

## IDEAS for FORT BUILDING

### The log cabin:

Start by gathering many large and small sticks. Making them all similar in length will add to the overall look of your fort, but other than that the length is not really important. Lay two sticks on the ground beside each other and facing the same directions. Make sure there is some space between the first two sticks; this will be your fort space. On top of those two sticks, lay two more sticks going in the opposite direction. This should form a square on the ground. Continue layering the sticks, alternating the direction of the sticks. Make sure you have a way to get in and out of your cabin. To add a roof, cover the top with sticks, branches, leaves, or even a cloth.



### The lean-to:

Gather some long sticks and lean them up against a large, stationary object, such as a fence, house, tree or large boulder. Place smaller sticks on the outside of the structure to fill in any gaps. Leaves and branches also make great additions to the outside of your lean-to because they provide extra coverage and make your hide out even harder to see!

All kinds of Fabric can work too: Sheets, tarps, and towels can help with coverage!



### The tipi:

Find three wooden sticks that are about the same length, taller than the tallest person building the tipi, and thick enough that your fingers and thumb barely touch.

If possible, one of the three sticks should have a fork near the top. Decide on location, consider the following:

- Soft ground to push sticks into
- Rock or other permanent item to keep stick from sliding out

Position sticks so that they rest together at the top just above the tallest person's head. Have one person hold the tops together. Push the base of the sticks into the ground. Once the sticks are in the ground, balance the tops of the three sticks together. If you need to tie them, use a long piece of grass, rope or string.

Add on to the walls of the tipi with other sticks or cloth. Leave an opening to get in.

If you can only find small limbs and sticks, that is ok too! You can make small fort and crawl inside.



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