

TOP 15 CAMPING HACKS

Created: 2026-01-24 | 15 Steps | Source: undefined

TOP 15 CAMPING HACKS YOU'LL WISH YOU KNEW SOONER

PROCEDURE STEPS

1 Use storage bins

Use storage bins because this is an absolute game changer and the foundation of all of our camping gear. One for cooking and kitchen stuff, one for sleeping, and one that's just miscellaneous. Always know exactly what you have and it keeps you from overpacking. No more searching around like where's the aluminum foil because you know it's in the kitchen bin.

storage bins



2 Keep Inventory

Keep a little inventory so you always know what's in there and what needs restocking.

storage bin contents pen paper



3

Use frozen water bottles

Instead of buying bags of ice, freeze up some water bottles. These give you solid blocks of ice that last way longer and won't turn your cooler into a soggy mess. One-liter bottles work best for us and can strategically place them around the cooler. Freeze up some gallon jugs; they'll keep everything cold even longer, and the best part is when they do melt you've got an extra supply of cold, clean drinking water ready to go.

water bottles cooler



4

Use Campground Maps

When you're planning your next camping trip, check out any available campground maps on sites like recreation.gov or even the campground's own website; it helps you get a feel for the layout and pick a site that's best for you. You can see which spots are too close or too far from things like the bathroom, the trash, or water. Switch over to satellite view to check for tree cover and shade so you know exactly what kind of sun exposure you're going to be dealing with.

laptop iPad



5

Prepare eggs in advance

If you like your eggs scrambled and don't want to worry about them breaking inside your cooler, just crack and scramble them up ahead of time and pour them into a water bottle. It saves space, travels well, and makes breakfast super easy.

eggs water bottle measuring cup whisk



6

Pool noodles on tent lines

A super easy fix is sliding a brightly colored pool noodle onto the line so it's way easier to see, especially at night. Just grab one and cut it up into smaller pieces. Even a short section at the base of each line works great, adds a little padding, and makes a big, big difference in keeping everyone safe.

pool noodle scissors



7

Use spices in pill dispensers

Instead of bringing along a bunch of bulky spice bottles, just fill a weekly pill dispenser with your go-to seasonings. It saves space, keeps everything organized, and you can even label each slot so you know exactly what's what.

weekly pill dispenser

assorted spices



8

Use Dryer lint as fire starter

Grab some dryer lint from home, toss it in a Ziploc bag to keep it dry and bring it along. I like to stuff it into a toilet paper or paper towel roll; that cardboard just gives it something extra to catch but this stuff is insanely flammable. It's actually scary to think about it sitting in your dryer at home, so always keep that clean.

dryer lint

ziploc bags

toilet paper

matches



9

Use foam flooring in tent

Adding foam floor tiles to your tent is one of the easiest ways to make it more comfortable. It softens the ground so it's nicer to walk on, kneel on, sit on, or even sleep on. It also adds a layer of separation between you and the ground which helps with insulation and can keep you warmer at night.

foam tiles



10

Light up cooler

Stick a small, battery-powered LED light right to the inside of the cooler. This way, when everything's dark and you pop open the lid, the whole cooler lights up and you can find exactly what you need. No digging around, no hassle.

cooler small battery powered LED light 3M command strips

11

Use glow sticks on zipper

Finding your tent zipper in the dark can be really annoying. Cracking a glow stick and attaching it to the main zipper pull of your tent makes it way easier to spot. We like to crack ours open earlier in the day so it's not as bright come nighttime. We always keep a few glow sticks in our camping bin. They're light, cheap, and always useful.

glow sticks

12

Bring dustpan for cleaning

Bringing a dustpan to clean your tent is one of those little things that might get overlooked and you might not think to bring, but it's honestly one of the most useful. It makes it super easy to sweep out any dirt, sand, or anything else that finds its way onto your tent floor either during your trip or right before you pack up. This way, you're putting away a nice clean tent and you don't have to worry about cleaning it out once you get home. It's just ready to roll for your next camping trip.

dustpan broom

13

Keep Meat Frozen

Freezing all of your meat before your trip keeps it fresh way longer and acts just like extra ice in your cooler helping everything else stay cold as well. You can pull the meat out of your cooler to defrost whenever you plan to use it.

frozen meat

14

Burning Sage

Light a small bundle of sage and let it smolder slowly, just like incense, the mosquitoes really don't like it. Just having it nearby when the bugs start to get bad makes a really big difference and you'll notice it. Be careful when burning anything at a campsite. Burn it on a piece of aluminum foil and keep an eye on it. You don't want it blowing away and starting a fire.

SAFETY WARNING

Fire Safety

sage matches aluminum foil

15

Tent Folding Tips

Folding the tent over into thirds and making sure it's the same width as your tent poles. You just roll the tent closed over the tent poles, ensuring it's the same width as the bag which makes it way easier to fit everything inside.

tent poles tent bag