fire, especially when you are the one who can't get the fire started. You don't have to be a former Boy Scout to master these skills. Save yourself the embarrassment this season, and learn how to pull your weight on the next outing.

DO YOU HAVE MATCHES?

NO YES

NO MATCH? NO PROBLEM

What's the weather like today?

First thing you'll need for your fire is good tinder: dry grass, leaves, needles, hair, windblown seed, birch tree bark.

SUNNY DAY

Choose a method

LENS METHOD

focus the power of the sun to set your tinder smouldering.



CAN OF SODA & TOOTHPASTE

polish the bottom of the can with toothpaste to create a parabolic mirror used to focus the sunlight and fire up your tinder.



CLOUDY DAY

BATTERIES & STEEL WOOL

Rub the battery's contacts on the wool to start the sparks glowing.



CHOOSE A FIRE-STACKING METHOD

Grab some branches and leaves, and light it up.



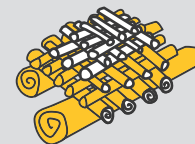
The Teepee



The Lean-To



The Cross-Ditch



The Pyramid

MAINTAIN THE FIRE

- Keep it small.
- Place extra wood, don't throw.
- Give it some encouragement. Blow gently and steadily on a focused area to the side of the fire.
- Plan ahead. Think twice before adding large pieces of wood to the fire. You have to sleep at some point.

EXTINGUISH THE FIRE

Sprinkle water over the fire. Stir the embers and ashes with a stick. Once it is done hissing, you're safe to turn in.



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Cavemen invented it. We perfected it.

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