



Australian Government

DEFSU002B Construct improvised weapons and equipment in a survival situation

Release 2

DEFSU002B Construct improvised weapons and equipment in a survival situation

Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
2	DEF12V2	Layout adjusted. No changes to content.
1	DEF12V1	Primary release.

Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to use *traditional techniques* to construct and maintain improvised weapons and equipment in a survival situation.

The individual is not expected to be an expert tool-maker or craftsperson, but rather, to have sufficient skills and knowledge to produce functional items of equipment that will enhance their chances of survival.

Application of the Unit

As agreed in the creation of this Training Package, applications for units transferred from the PUA00 Public Safety Training Package will be developed as part of continuous improvement plans, and taking into account the change in Unit of Competency format as detailed in templates for Streamlined Training Packages.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where ***bold italicised*** text is used, further information is detailed in the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

1. Prepare for the construction of improvised weapons and equipment

- 1.1 Required ***weapons*** and ***equipment*** to enhance survival are determined and prioritised as appropriate to the situation.
- 1.2 ***A basic plan for construction of desired items*** is developed.
- 1.3 ***Natural resources*** are gathered to meet the ***concept of design***.
- 1.4 Two-ply string is constructed from ***fibrous material*** for use in binding and securing.

2. Construct improvised weapons and equipment

- 2.1 Timber is shaped using heat to induce and/or remove bends.
- 2.2 Notches, edges and settings are cut into timber to fit and secure additional items.
- 2.3 Timber is hardened using heat to prevent wearing, blunting and splitting.
- 2.4 ***Additional items*** are secured to timber using knots and lashes.
- 2.5 Padding is added through grasses and barks to ***survival comfort equipment items***.
- 2.6 Baskets are woven and/or assembled using natural resources to store ***survival items***.
- 2.7 Weapons and equipment are maintained and preserved using improvised ***preservation techniques***.

Required Skills and Knowledge

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

Required Skills

- sharpen and maintain a knife
- tie necessary knots and lashings, and seizing and whipping

Required Knowledge

- knife and weapon safety
- fire safety
- knots and lashings
- seizing and whipping

Evidence Guide

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to produce a range of items according to the survival situation, but must include:

Either

Digging stick:

- length - minimum half user's body length
- shaft diameter (base) - minimum 2.5 cm
- plumb - not greater than 7 degrees off 'true' from point to end
- point - fire hardened sufficiently to deny adult fingernail from making any marking/indentation

OR

Spear:

- length - minimum three quarters user's body length
- shaft diameter (base) - maximum 2.0 cm
- plumb - not greater than 7 degrees off 'true' from point to end
- point - fire hardened sufficiently to deny adult 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 10 cm (+) off the ground
- level - must be level
- strength - must withstand weight of user and frame remain rigid under user's movements
- comfort - must have sufficient padding (bark, grass, etc.) 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 (bark, grass,

Context of and specific resources for assessment

etc.) to allow prevent discomfort through pressure of framework

And

Improvised cordage:

- 6 metres
- minimum two-ply lay
- capable of supporting 20 kg weight (e.g. water jerry)
- maximum 6 mm diameter

And

Basket:

- minimum side and bottom length 20 cm
- carry handle attached
- capable of securing survival items during travel

Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated in the construction and maintenance of a range of survival weapons and equipment.

Context of assessment

Competency must be assessed in a simulated workplace environment.

While a person can demonstrate the technical ability to construct improvised weapons and other survival equipment, the aspect of survival is crucial; consequently it is strongly recommended that holistic assessment be conducted with other associated survival units.

Assessment under simulated survival conditions should include:

- food restrictions (food should be restricted to half the recommended daily caloric intake)
- the absence of normal living conditions and amenities such as showers, beds and bedding (warmth to be provided by fire), kitchens etc. with the attendant levels of personal discomfort and fatigue
- a significant period of time - the recommendation is four days.

Specific resources for assessment

Access to assessment area, natural resources (trees, bark, grass, rocks etc.) and a knife.

Range Statement

The Range Statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

Traditional techniques may include:

- bending
- binding
- carving
- fixing
- hardening
- string-making

Weapons include:

- bolass
- boomerang
- spear

Equipment includes:

- bed
- coolamon
- digging stick
- rock hammer
- seat
- table
- traps and snares

Basic plan for construction of desired items includes:

- general design
- labour requirements
- resource requirements

Natural resources may include:

- bark
- bone
- rocks
- saplings
- stones

Concept of design may include:

- collecting stones and bones as specific attachments
- felling saplings for spears and spars
- stripping bark for string and surfacing

Fibrous material may include:

- fibrous barks (e.g. acacia, brachychiton)
- fibrous reeds

Additional items may include:

- blades
- cross-spars
- points

Survival comfort equipment items may include:

- beds
- chairs

Survival items may include:

- food and water

Preservation techniques
include:

- knife
- tinder
- trapping items
- plant and animal oils
- saps
- smoking

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.