

<http://readyrangers.tzo.com/bowdrillpage.htm>

Bow Drill Fire Kit

Contents: Box with lid, boot shoelace, Yuka fireboard split in half with one notch prepared, Yuka drill spindle, hardwood drill hand hold, these instructions.

1. Find the right kind of wood. Yuka is found in many places around older towns, graveyards (often referred to as grave yard lilies). The fireboard should be about 1" to 1 1/2" in diameter about 5" long. Split it in half using a knife. The older and rotten Yuka is the best. If it doesn't make dust when drilling it is too green. (You want dust)
2. Notch. See Picture. Use a serrated knife and cut a 1/8" notch at the top flat portion of the fireboard making a dovetail shape 3/8" wider at the bottom of the fireboard.
3. Drill 5" long 1/2" to 5/8" diameter. Place the drill where the notch is 1/3 into the middle of the diameter of the spindle and mark around it with your knife. (see picture) cut just enough out to allow the drill to stay put when drilling.
4. Place a leaf under the fireboard where the notch is located. Prepare the cedar bark. Use the cedar bark that is hanging off of the tree that is air dried to make your birds nest. Roll, fluff, pat the bark till it is nice and frayed so when you put your coal into it and "talk to it" blow into it. The ember will ignite the fibers of the cedar bark. Of course you have built a A Frame fire ready to ignite with your birds nest.
5. Now fetch a stick about 26" long. Tie the shoe lace around the ends of the stick and make a bow.
6. Lube one end of the drill with ear wax, nose grease (don't forget which end is lubed)
7. Place the drilling end of the drill up and wrap the cord of the bow with a 1/2 twist in the center of the drill spindle. Place the hardwood drill hand hold over the lubed end of the drill and using the other hand grab the bow at the end and using your fingers place tension on the string .
8. Brace your hardwood drill hand hold against your ankle and use slight pressure down and start long sweeps with the bow to warm the spot up. More pressure and make lots of brown dust that builds up around the notch!
9. Once you get smoke bare down and give it even faster and harder sweeps. Then tap the fireboard with the drill to dislodge the ember from the notch onto the brown dust on the leaf. Fan the new ember with a hand sweep twice.
10. Place the glowing ember from the leaf onto the center of prepared cedar bark that you just fluffed up.
11. Using both hands speak to it by gently blowing towards the coal. Blow hard to ignite the smoking cedar bark and once it ignites and you have flames place it in your A Frame fire.

Hand made kits are available.



Kits are Available!

