

TAW BOTTOM CHALLENGE



Complete 6 challenges as a Patrol to gain the Taw Bottom Challenge badge.

These can be obtained from the warden at £1 each.

- Much of the equipment you need is in the wire cage at the end of the Equipment Store.
- The ballista and chariot equipment is in the Trolley Store. DO NOT use any other equipment from the Trolley Store for the Challenge.
- The rest you will find around the site. You can use any wood you find lying on the ground - but DO NOT cut down any trees.

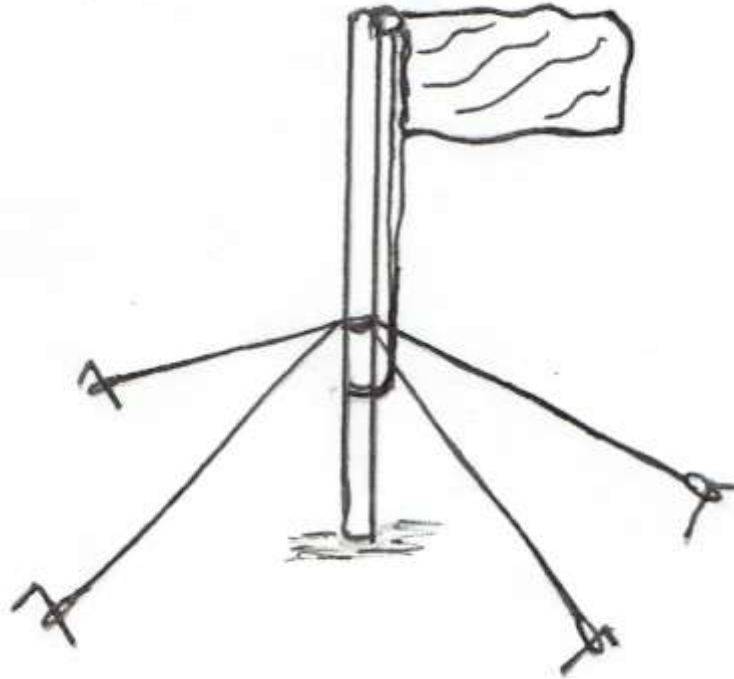
Please check that ALL equipment is returned in good order - and in the right places. You should have:

ropes
flagpole, flag,
pegs
instructions

Provide your own mallet.

Taw Bottom Challenge

FLAG POLE



*You will need:
the pole, flag, 4 pegs and 3 ropes provided.*

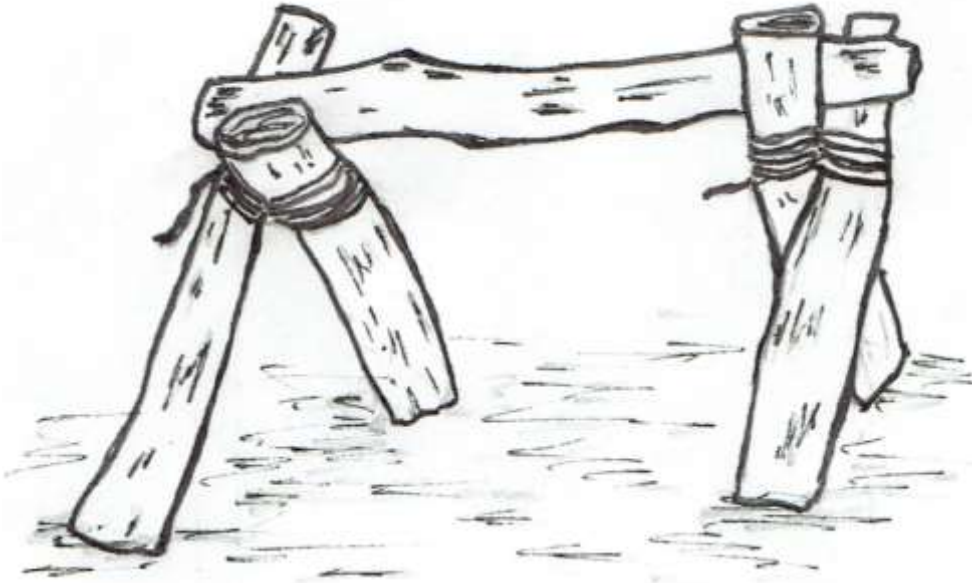
Drive the pole into the ground.

Make clove hitches at the centre of 2 of the ropes and loop them around the pole.
Make loops on the ends of the ropes and peg them into the ground.

Put rope 3 through the hook at the top, attach the flag and raise it to finish.

Taw Bottom Challenge

CAMP SEAT



Never sit on damp ground so try to make a seat. This one requires 2 ropes which are lashed on to logs to make 2 A-frames, with a third log to rest across these supporting A-frames.

