

An illustration on an orange background featuring three horizontal sticks of varying lengths and a branch with several leaves on the right side. The sticks are white with green outlines and some internal texture lines. The branch is also white with green outlines and has several leaves with green outlines and some internal texture lines.

# A Concise Guide to Field Sticks

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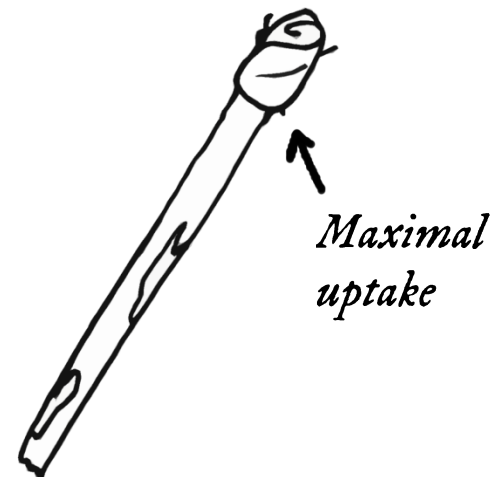
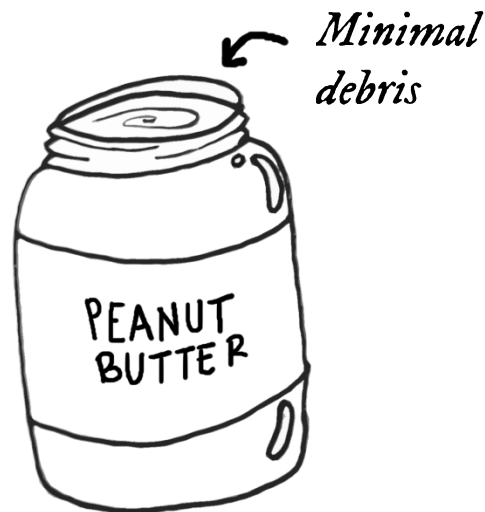
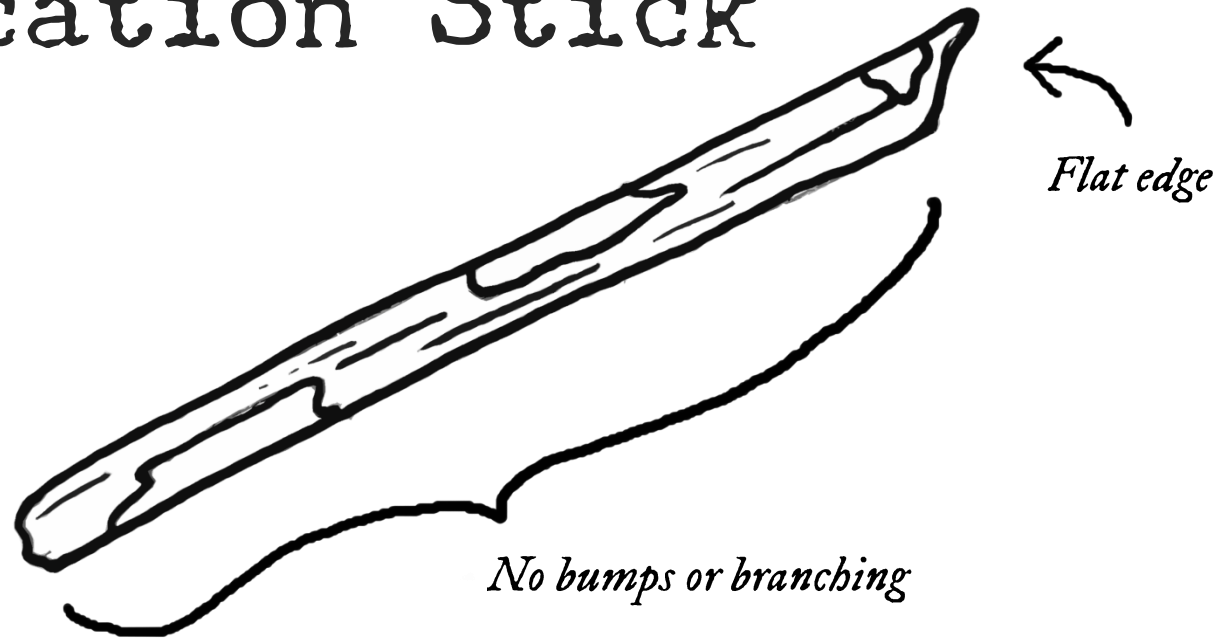
# Introduction

This guide, though concise, is not a general guide to field sticks. It is a very specific guide intended for a very specific audience. If you engage in the distinguished art of catching squirrels and routinely use, apply, and remove peanut butter from tomahawk live traps, then this guide is for you.

