

Fire Building & Fire Safety 101

Please have an adult present at all times if you are making or thinking about making a fire. Fire is dangerous; SCA/AmeriCorps is not responsible for any damages caused by your fire. Do not make a fire indoors, do not make any fires without an adult.

A campfire can be one of the best parts of camping or provide necessary warmth to hunters and other nature lovers. Just don't forget your responsibility to maintain and extinguish it to prevent wildfires.

This guide was take and/or adapted from: <https://smokeybear.com/en/prevention-how-tos/campfire-safety>

Please read through the guide before making your own campfire.

Extra Links:

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pinterest.com%2Fpin%2F118149190208681609%2F&psig=AOvVaw2LcZVtMGnocLWTzTQvC-ep&ust=1584637688633000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAIQjRxqFwoTCNDe88vBpOgCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAO>

<https://smokeybear.com/en/prevention-how-tos/campfire-safety/how-to-build-your-campfire>

Fire Safety

1. Do not build a campfire if there are rules against it.
2. Always build a fire in a fire ring or pit with an adult.
3. Do not build a fire on a day that is too windy or too dry.

Fire Site

1. Find a place that is clean and clear.
2. Dig your firepit 1 foot deep with rocks around it.

Building a Fire

1. Make sure you have a source of water, a bucket, and a shovel near you at all times.
2. Get your wood! – Never cut down any living trees, try and find sticks and wood that are laying on the ground not being used by animals.
3. Find Tinder – Small twigs and leaves.
4. Find Kindling – Sticks that are less than an inch around.
5. Find Fuel – Larger pieces of wood. If you stack them keep them away from the fire.

Using Your Fire

1. Start your tinder with a match or lighter.
2. Add more tinder as the fire gets bigger.
3. Add kindling and fuel (the larger firewood) to keep the fire going.
- 4. Keep the fire small and under control and don't burn dangerous things.**
5. Never leave your campfire unattended.

Putting Out Your Fire




1. Allow the wood to burn completely to ash.
2. Pour lots of water on the fire. Pour until hissing sound stops.
3. Continue adding water, dirt or sand and stirring with a shovel until all material is cool.
4. If it's too hot to touch, it's too hot to leave!

Pack it in, Pack it out - It is your responsibility to pack out everything that you packed in, including any trash.

Fire types

Common Fire Lays

- Teepee—quick
- Lean-to—quick
- Crisscross or log cabin—long burning



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Teepee: Lay the kindling over the tinder like you are building a tent.

Lean-to: Drive a long piece of kindling into the ground at an angle over the tinder. Lean smaller pieces of kindling against the longer piece.

Log Cabin: Surround your pile of tinder with kindling, stacking pieces at right angles. Top the “cabin” with the smallest kindling.

Teepee



Lean to



Log Cabin

