



CAMPING TIPS & HANDY HINTS

Whether you're new to camping or have been doing it for years, these simple tips can make your trips more comfortable, organised, and enjoyable.

Comfort & Sleeping

- Invest in a quality camp chair. You'll spend more time sitting around camp than you think.
- A good pillow can make a bigger difference to your sleep than an expensive mattress.
- Pack a spare blanket, even in warmer weather. Nights can cool down quickly.
- Keep a set of clean clothes and socks reserved for sleeping only.
- Place a foam mat under your swag or tent floor for extra comfort and insulation.

Keeping Things Fresh

- Baby wipes are fantastic for freshening up between showers.
- Moisture absorbers work well in canopies, station wagons, caravans, and camper trailers to reduce condensation and damp smells.
- Wrap a some scented soap bars in old stockings and place them inside swags, tents, sleeping bags, and storage tubs to help eliminate that "stored in the shed" smell.
- Air out sleeping bags, swags, and tents as soon as you get home from a trip.
- Store bedding in breathable bags rather than sealed plastic tubs.

Camp Kitchen Tips

- Use quality airtight containers for sugar, coffee, tea, and powdered milk to keep them fresh and moisture-free.
- Keep a dedicated camping spice kit packed and ready to go.
- Freeze water bottles before leaving; they'll help keep the fridge cold and provide drinking water as they thaw.
- Take more rubbish bags than you think you'll need.
- Pack a tea towel or two—they always come in handy.

Weather & Shelter

- Always carry a couple of extra bundles of guy rope and a handful of spare pegs.
- Even if the forecast looks perfect, prepare for wind and rain.
- Learn a few basic knots before your trip.
- Carry a small tarp—it can become extra shade, rain protection, a windbreak, or a ground cover.
- Peg everything down properly. Wind has a habit of arriving when you least expect it.

Lighting & Power

- Pack more charging cables than you think you'll need.
- Rechargeable LED lanterns and torches are worth every cent.
- Keep a head torch near your bed for midnight toilet trips.
- Carry a small power bank as a backup for phones and GPS devices.
- Label charging leads so everyone knows which cable belongs to whom.

Organisation & Storage

- Use clear tubs so you can see what's inside without unpacking everything.
- Give every item a designated storage spot and return it there after use.
- Canvas storage bags are great for keeping similar items together.
- Keep frequently used items somewhere easy to access.
- A small fold-up table makes meal preparation much easier.

Around the Campfire

- Keep a fire poker and heatproof gloves handy.
- Small telescopic fork for marshmallows.
- Collect firewood before dark.
- Don't forget a small axe or tomahawk for cutting down smaller kindling.
- A small camp broom helps keep dirt and leaves out of your tent or camper.
- Marshmallows aren't essential, but they're highly recommended.
- Always check local fire restrictions before lighting a fire.

Vehicle & Travel

- Carry a basic tool kit and tyre repair kit.
- A few spare ratchet straps can solve all sorts of problems.
- Always have more drinking water than you expect to use.
- Refuel whenever you get the chance in regional areas.
- Have a fire extinguisher in a handy quick access spot and make its location is clear to all.
- Keep a torch where you can access it without unpacking the vehicle.
- Keep a pair of work gloves in the driver's door pocket. Whether you're collecting firewood, changing a tyre, or handling recovery gear, you'll use them more than you think.
- A cheap tyre pressure gauge is worth carrying even if your vehicle has a pressure monitoring system. It's good to be able to double-check your pressures, especially when travelling on dirt roads or beaches.

The Little Things You'll Thank Yourself For

- Pack spare batteries even if everything is rechargeable.
- Take a clothesline or guy rope / paracord and a handful of pegs.
- Keep insect repellent within easy reach.
- An adequate first aid kit should go on every camping trip.
- Keep a cheap doormat outside your swag, tent, camper, or caravan entrance. It dramatically reduces the amount of dirt and sand tracked inside.
- Store a dedicated camping lighter in multiple locations around camp. One in the kitchen box, one with the fire gear, and one in the vehicle. Lighters have an amazing ability to disappear when you need them most.
- Freeze a few meals before your trip. They help keep the fridge cold and make the first couple of nights around camp much easier.
- Keep a roll of paper towel in a waterproof bag or container. Wet paper towel is about as useful as wet toilet paper.
- Pack a small dustpan and brush. It's one of those items that seems unnecessary until you're sweeping dirt, leaves, and crumbs out of your shelter every day.
- Store a few zip-lock bags in your camp kitchen. They're perfect for leftovers, keeping electronics dry, organising small items, or separating wet and dirty gear.
- Keep a notebook or notes app dedicated to camping. Every trip you'll discover something you forgot, something you never used, or a great campsite tip. After a few trips you'll have your own personalised camping guide that's worth more than any checklist.
- When you return home, don't just unpack—restock. Replace used batteries, refill consumables, wash gear, and repack everything straight away. Your future self will thank you when the next trip comes around and you're ready to go with minimal preparation.

For the Kids

- Give the kids their own small torch or headlamp. It saves them constantly borrowing yours and gives them a little independence around camp.
- A bucket of water near your tent works well great for rinsing off dirty feet prior to getting into bed.
- Have a designated "shoe spot" outside the tent or camper. It sounds simple, but it stops everyone hunting for shoes in the dark.
- Don't forget plenty of games for the kids as this works well for bonding around a campfire and winding down of a night pre-bedtime.
- If you see snakes or spiders, keep your children a safe distance from them however also teach them that you're in their backyard now so we must respect them and leave them alone.
- Turn rubbish collection into a game where whoever collects the most rubbish from the site, be it yours or others, wins a prize. That way it teaches upcoming campers to look after our bush so it's there for future trips. Leave your site cleaner than when you arrived.

Golden Rule

Camping doesn't have to be expensive or complicated; it just has to be fun and rewarding.

Start with the basics, buy quality where it matters, and add gear over time as you discover what works best for you and your style of camping.

Probably the biggest note too is don't buy every one of those "MUST HAVE" items because you're told "you can't camp without it" !

Travel light ... travel comfortable ... travel frequently

And most of : #stresslesscampmore !



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