



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for DEFSUR002  
Construct improvised weapons and  
equipment in a survival situation**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for DEFSUR002 Construct improvised weapons and equipment in a survival situation

## Modification History

Release	Comments
1	<p>These Assessment Requirements were released in DEF Defence Training Package release 1.0 and meet the Standards for Training Packages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assessment Requirements created drawing upon specified assessment information from superseded unit</li></ul>

## Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria. If not otherwise specified the candidate must demonstrate evidence of performance of the following on at least one occasion.

- sharpening and maintaining a knife
- tying knots and lashings/seizing/whipping
- maintaining a range of survival weapons and equipment
- producing a range of items according to the survival situation, but must include:
  - either digging stick:
    - length – minimum half user’s body length
    - shaft diameter – minimum 2.5 centimetres
    - plumb – not greater than seven degrees off ‘true’ from point to end
    - point – fire hardened sufficiently to deny fingernail from making any marking/indentation
  - or spear:
    - length – minimum three-quarters user’s body length
    - shaft diameter – maximum two centimetres
    - plumb – not greater than seven degrees off ‘true’ from point to end
    - point – fire hardened sufficiently to deny fingernail from making any marking/indentation
  - either bed:
    - length and width – must cover user’s body when flat with arms by sides
    - height – must elevate user at least ten centimetres off the ground
    - level – must be level

- strength – must withstand weight of user and frame must remain rigid under user’s movements
- comfort – must have sufficient padding to prevent framework from unduly discomforting user
- or seat:
  - dimensions – seat must cover user’s posterior
  - height – must elevate to user’s knee level off the ground
  - level – must be level
  - strength – must withstand weight of user and frame must remain rigid under user’s movements
  - comfort – must have sufficient padding (including bark, grass) to prevent discomfort through pressure of framework
  - improvised cordage:
    - six metres
    - minimum two-ply lay
    - capable of supporting twenty kilograms weight
    - maximum six millimetres diameter
- basket:
  - minimum side and bottom length twenty centimetres
  - carry handle attached
  - capable of securing survival items during travel

## Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria. If not otherwise specified the depth of knowledge demonstrated must be appropriate to the job context of the candidate.

- knife and weapon safety
- fire safety

## Assessment Conditions

Competency must be assessed in a simulated workplace environment with access to a suitable assessment area, with natural resources and a knife.

Consideration must be given to holistic assessment with other survival units.

While a person can demonstrate the ability to construct improvised weapons and equipment, doing so in a survival situation is crucial. Assessment under simulated survival conditions includes:

- food restrictions
- absence of normal living conditions and amenities
- significant period of time

Refer to advice in the companion volumes.

Assessors must satisfy the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

## **Links**

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=6bdbab1e-11ed-4bc9-9cba-9e1a55d4e4a9>

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