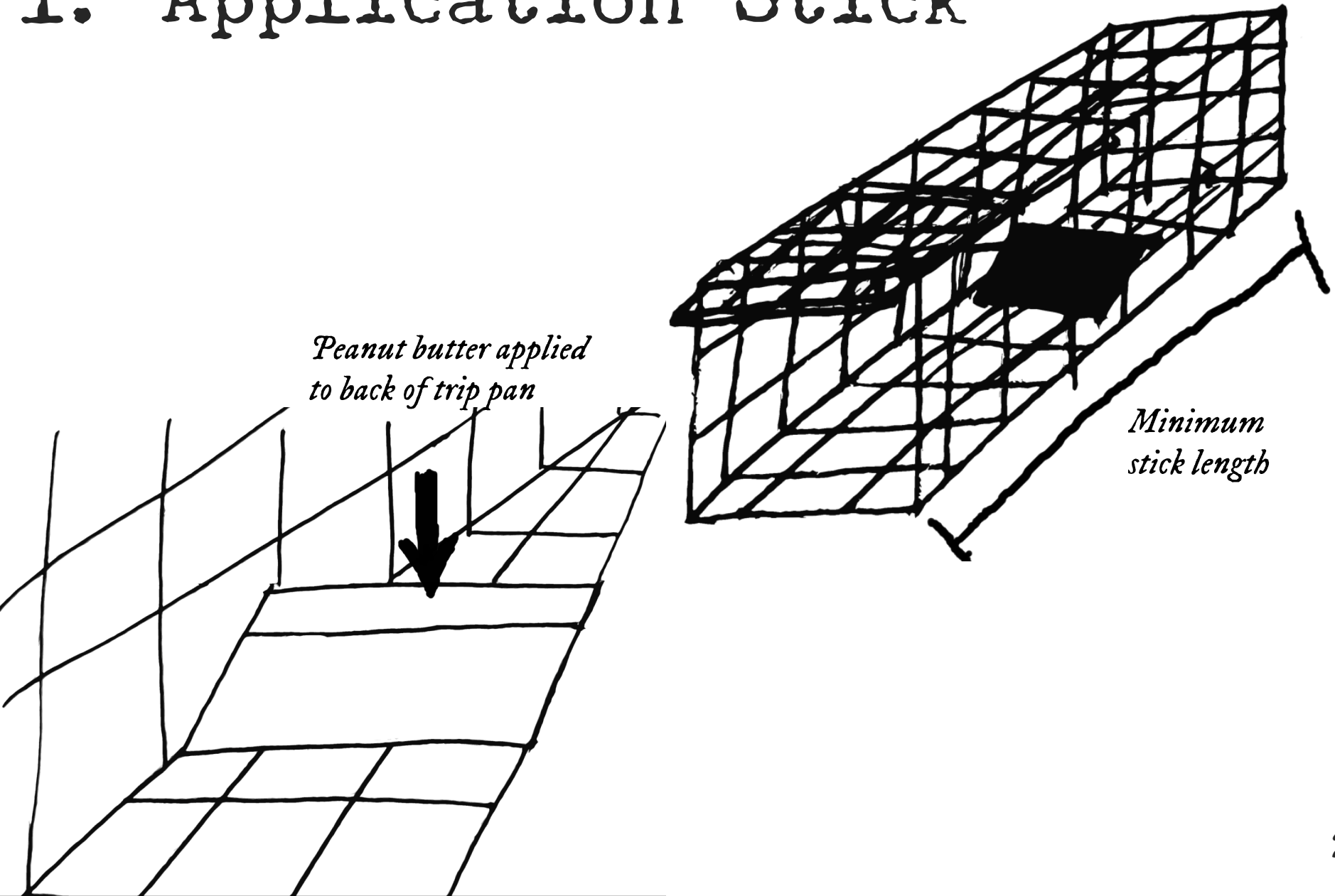


# 1. Application Stick

The ideal stick for the application of peanut butter is straight, and must be long enough to reach into the back of the trap without issue. An application stick is smooth, leaving minimal debris in the peanut butter jar. A flat edge on the end is preferred for optimal peanut butter uptake and smearing.

