

# Make Your Own Tent



Civil War soldiers didn't sleep indoors. When out in the field they often made simple “wedge” or “pup” tents to provide some shelter and shade. Making your own tent is easy, all you need is:

- A single piece of cloth 6' x 6'. An old cotton bed sheet would work well, but make sure to ask your parents first!
- Two sticks about 4' tall. It's best if these are forked at one end. That means if you stand them up they look like a capital Y.
- One stick about 5' long that will be the ridge pole (the one that goes across the top).
- Four tent stakes.



30 minutes

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## Instructions

- 1)** Take the two end poles, the ones shaped like a capital Y, and drive them into the ground about 5 feet apart so they stand up on their own.
- 2)** Take the ridge pole and place it in the forked ends of the other two sticks so it lays horizontally.
- 3)** Place the cloth or bed sheet over the ridge pole so that it is divided in half. Stretch out the ends of the cloth and use the tent stakes to pin the corners to the ground. Now you have a tent!

