



EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING LIST

FUNDAMENTAL MODULE 1

WHAT WE WILL PROVIDE

The following items will be provided by Bushcraft Survival Australia (BSA) for you to use and return in good order at the end of the course. You are also welcome to bring your own gear if you choose, using the details below.

Tarp/Hoochie

You will be issued with an Australian Army type Hoochie to use for the course and shown how to erect it properly using a selection of simple knots and hitches.

Note: the first night you will be sleeping in the shelter you bring yourself.

Fixed blade knife

You will be given your own Morakniv of Sweden, carbon steel heavy duty "Companion" Knife which will be yours to keep (Fundamental Module 1 courses only).

However, if you would like to bring your own knife we suggest you bring a plain (without serrations) full tang 5" (11cm) carbon steel blade with a 90 degree edge on the spine.

Other Items

You will also be issued the following items (if you don't have your own) to be returned at the end of the course in good order:

- Fire striker/Ferro rod
- All weather emergency blanket
- Stainless Steel water bottle 40oz (1.1L)
- Fresnel magnifying lens
- 6m Parachute cord
- Ground sheet/tarp
- Mosquito net

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING

You need to be able to fit and carry the below items in or on your main pack. **What you bring you have to carry, so pack light!**

Items listed below can be purchased from Gear Supply, Survival Supplies Australia (SSA) and Alton Goods. For Darwin courses you can also purchase items at NT General Store.

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| STORE |
| Gear Supply |
| Survival Supplies Australia |
| Alton Goods |
| NT General Store (for Darwin courses) |

For more detail on some of the items visit our blog [on 12 Essential items people should have with them when they venture outdoors.](#)

All items are required unless marked as 'Optional'. Items marked in **green** will be provided by BSA for the duration of the course. (You can bring your own if preferred).

| EQUIPMENT | | |
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| ITEM | RECOMMENDATION | ✓ |
| <p>CUTTING TOOLS</p> <p>Knife: You will be issued with your own Morakniv of Sweden, carbon steel heavy duty knife which will be yours to keep (Fundamental Module 1 courses only). However, if you would like to bring your own knife, we suggest you bring a plain (without serrations) full tang 5" (11cm) carbon steel blade with a 90 degree edge on the spine. Mora of Sweden (Morakniv) make a range of affordable good quality bushcraft knives.</p> <p><u>Optional:</u></p> <p>Folding Saw <i>Bacho Laplander or Silky Pocket Boy are very good</i></p> <p>Multitool <i>Leatherman and Gerber are good reliable brands. Try to choose one with a saw, a good locking blade and an awl with an eye in it such as the Leatherman "Super tool" (black version) and Leatherman Wave (black version).</i></p> | <p>Heavy Duty MG Outdoor Sports Knife</p> <p>Bushcraft Black</p> <p>Garberg (carbon version) Garberg (stainless steel version)</p> <p>Kansbol</p> <p>Bacho Laplander</p> <p>Silky Pocket Boy</p> <p>Leatherman Super Tool</p> <p>Leatherman Wave</p> | |
| <p>COMBUSTION DEVICES</p> <p>Ferrocerium rod: "Light my fire", "Morakniv", "StrikeFire" all make decent reliable models. There are many other brands out there that make sparking tools in various sizes. Get yourself the larger army models.</p> <p>Fresnel type small magnifying lens or equivalent</p> | <p>Morakniv Firestarter</p> <p>Dragon's Breath Ferro Rod & Striker</p> <p>SSA Ferro Rods</p> <p>Other ferro rods</p> <p>Fresnel Magnifying Lens</p> | |