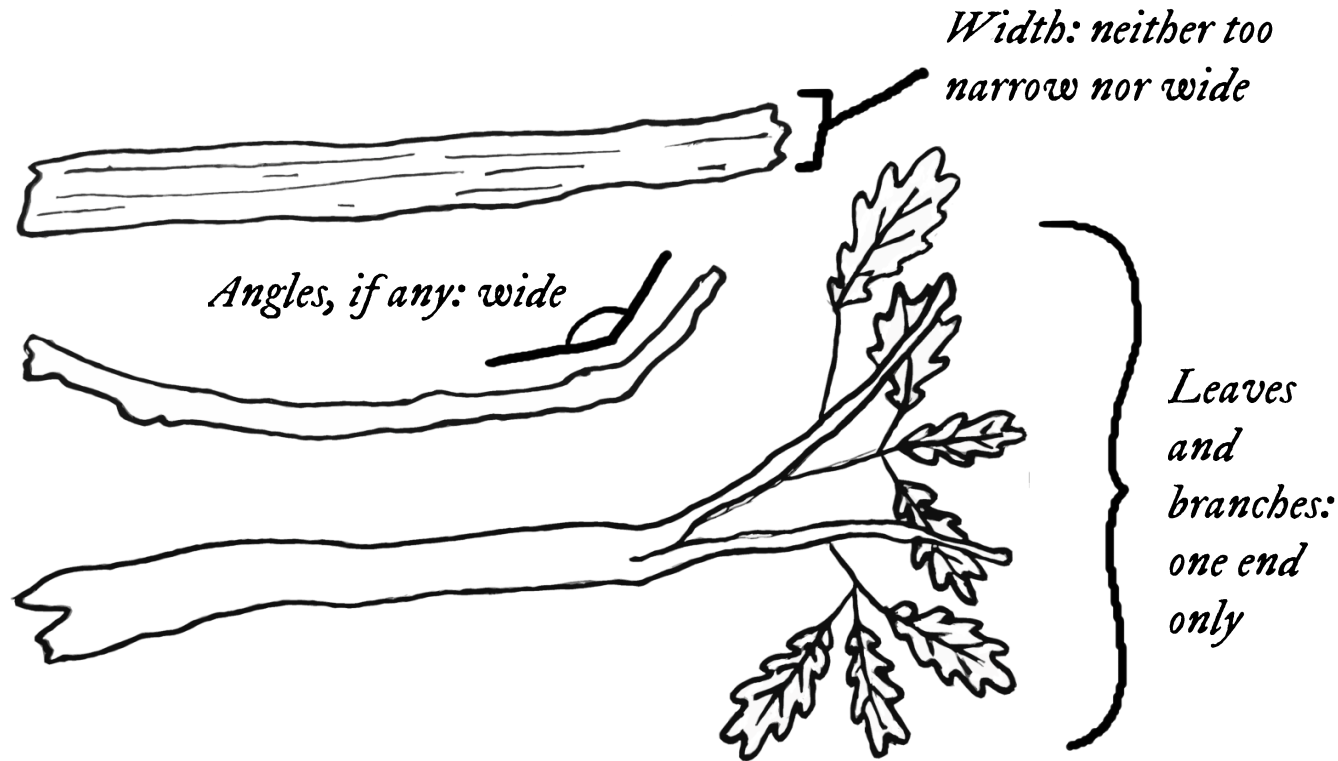


# 1. Application Stick



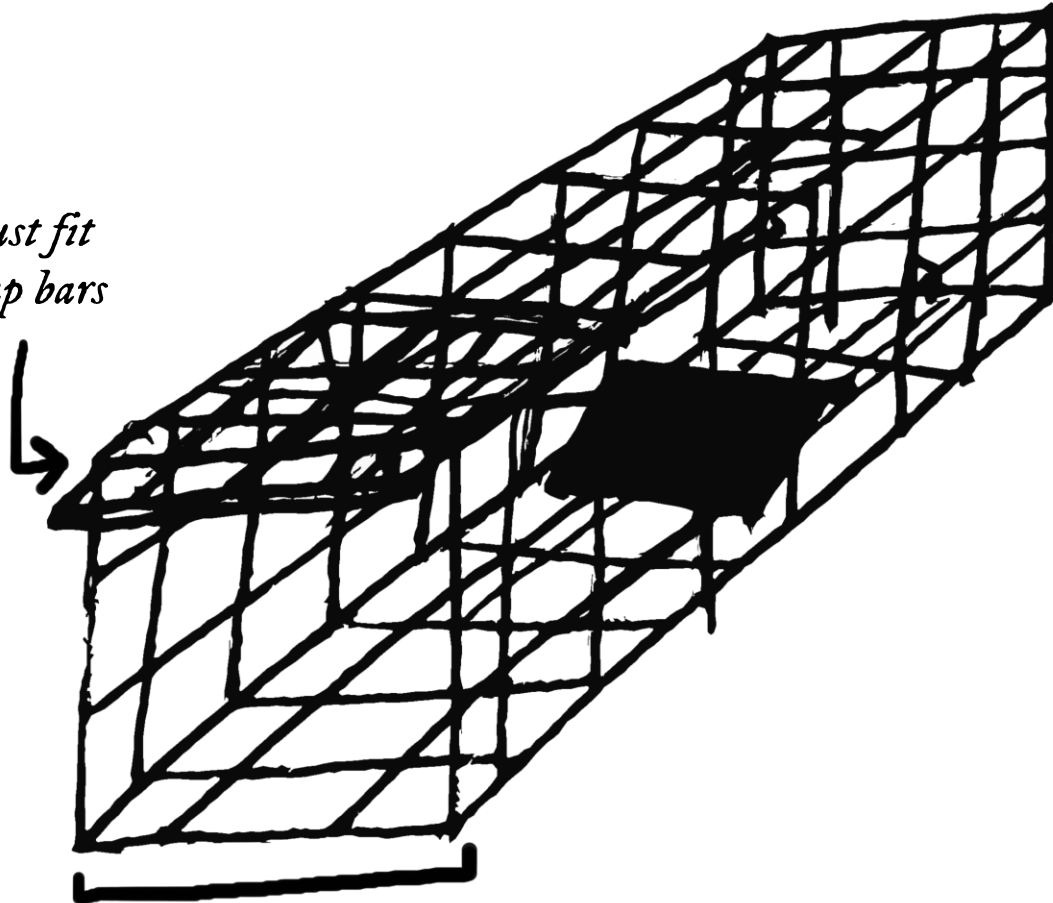
## 2. Propping Stick

A stick used to prop traps open must be of sufficient length to span the width of the trap. Propping sticks should be free of bumps and branches, and narrow enough to fit between bars. A sturdy, somewhat dry stick works best. Sticks with slight curves, or with branches and leaves on one end are also acceptable.



