

3 Camp Craft

Camp sites on DoE expeditions vary from expensive family sites with facilities like showers to wild camping on an empty mountainside with a stream.

You are assessed on how well you organise your life at camp.

You can FAIL the expedition by being untidy, noisy and disorganised at the campsite. The state of your campsite is a good indication of your ability and organization.

Follow this routine when you arrive at your camp site:

1. Camp! Pitch tents and get organized.
2. Cook! Stove and food safety is vital here.
3. Clean! You must get this absolutely right and not leave a mess anywhere.
4. Curfew! Staff will tell you the time for bed and quiet.

1. Camp!

- When you arrive, put up tents **immediately**. Choose the location carefully.

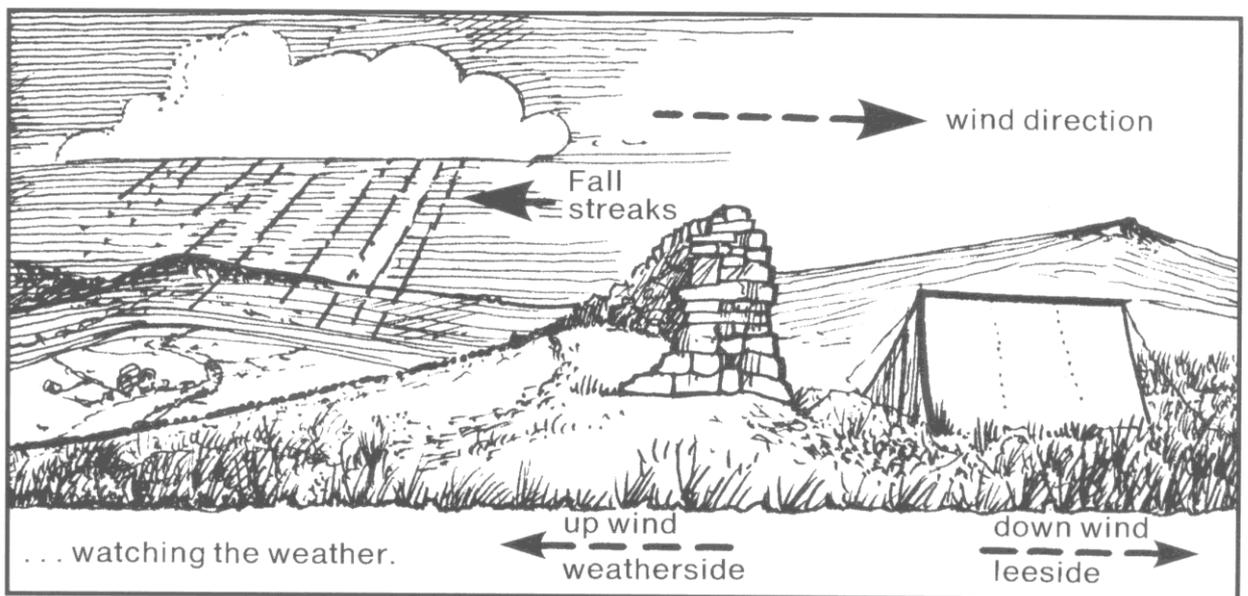


Figure 1 Choose where to pitch your tent carefully.

Tent-pitching:

- Choose flat, soft & dry ground, clear away any sharp stones.
- Avoid trees and hollows where water may collect.
- Place entrance to tent away from wind.
- Pegs go in at 45°. Hand pressure only (do NOT use feet!).
- Guys should be long and on the ground at the peg. Use hand pressure only and stabilise with rocks if necessary.



Figure 2: Put up your tent immediately when you arrive!

- Don't leave stuff scattered about. Put spare pegs back in the bag and put peg and pole bags inside the tent bag. Put everything inside the tent porch!
- Arrange sleeping bag, clothes and camping mat inside tent.
- Store EVERYTHING in the porch: do not leave anything out overnight.
- Keep tent doors shut to keep bugs out.
- Change out of wet clothing and into dry, hang up wet clothes.

Hang up wet clothes outside in nice weather or hang up in tent.

2. Cook!

- Set up stove carefully (training session on using Trangia stove)
- Organise food and get water: cook food according to instructions.
- Set up a rubbish bag. If you drop anything pick it up immediately.
- Share food, cook together.
- **Turn off gas valves on stove.**



Figure 3: Cook away from your tent.

3. Clean!

- Wash up and put all utensils inside the porch of your tent.
- Do **NOT** wash up at water taps or in toilet sinks! Instead: warm some water on your stove and wash up at your tent.
- Put waste food in a rubbish bag and pour away dirty water in a sink or discretely and safely at a wild site i.e. not in a stream.
- Toilet block: clean up after yourself. Use a toilet brush to clean loo.
- For wild camps with no toilets: dig a hole (bring trowel) at least 60 metres away from running water and camp. Burn toilet tissue in hole. Replace turf over.
- Personal hygiene: wash your face & clean teeth etc. If no showers, a personal "tent wash" can be completed discretely with a face cloth or wet-wipes.

4. Curfew!

- Store everything inside your tent including your stove and your rubbish bag.
- Keep a torch handy.
- Get things ready for the morning.
- **Quiet after 10.30pm and stay in your tent! Unnecessary disturbances at night will be dealt with firmly.**

5. Crack of dawn!

- Get up at 6.00am, avoid being noisy.
- Dress, breakfast, wash-up (NOT at taps!)
- Pack sleeping bag in bin liner.
- *Take all stuff out of your tent! Even in bad weather.*
- Take tent down. Pack rucksack.
- Sweep search and collect any litter: you **MUST** leave your site spotless.

Leave nothing but flattened grass!

Top 5 camping disasters

- 1) Not checking out the tent before the trip.
- 2) Forgetting torch or matches.
- 3) Losing pegs, poles & pots.
- 4) Careless accidents with stoves.
- 5) Leaving food out attracting animals overnight.

Challenge yourself to "Leave-No-Trace" on expeditions.

Now do Training Test 4 Campcraft