| ITEM | RECOMMENDATION | ✓ |
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| <p>COVERING / EMERGENCY SHELTER</p> <p>Re-useable space blanket/All-weather blanket BSA and SSA are working on a collaborative venture to produce a special edition “Aussie All-Weather Blanket”. “Grabba Outdoors” and the Pathfinder School both make good models but they can be difficult to find in Australia. A good variety of equivalents are also made by SOL and Aussie Disposals.</p> <p>1x heavy duty, non-pleated, XL, 250L garbage bag/wheely bin liner. Get the strongest and thickest ones you can find, preferably un-pleated. BSA are currently designing a special-use, heavy-duty, survival uses garbage bag.</p> | <p>SSA All Weather Survival Blanket</p> <p>SOL Emergency Space Blanket/Bivvi</p> | |
| <p>CONTAINER</p> <p>Stainless Steel 1 litre Water Bottle with nesting cup: “Klean Kanteen” make good stainless steel 40oz water bottles (make sure you get the single walled type). Pathfinder also make a good 32oz SS (Stainless Steel) Water Bottle/Nesting Cup set. An MSR SS Glacier Mug fits nicely onto the bottom of a water bottle (if you can find one).</p> <p>A good affordable alternative is an “army cups canteen combination” (plastic water bottle and metal cup).</p> <p>Failing that you can make yourself a metal cooking container out of an empty fruit/peaches tin: remove one end of the tin and attach a piece of wire as a handle. Your plastic water bottle should fit snugly inside it.</p> | <p>Klean Kanteen 40oz</p> <p>32oz SS (Stainless Steel) Water Bottle/Nesting Cup set</p> <p>Grayl Water Filter (Optional)</p> | |
| <p>CORDAGE</p> <p>20ft of 550 paracord or Roll of #36 bankline (3 ply): Make sure you get the genuine paracord with 5-7 inner strands. “Rothco” makes good paracord. If it doesn’t have five to seven inner strands inside the outer sheath then it is not paracord!</p> <p>A good alternative is any 3-ply cordage (not braided).</p> | <p>550 Paracord</p> <p>#36 Bankline</p> | |
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| ITEM | RECOMMENDATION | ✓ |
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| <p>CLOTH & REPAIR</p> <p>2 X 3ft 100% cotton bandanas or Shemaghs: One olive green or brown and one blaze orange.</p> <p>BSA has a newly designed 100% cotton bandana with specific usage illustrations on it. These can be purchased on the course for \$25 (2 for \$40). To ensure there is enough stock available on your arrival please let us know before you attend the course. You can also purchase them online at SSA.</p> <p>Alternatively you can purchase a 1m square piece of 100% cotton from a material or haberdashery shop (Spotlight) and cut it to size. Wash it first to loosen the fibres.</p> <p>Cargo/Gorilla/Cloth Tape You can purchase cloth tape from “Repcos” or from any service station. The smaller rolls are ideal or you can transfer tape from a larger roll to a smaller spindle to save space.</p> | <p>BSA Bandanas</p> <p>Gorilla Tape</p> | |
| <p>CANDLING DEVICE / LIGHTING / HEAD TORCH</p> <p>There are many brands on the market, get yourself one with a strobe function (red light optional). LEDLENSER and Petzl make some very good head torches. We recommend the Ledlenser MH4 or MH8.</p> | <p>Ledlenser MH4</p> <p>Ledlenser MH8</p> | |
| <p>SMALL FIRST AID KIT</p> <p>Personal medications, band-aids, iodine/ betadine, headache tablets, swaps, dressings, antiseptic ointment, small vial of Potassium Permanganate etc.</p> <p>Optional items to add: <i>#14 sail needle purchased from marine stores, small vial of Potassium permanganate, tampon, small card of water purification tablets</i></p> | <p>First Aid Kits</p> <p>#14 Sail Needle</p> | |
| <p>Dry bag (Optional) 5-10 Litre Dry bag: “Overboard”, “Sea to Summit” and “Baja” make an assortment of good dry bags. The thicker kind are more durable.</p> | <p>Overboard</p> | |

| ITEM | RECOMMENDATION | ✓ |
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| <p>SMALL DAY PACK</p> <p>Small day pack/bag/haversack to carry the above items in, such as “Fjallraven Kanken Re-Kanken Backpack/Mini” (olive green or brown, no white patch), “Helicon-Tex Bushcraft Haversack Bag”.</p> | <p>Fjallraven Kanken Re-Kanken Backpack</p> <p>Fjallraven Kanken Re-Kanken Backpack Mini</p> <p>Helicon-Tex Bushcraft Haversack Bag</p> | |
| SLEEPING EQUIPMENT/SHELTER | | |
| ITEM | RECOMMENDATION | ✓ |
| <p>Tarp/hootchie, hammock or small lightweight tent (1st night only)</p> <p>After the first night you will be issued with and given instruction on how to set up an Australian Army hootchie to use for the remainder of the course. If you would like to purchase your own tarps, Helicon-Tex, Snugpak and Alton Goods make good-quality tarps and hammocks.</p> <p><i>Note: Swags are a vehicle camping sleeping system, not a lightweight hiking system. If you can't carry it..don't bring it!</i></p> | <p>Tarp/hootchie</p> <p>Alton Goods 3x3m Ultra-light Tarp</p> <p>Alton Goods Ultra-light Hammock</p> | |
| <p>Insulated sleeping mat:</p> <p>Blow up/self inflating sleeping mat or army type foam closed cell mat. A ¾ size is all you need. We have a limited supply of closed cell foam mats to lend if you don't have one. Snugpak make some good self inflating ¾ Midi mats.</p> | <p>Snugpak Midi Mat</p> | |
| <p>Sleeping bag:</p> <p>Should be appropriate for the season. Snugpak, Mont and Recon are all good brands.</p> | <p>Snugpak sleeping bags</p> | |
| <p>Sleeping bag liner (Optional):</p> <p><i>Keeps your sleeping bag clean and adds extra warmth to it. The Sea to Summit “Reactor” adds an extra 5-8 degrees and can also be used on its own in summer.</i></p> | <p>Sea to Summit “Reactor”</p> | |
| <p>Bivvi Bag (waterproof and breathable sleeping bag cover) (Optional, recommended for wet weather):</p> <p><i>“Snugpak” Special Forces Bivvi’s are small and compact.</i></p> <p><i>Alternatively, find yourself an ex-army Goretex bivvi bag.</i></p> | <p>Snugpak Special Forces Bivvi</p> | |