## 2. Propping Stick

*Width: must fit  
through trap bars*



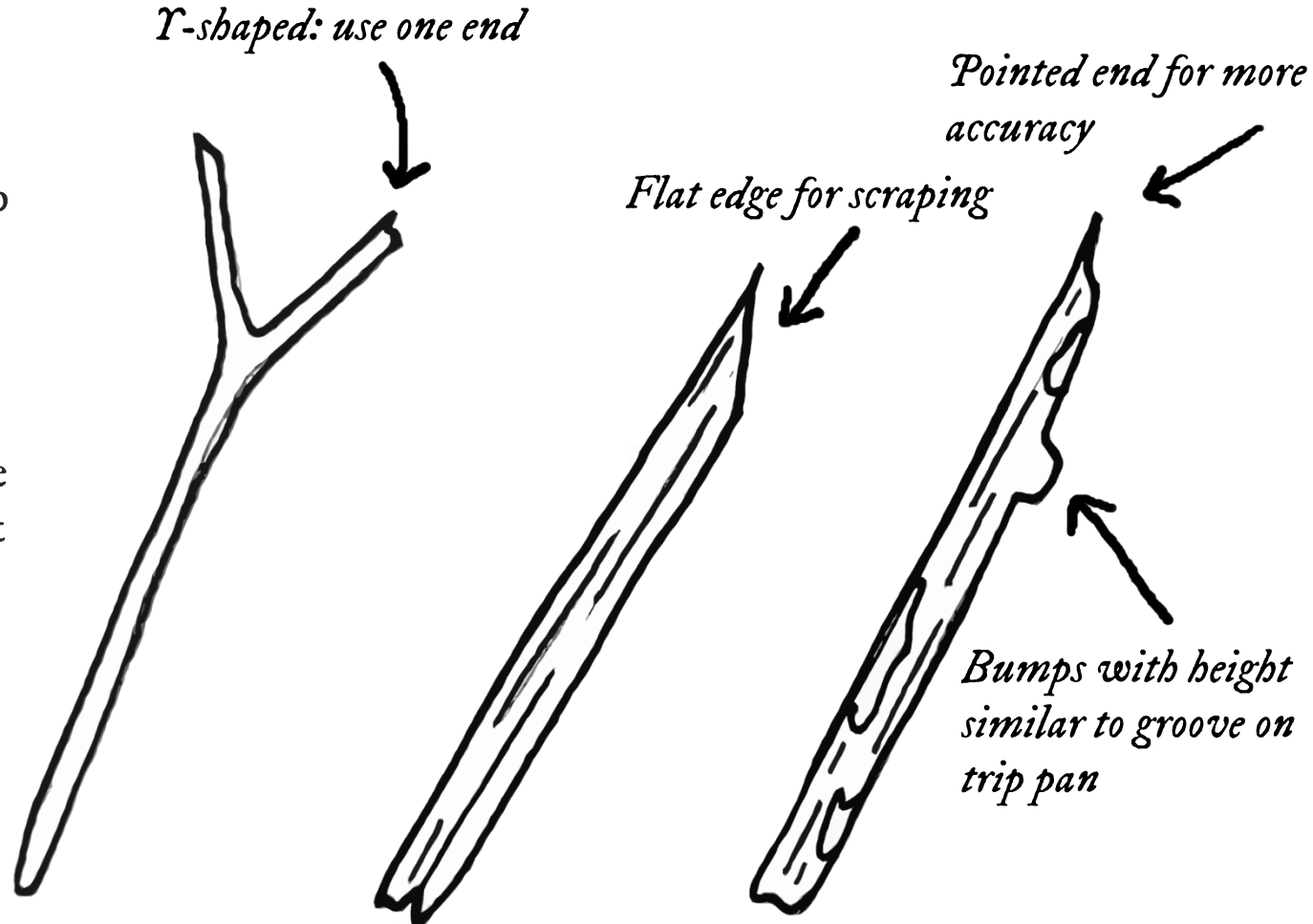
*Minimum stick  
length*

