The Woodsman’s Log Website Content

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    - Welcome to The Woodsman’s Log! We are your #1 source for DIY outdoor projects, advice, and information. Whether you are an avid outdoorsman or looking to pick up a new skill, look no further!
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Homemade Cover Scent

Materials:

- Large pot

- Empty spray bottle

- Cheesecloth, or some other means to remove particles from the water (an old shirt works well in a pinch)

- Vegetation from your desired hunting region. The more aromatic the vegetation, the better your end result will be. Evergreen materials tend to work the best, but deciduous leaves, nuts and fruit from the area, even loose soil are good choices.

What you'll do:

Step 1:

Place vegetation in to pot and cover with water. It's best to use as little water as possible, this helps with the concentration of your final product.

Step 2:

Bring the water to a boil, and let simmer for 20-30 minutes. The longer the better, but do not go too long or you will start to lose some of the aroma you're trying to capture.

Step 3:

Strain your cover scent through your cheesecloth to remove all of the solids from your product that may clog your spray bottle. Note: To do this thoroughly, you may need to filter more than once. Once filtered, allow to cool.

Step 4:

Once cool, transfer scent to spray bottle. Label if necessary, then you're ready for the field!

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Archery Bag Target Holder

What you will need:

- 8ft 2x4 QTY 3

- "L" brackets with screws QTY 6

- Bungie Cords QTY 2

- Archery Bag Target QTY 1

- Saw

- Screw driver or Drill

- Tape Measure

- Wood screws

What you'll do:

Step 1:

Cut two of the 2x4 in half, leaving you with 4 4ft pieces of wood. These will act as the feet and legs of your target holder.

Step 2:

Measure a 3ft section of the remaining 2x4 and cut. This will act as the cross member of your target holder. Set aside.

Step 3:

Lay one of the 4ft boards flat on your work surface. Measure the placement of the leg, about two feet. Attach the leg of your stand with two of the "L" brackets on either side. Repeat these steps for the other foot and leg.

Step 4:

Take the 3ft board and lay it across the top of the legs, being sure to make the edges flush. Secure in to place with 2 wood screws on each side. Reinforce with two "L" brackets on the inside corners.

Step 5:

Using the two bungie cords, attach your Archery Target Bag to the top of your stand.

You're now ready to use your Archery Bag Target Holder!

Minnow Trap

Materials:

- Pliers

- Sharp Scissors

- Plastic Soda Bottles x2

- Woodworking nail (exact size is unimportant, long enough to grip with pliers at the head and have some space near the point)

- Bowl of cool water

- Twine, kite string, or strong fishing line

- Flame source, preferably a torch or gas stove top (Do NOT use a pocket lighter, as keeping the flame on for lengths of time is dangerous)

What you'll do:

Step 1:

Label the two soda bottles A and B. Cut off the bottom 1/3 of bottle A and leave it in your recycle bin. Keep the cap. On bottle B, cut off the "neck and shoulders" of the bottle. It should be about half an inch below where the sides begin to straighten out. Place the rest of the bottle and the spare cap in the recycle bin.

Step 2:

The following steps should be done near a flame source.

Fit the funnel shaped piece from bottle B in to the bottom of bottle A, facing it so it points towards the remaining cap on bottle A. You should be left with a small "cave".

Step 3:

Holding the two bottle pieces together in your weak hand, turn on the flame. Grasp the nail near the head firmly with the pliers, and hold over the flame until good and hot.

Once the nail is heated, press the hot nail through the two bottle pieces in 10 to 12 places around the lip of the "cave". Place nail in the bowl of cool water when finished.

Step 4:

Using your string or twine, sew the two bottle pieces together. Alternatively, you can also cut the string in to pieces and individually tie each hole so the two bottle pieces do not come apart.

Step 5:

After the pieces are tied together, reheat the nail. Carefully put more holes around bottle A, around a dozen or so. This will help sink your trap and keep it near the bottom of your pond, lake, or stream.

Step 6:

Bait your trap with bread, crackers, or even a hot dog. You'll want your bait to be able to fit in to the small funnel portion of bottle B. Place your trap in the water and leave for several hours, perferably overnight. Once you've recovered your trap, unscrew the cap from bottle A and dump the minnows inside in to a minnow bucket. Enjoy fishing with your bait!