

The Backpacker's Field Manual

GENERAL GROUP EQUIPMENT LIST

Shelter

- Tents or tarps and ground sheets with 75-foot tarp lines of ¼-inch braided nylon (22 meters of 6 millimeter)
- Small tarp to set up for cooking (optional)

Cooking

- Stove—one for 4 to 5 people. Carrying multiple stoves gives you more cooking options and are needed for larger groups
- Fuel bottles and fuel
- Funnel
- Strike-anywhere matches, waterproof matches, or lighter
- Nesting pots with lids—a 2-liter and 4-liter work well for groups up to 12
- Frying pan—8 to 12 inches depending on size of group
- Spatula
- Mixing spoon
- Pot gripper
- Biodegradable soap
- Strainer
- Plastic pot brush
- Ziploc/plastic bags for repacking food

Hygiene

- Water purification (have at least one backup method)
- Toilet paper (optional)
- Trowel
- Waterless hand cleanser
- Whistle
- 2 square feet aluminum foil (for tampons)
- Aspirin tablets (for tampons)
- Medical waste bag
- Chlorine bleach (for medical waste and dishwashing)
- Blue personal plastic bags for toilet paper/tampons
- Yellow plastic bags for recycling
- Heavyweight plastic trash bags (plenty—double as emergency rain gear and for hypothermia wrap)

Travel

- Compass
- Maps and guidebooks as needed
- Global Positioning Systems (GPS) receiver (optional)
- Waterproof map case (optional)

Safety

- First-aid kit
- Cell phone or satellite phone (optional)
- Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) (optional)
- Weather radio (optional)

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Miscellaneous

- 75 feet of bear bag line of $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch braided nylon (22 meters of 6 millimeter)
- 2 carabiners for bear-bagging
- 100 feet of parachute cord (11 meters)
- 1- or $1\frac{1}{2}$ -gallon collapsible water container (4–6 liter)

General Repair Kit

- Heavy-duty needles
- Stove repair parts and tools
- 30 feet of fishing line (9 meters)
- 5 safety pins
- 5 buttons
- 15 feet of duct tape on a golf pencil (5 meters)
- 3 clevis pins & split rings (repair external frame packs)
- 15 feet of #20 wire (5 meters)
- 25 feet of braided nylon cord (7 meters)
- 2-inch Fastex pack hip-belt buckle