# 3. Removal Stick

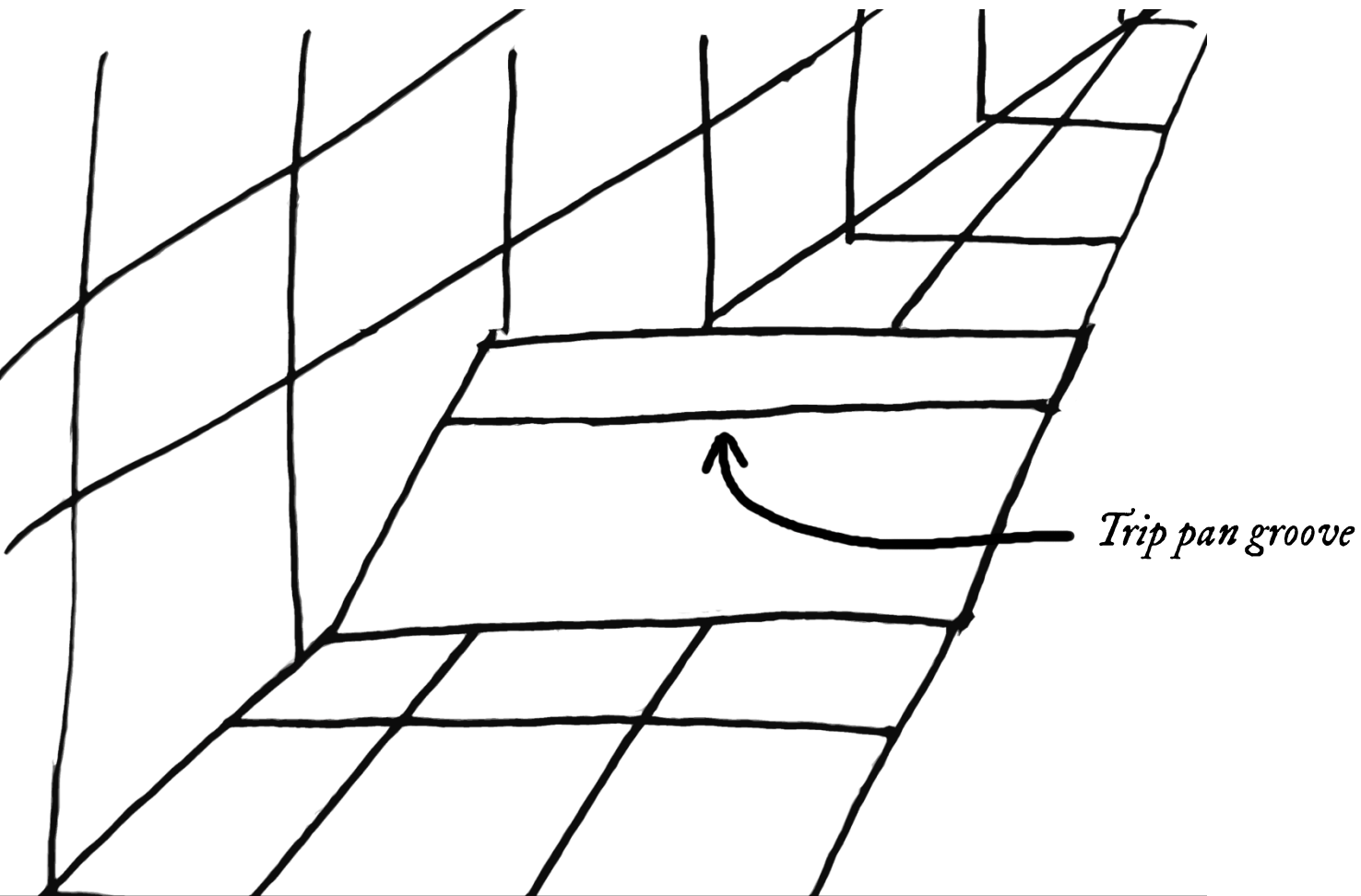
Ideal attributes of peanut butter removal sticks vary according to personal preference.

