

Eco Friend

Build A Fire

Before you build a campfire (with help from an adult, of course!), make sure fires are allowed where you are. There are different rules for fire building, depending on your campsite, how dry the environment is, or where you are in the country. Once you're sure it's ok, you'll want to gather wood for your fire.

Make sure the wood is:

- **Dead:** Wood that has dried out.
- **Down:** Wood that has fallen from living trees.
- **Dinky:** Wood that is smaller around than your wrist or forearm. It should be easy to break.
- **Distant:** Wood that is collected at least 200 feet from your campsite.

When you have enough wood for a fire, practice building a fire in one of these places.

Fire Ring

The best place to build a fire is where others have made them before you—in an already-made fire ring at a campsite. Have an adult help you find a fire ring and build a fire in one.

Fire Pan

If you do not have a fire pit available, you can also build a fire in something called a fire pan. Fire pans are made of metal and can be found at camping goods stores. If you don't have a fire pan, you can use a metal trash can lid. The pan should be raised up on rocks to keep the fire from damaging the ground.