| ITEM | RECOMMENDATION | ✓ |
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| <p>Mosquito net: Bell or box style. A necessity for Darwin courses. Olive Green "Oz Trail" mosquito nets can be found in most camping stores.</p> | <p>Alton Goods Hammock Bug Net</p> | |
| <p>Ground sheet: Lightweight tarp/nylon to use as a moisture barrier underneath you. Bunnings now sell olive green and cammo tarps. Please do NOT turn up with a blue one!</p> <p>BSA and SSA are working on a collaborative venture to produce a special edition groundsheet.</p> | | |
| PERSONAL EQUIPMENT | | |
| ITEM | RECOMMENDATION | ✓ |
| <p>Camping plate, bowl, knife, spoon and fork (or a spork).</p> | <p>Wildo</p> | |
| <p>Notebook, pens and pencils: "Rite In The Rain" all weather notebooks and pens are bombproof, however expensive. Any notebook will do.</p> | <p>Rite in the rain</p> | |
| <p>Toiletries: Small wash kit including; toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, small towel/shemagh, hand sanitiser etc.</p> | | |
| <p>Toilet/Latrine Kit: Toilet paper, mini hand sanitiser, matches/cigarette lighter in a waterproof zip lock bag.</p> <p>A communal toilet kit will be provided but we suggest you also have your own small kit. We have a thorough latrine procedure.</p> | | |
| <p>Bring any and all medications for personal use: including insect repellent, sunscreen and first aid items that are appropriate for the outdoor environment.</p> | | |
| <p>Outdoor work gloves (leather or pigskin)</p> | | |

| ITEM | RECOMMENDATION | ✓ |
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| <p>Essential in hot weather or Darwin, but optional in cooler environments An extra 1-2 Litre water bottle/bladder. MSR Dromedary bags come in various sizes or a 2 litre army water bottle/bladder.</p> | | |
| <p>45-55L Rucksack/Pack to fit everything in: There are literally hundreds of backpacks on the market to choose from. Choose something durable, practical, comfortable and at least 45L in volume. Don't choose something with too many pockets or you will be tempted to fill them. Snugpak, Fjallraven, Daluth and Karrimore all make good quality packs.</p> | <p>Snugpak Rocket Pack with side pockets</p> | |

Choose clothing appropriate to the season and environment. Select natural earth colours (greens, browns, khaki, grey, black) where possible. All students at the minimum should have a long sleeve shirt, long suitable trousers (not jeans), belt, hat and a sturdy pair of bush/hiking boots (not trainers). [Fjallraven](#), Icebreaker and 511 make some excellent quality outdoor clothing suitable for bushcraft however it is a little pricey.

| CLOTHING | | |
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| ITEM | RECOMMENDATION | ✓ |
| <p>Under layer/base layer During the summer months, a t-shirt maybe all that is needed, however during the cooler months a woollen thermal layer (top and bottoms) maybe required. Eg. "Icebreaker" base layers and "Fjallraven" Keb wool t-shirt are quality base layers.</p> | <p>Fjallraven Keb long sleeved wool t-shirt</p> | |
| <p>Mid layers This could be a long sleeve shirt eg. 511 tactical shirt, Fjallraven "Singi" Trekking shirt, or King Gee work shirt. A warmer intermediate layer such as a fleece pullover, woollen army jumper, "Swandri" woollen bush shirt or Fjallraven Grannit Wool shirt for cooler weather.</p> | <p>Fjallraven Singi Trekking shirt</p> <p>Fjallraven Granit Lumberjack Wool shirt</p> | |
| <p>Outer layer/ wet weather gear Ideally, this should be waterproof, windproof and breathable. "Goretex" and lightweight rain jackets (top and bottoms) are good options.</p> | | |

| ITEM | RECOMMENDATION | ✓ |
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| <p>Trousers Long, quick drying, lightweight yet tough polyester/cotton or rip stop nylon trousers such as military issue combat pants are ideal for the bush. "Fjallraven" Vidda Pro trousers are excellent for bushcraft.</p> | Fjallraven Vidda Pro Trousers | |
| <p>Footwear Sturdy robust outdoor footwear with ankle support such as trail boots or army type boots are good options. 2-3 pairs of decent woollen socks are also a good idea. In hot dry weather, a lightweight pair of desert boots maybe all that is required. Waterproof socks such as "SealSkinz" are a good addition in wet weather. A pair of thongs or runners for the camp shower is also a good idea.</p> | | |
| <p>Head covering Protection from the hot Australian sun is paramount so a decent hat such as an "Akubra" or army style bush hat is essential. In cold weather, a woollen beanie is important to keep you from losing radiated heat from your head.</p> | Fjallraven Wool Beanie | |
| <p>Belt Not only to hold your pants up but to attach your knife and other tools to. A leather belt will also allow you to "strop" your knife after sharpening it.</p> | | |