

Family Camping Checklist

By Sherry M. Lewis

- Planning the Trip
 - Make sure you have all the right equipment.
 - Research campsite options before you go away.
 - If you think you'll go camping on a frequent basis it might be worth considering joining the camping association.
 - Get some camping books on how to do camp in style.
 - When booking a campsite, check whether or not your pitch is likely to be near the entertainments bit.
 - Pick a campsite where there is room for your children to roam safely and that allows you to relax.
 - Write down the menu for all meals for your trip.
 - Prepare meals that can be cooked at home ahead of time and travel in a cooler.
 - Plan to arrive at your campsite early so you have plenty of time to set up.
 - Organise the tent as much as possible and try to only bring what you need.
- Equipment
 - Tent - make sure you allow adequate space for everyone the tent will need to accommodate.
 - Make sure your car will be able to accommodate the tent.
 - Be sure that you'll have enough room for all the paraphernalia you'll need to take with you.
 - Consider warmth, material used, design, shape and weight when choosing your sleeping bags.
 - Bring sleeping mats to provide insulation underneath you.
 - Pillows/blankets - for added comfort and warmth.
 - Pump - for blowing up air-beds or inflatable mattresses.
 - Lamps - for some light in the tent.
 - Fold-up chairs - for tent-bound evenings if it rains.
 - Plenty of warm, waterproof clothing - even in the summer.
 - Small camping stove to cook up a warming meal for the family.
 - Gas for the stove.

- Pans/can opener/corkscrew - and of course other eating and drinking implements.
- Comprehensive cutlery and crockery.
- Washing-up liquid and sponge.
- Plenty of toilet roll.
- Antiseptic wet wipes.
- Sun lotion and sun hats.
- First aid kit.
- In-tent entertainment.
- Map of the region.