

## Starting a Fire

If you're cold or wet, building a fire will significantly improve your chances of survival.

### **+Emergency Kit Fire Starters**

Fire starting materials should be a part of your emergency outdoor supplies. This should include: a waterproof container, pack tinder (dryer lint or rolled up newspaper bound with an elastic band) as well as several means of sparking a flame like matches, lighter and a flint and striker. Create a teepee using small twigs and branches around your tinder, light it and gently blow on it to build up the flame. Add larger pieces of wood once the kindling catches.

### **+ Sunlight**

If you are in an area that has a strong amount of sunlight, you can use items like clear glass, a soda can or a plastic bottle or bag with water in it to reflect the sun's light directly onto some tinder. Once there is an ember move to a kindling teepee and then place larger pieces of wood on once fully burning.

### **+ Fire Plow**

If however you do not have any of the above mentioned you can use a fire plow. This is one of the most famous ways to start a fire without a match but is also one of the most difficult.



1. Get a large piece of wood as a plow board. Ideally this would be a log that has been split long ways down the middle and will need to be dry.
2. Make a divot in the middle of the wood down the plow. This will be the path that your stick will run on.
3. Get a firm dry stick and run it repeatedly and with pressure through the groove made in step 2. Make sure the stick has a thinned out but blunt end, you can make this by using a rock to form a tip. The friction created by the stick running along the divot will create a pile of wooden dust that will begin to smoke.
4. Once you see this smoke blow gently to help it burn. Knock the dust on to some tinder making sure to continue blowing till it sparks.

Once a substantial flame is made place the tinder nest in a kindling tee-pee and then place larger pieces of wood on once fully burning.

