

Sunset

GET-READY CHECKLIST FOR CAMPING

Use this easy timeline to help you get organized.

ONE WEEK BEFORE

- Designate one corner of your garage the camping corner.
- Check the camping checklist.
- Borrow or rent any items you don't have.

TWO DAYS BEFORE

- Start packing your camping gear.
- Plan meals.
- Buy groceries.

ONE DAY BEFORE

- Make ice blocks.
- Pre-prepare food.
- Make sure you have any necessary maps or location information.
- Check the weather online for your campground.

DEPARTURE DAY

- Pack the cooler.
- Pack the car.
- Include kids' activities.
- Head out with enough time to reach camp before dark.

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CAMPING CHECKLIST

A good campsite needs just a few elements to be fun and livable. Our advice: Start with a big list and customize it according to what you need for each outing. If you can keep some of the gear packed together in between trips, getting ready will go faster the next time.

BASIC GEAR

- Tent
- Ground cloth
- Sleeping bags
- Sleeping pads
- Pillows
- Flashlights or headlamps and extra batteries
- Lantern
- Shade/rain shelter or tarp
- Rope
- Water carrier with spigot
- Folding chairs
- Day pack
- Water bottles
- Multi-tool or Swiss Army knife
- Hammer or mallet
- Whisk broom and dust pan (for tent)

CLOTHING

- T-shirts, short- and long-sleeved
- Shorts
- Loose-fitting pants (preferably zip-off)
- Socks (synthetic or wool)

- Underwear
- Swimsuit
- Sneakers
- Hiking boots
- In-camp sandals
- Pullover or zippered fleece
- Warm jacket
- Warm hat
- Gloves
- Windproof/water-resistant jacket
- Sun hat
- Pajamas

TOILETRIES & MISC.

- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Comb
- Sunscreen
- Lip protection
- Bug repellent
- Towel
- Quarters for the showers
- Soap and soap holder
- Shampoo
- First-aid kit
- Sunglasses
- Prescription medications
- Feminine products

- Clothesline and clothespins
- Sewing kit
- Duct tape
- Trowel
- Extra toilet paper
- Pet supplies

ACTIVITIES

- Small board games (such as Apples to Apples)
- Books and magazines
- Camera or phone for taking pictures; charger cable for car
- Craft supplies
- Field guides
- Binoculars
- Magnifying glass
- Active games, such as wiffle bats and balls, or badminton rackets and birdies
- Ruler
- Maps
- Compass
- Trekking poles
- Space blanket
- Song book
- Guidebook

CAMP KITCHEN

- Plastic tote bins with handles
- Cooler and ice (for big groups, bring an extra cooler just for drinks)
- Stove
- Stove fuel
- Butane lighter or matches
- Hot pads
- Sturdy grilling gloves
- Folding table (optional)
- Small serrated knife or paring knife
- Chef's knife
- Bread knife
- Knife guards (or wrap knives in thick towels and secure with rubber bands)
- Cutting board
- Kitchen scissors
- Children's scissors (for kids to help cook)
- Measuring cups and spoons
- Wooden spoon
- Serving spoons
- Wide metal spatula
- Corkscrew
- Can opener
- Grater
- Wire whisk
- Silicone scraper
- Vegetable peeler
- Silicone basting brush
- Stainless steel mixing bowls (small, medium, large)
- Silverware
- Utensil roll (optional)
- Tea kettle (optional)
- Coffee/tea gear (cone, filters, and thermos, for example)
- Coffee grinder (optional)
- Battery-powered milk frother (optional)
- Large cast-iron skillet
- Saucepans (small and medium)
- Pasta pot
- Camp dutch oven
- Sturdy grilling tongs
- Portable grill grate (optional)

