



Primitive Shelters Merit

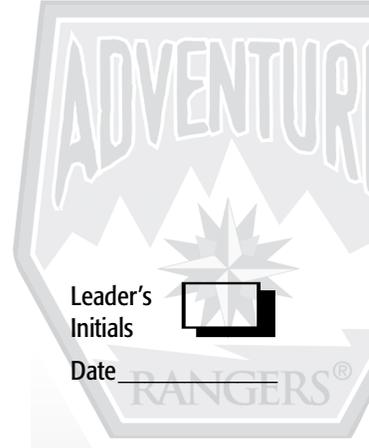
Some answers will need to be written on a separate sheet of paper and placed into your workbook.

1. List at least five purposes for building a primitive shelter.

2. List at least five important factors about the construction of a primitive shelter.

3. List and describe the five components of a primitive shelter.

4. List at least ten materials that can be used to build a primitive shelter.



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5. Build one primitive bed, using natural materials. Choose ONE of the following:
- a. Bough: *Logs are placed at the head and feet. A framework is made with the head elevated. Leaves, branches, and other debris are spread over the top of the framework to at least eight inches deep.*
 - b. Trapper's bed: *This is made from a piece of cloth that has been stitched to allow two poles to run the length of the bed. These poles are then elevated above the ground by placing them atop two logs located at the head and foot of the bed.*
 - c. Swamp bed: *Two A-frames are planted into the ground, and a framework is built between the two A-frames located at the head and foot of the bed. The framework should be at least twelve inches from the ground.*
 - d. Tropical river hut: *This is a modified swamp bed. It is built with a roof and framework that can be covered by thatching or leaves to keep rain off the bed.*
 - e. Debris bed: *Two logs are placed near each other. The outer edges are staked to prevent the logs from moving. The interior is filled with debris to the height of the logs. When laid upon, the debris will compact. In addition, the individual can bury himself within the leaves and debris to keep warm.*

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Bed built: _____

6. Build one simple shelter. Choose ONE of the following:
- a. Bough: *This shelter is typically built around a tree that has fallen but may still be attached to the main trunk.*
 - b. Natural hollow: *This shelter is built over a shallow depression in the ground. It can be covered with branches, bark, turf, or leaves to prevent rain from entering the depression.*
 - c. Root shelter: *This shelter is created at the base of a tree that has been uprooted, typically by high winds.*
 - d. Heavy tree branch: *This shelter is built under a tree with low, heavy concentration of branches and leaves that can provide shelter from most of the rain and sun.*
 - e. Ledge and crevice: *This is a good natural shelter found along cliffs and embankments.*
 - f. Tree bark or fallen tree trunk: *Large sections of tree bark are placed atop a log and ground creating a triangular space for a shelter. Two logs or tree trunks can be placed together and filled with debris. A simple framework is then built over the top and covered in debris.*

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Shelter built: _____

7. Build one complex shelter. Choose ONE of the following:

- a. *Wickiup: This is a type of dwelling used by American Indians of various cultures that usually consisted of brush or mats stretched over arched poles in a cone formed of tent poles; it was strong and easy to move. The wickiup of the Eastern Woodlands was a domed or conical frame covered with bark or mats and might be either a single-family or a communal dwelling. Cut the poles to the desired length (usually less than six feet) and place them in a circle, leaving a hole for the entrance. Tie the poles at the top with twine or rope. Place various types of materials in overlapping layers.*
- b. *Lean-to: A lean-to is a very good top shelter to use as a sunshade or for the rain. It does not do much good for keeping you warm. It is probably the most popular shelter to build while on survival camp. It is best if it can be built between two trees.*
- c. *Debris hut: This is probably the easiest type of primitive shelter to build, but it doesn't allow for much room. If constructed properly, the debris hut can be very effective against cold weather and rain. In naturally occurring deadfall debris huts, you are likely to find the home of many different types of animals.*
- d. *Thatched hut: This hut begins with the same framework as any other type of shelter. However, the best shape is a dome made from flexible branches. Long grasses or reeds are gathered into boughs about three to four inches in diameter. They are tied together and then affixed to the cross-tie framework. They are placed on the framework in such a way as to limit the amount of seepage of water into the interior. This shelter is best suited to tropical or precipitous climates.*

Shelter built: _____

8. Spend at least one night in a properly constructed primitive shelter.

Date: _____



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