

5 Camping Safety Tips For First Timers

by [John Demas](#) on 06/10/10 at 1:19 pm

Planning a camping trip? If this is your first time to go camping, then you're in for a lot of new experiences, hopefully nothing dangerous or traumatic. To help you plan your camping trip, here are some camping tips you could easily manage on your own.

Make a list

List everything from food and drinks, personal toiletries, money, safety gear like flashlights and batteries, and beddings. Look around your house and write down what you cannot do without. You can trim down the list slowly. The point is to start gearing your mind towards a few days outdoors with no home comforts.

Lay of the Land

When you get to the camping grounds, hopefully you still have daylight. Go over the grounds and choose your spot. Make sure there is a slight slope in case of rain; you won't find yourself in the middle of a puddle. You should also check for sharp items on the ground like glass, pebbles, or even branches. These could tear your tent or give you and pretty uncomfortable sleep.

If there is wind, you might want to set up camp near some wind breaker like plants or shrubs.

Fire Hazards

If you plan to do some cooking, never start a fire near anything that could catch fire like trees or plants. If a strong wind blows, it could direct the flames to something that could catch fire. Also, never leave the fire unattended. If there is some place you need to go to in a hurry, put out the fire, and make it's out. You can always relight when you get back.

Who's in Charge?

If you are travelling with a group, make sure there is a designated leader that everyone trusts and will follow. You should also find the person in charge of the camping grounds, and get his mobile number in case of an emergency.

Recycle and Dispose Properly

It is your duty to dispose of your trash properly. This means segregation and proper disposal. Thus, bring along several trash bags of different colours to help you segregate. Do not assume that the camping grounds personnel will help you with your trash. In fact, you could be fined a big penalty for improper disposal.

You need to leave the camping grounds in the same or better condition than when you arrived. This is just the way it should be, so that you know when you return, you can expect the camping grounds to be in good condition also.

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