



Tripod

You will need:

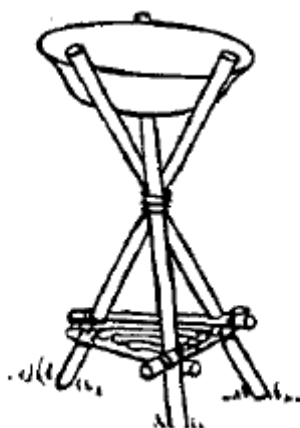
- 3 sticks about 1 metre long (Long enough so that the tripod will be high enough for people to wash their hands without having to bend down too far. If the tripod is for bedding or gear, shorter sticks are better.)
- 3 shorter sticks
- 7 pieces of cord each about 75cm long, or 1 piece of cord and 6 legs of pantyhose
- 1 basin or bucket
- Pantyhose and soap (If you're making a hand washing station)

Instructions:

1. Hold the sticks in a line, with Stick #1 on the left, then Stick #2, and finally Stick #3. Allow enough space between each stick for the cord to pass through.
2. Decide where the clove hitch will go so that when the sticks are opened out, the area made will hold the basin (or bedding). For the usual sized hand basin, the right spot is about one-third of the way down the top of the sticks.
3. Tie [a clove hitch](#) firmly on to Stick #1, about one-third of the way down (or wherever is appropriate for your tripod) from the top of the stick, leaving one end of the cord about 15cm long, pointing to the left of the stick. This means that the longer end will be pointing to the right of the stick.
4. Use frapping to bind the sticks together. Frapping allows the sticks to be moved apart when needed (once ready for the basin or bedding) but remain firm once in place. Frapping pulls the clove hitch tight (like with square lashing).
 - a. With the clove hitch sitting on the front of Stick #1, take the longer end of the cord to the back between Stick #1 and Stick #2. Pull the cord around the back of Stick #2, then pull to the front between Stick #3. This line of weaving or (extended figure 8s) should be roughly level with the clove hitch of Stick #1.
 - b. Take the cord around the back of Stick #3, and then bring forward between Stick #3 and Stick #2.
 - c. Pull the cord around the front of Stick #2, and then pull to the back between Stick #2 and Stick #1.
 - d. Take the cord around the back of Stick #1 and repeat the weaving for another 4-6 lines across the front and back of each stick. The total number depends on how long your rope is and how thick your sticks are. Make sure the cord is not loose.
 - e. Once back at Stick #1, take the cord to the back between Stick #1 and Stick #2, then down below the cord and back to the front between Stick #1 and Stick #2. Do this three times, pulling tightly after each loop.

- f. After the third time, take the cord back up between Stick #1 and Stick #2 and behind Stick #2. Pull the cord to the front between Stick #2 and Stick #3, and down below the cord and to the back between Stick #2 and Stick #3. Do this three times, pulling tightly after each loop.
 - g. After the third time, finish off with another clove hitch.
5. Take the two side sticks (Sticks #1 and #3) and cross them over behind the middle stick (Stick #2) to make the shape required for the basin or bedding.
 6. The tripod will not stand up on its own, and will collapse when any weight is put on to it unless there is a framework of three sticks lashed in a triangle around the bottom to keep the legs from splaying out.
 7. Use [square lashing](#) to attach one end of one of the shorter sticks to about 10cm above the end of one of the sticks in the tripod (e.g. Stick #1). Attach the other end of the small stick using square lashing to another end of a different stick in the tripod (e.g. Stick #2). Continue doing this for each of the three small sticks, until a triangle is formed at the base of the tripod

Here's a diagram showing the tripod with a basin, and extra sticks laid across the triangle at the bottom to form a shelf.



8. If you're making a hand washing station, put the basin in, and tie on a pantyhose leg with soap in the toe high enough so that it does not drag in the dirt. Place a bucket of water with 'dipper' tied to it (e.g. a fruit tin to pour water on to your hands) near your tripod. Use the water from the bucket to fill the basin with fresh water before using. It's a good idea to stand the bucket on two pieces of wood if it is to stay there more than a day or two.

The tripod can be made bigger or smaller according to what it is needed for. For holding gear in a tent, have it smaller so that the ends do not touch the sides of the tent. It can also be used to hold a chicken over a fire for cooking, but no triangle frame at the bottom will be needed as the ends of the tripod will be pushed into the ground around the fire.

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