They may or may not possess: a flat edge for scraping, a 'Y' shape to maneuver in the groove of the trip pan, or a flat edge in combination with a sharp point or bumps, good for both scraping and getting around the groove.

Peanut butter removal sticks are ideally a bit flexible.



### 3. Removal Stick

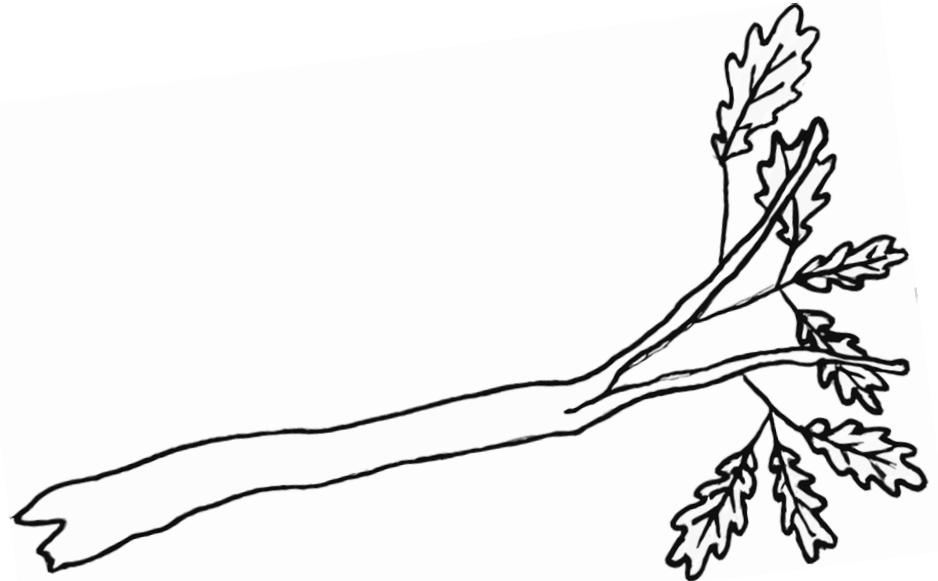




# Last words

This guide covers the basics of how to choose field sticks. Bear in mind that selecting and working with the right stick is a subtle art, a skill which takes time to hone. True mastery takes practice.

Happy trapping!



# Praise for *A Concise Guide to Field Sticks*

“Brilliant!” – *Squirrel Trapping Times*

“All this time, I was using the absolutely wrong stick for the job. Now, de-peanut buttering is a breeze!” – *Grad student*

“I never gave much thought to sticks for this purpose, but maybe now I will” – *Nuts About Acorns*

“I don’t get it ” – *Doesn’t Trap Squirrels*