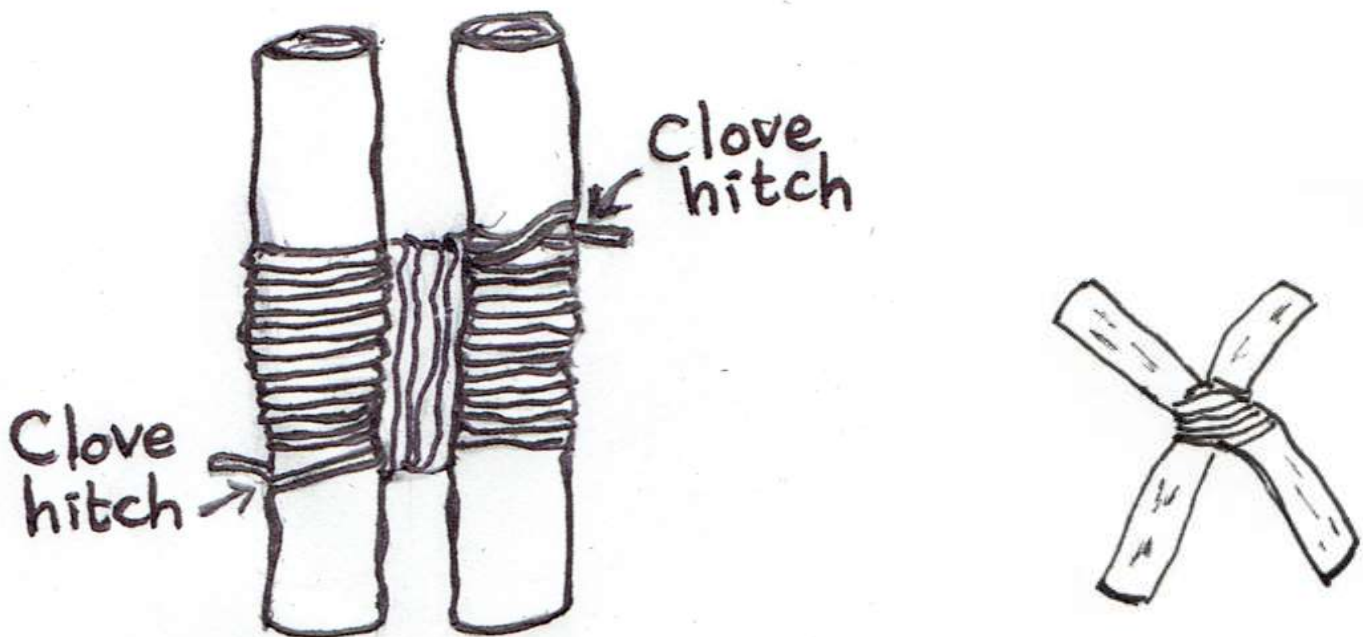
The ropes are supplied and the logs will be in the equipment cage.

Use the instructions on lashing to help make the A-frames.

Alternatively, make a seat of your own design.

Taw Bottom Challenge

Lashing for A-frame (for your Seat)



To make your seat you will need 2 A-frames and these will need to be lashed together using 'Shear Lashing' with the rope supplied.

Begin with a clove hitch around one of the logs. Bind, not too tightly, around both logs.

Bring the rope between the 2 logs and wrap a few times around the binding.

Finish with a clove hitch around the second leg.

Tighten the lashing by opening the shears(legs).

Taw Bottom Challenge

POT STAND



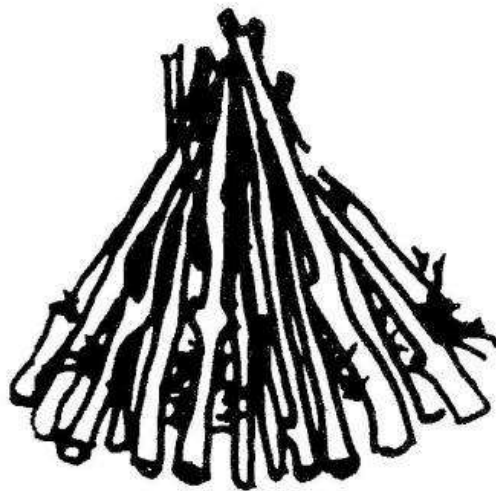
Drive a sturdy forked stick into the ground near the fire. Rest a longer stick across it with one end over the fire.

Drive the bottom of the long stick into the ground and weight it down with bricks, stones or small logs.

Alternatively, design your own pot stand.

Taw Bottom Challenge

CAMP FIRE



NB If you are planning to light this fire it MUST BE LAID IN THE CAMPFIRE CIRCLE (not on the ground anywhere else on the Taw Bottom site).

Begin with some dried leaves and match-stick size twigs or dried dead wood.

Around this put very thin sticks leaning together in a pyramid shape.

Above this, bigger sticks also standing on end in a pyramid.

This should provide the basics for the start of a fire.

Taw Bottom Challenge

CAMP FIRE 'GRATE'



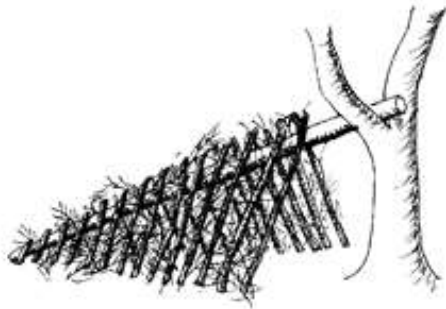
Drive 2 stout stakes (supplied) in the ground leaning a bit backwards. Find about 3 logs and place them one on top of the other leaning against the uprights. This forms the back of the fireplace.

Short logs are laid in front to form a square to surround the fire.

The 'grate' is ready - remember that it must face the wind.

Taw Bottom Challenge

SHELTER



First, notice the way the wind generally blows from and put the back of your shelter that way if you can.

Choose a long straight branch and lean it against a tree. Find other branches in the woods and lean them against the main one to make a base for the thatching. Make these secure with rope.

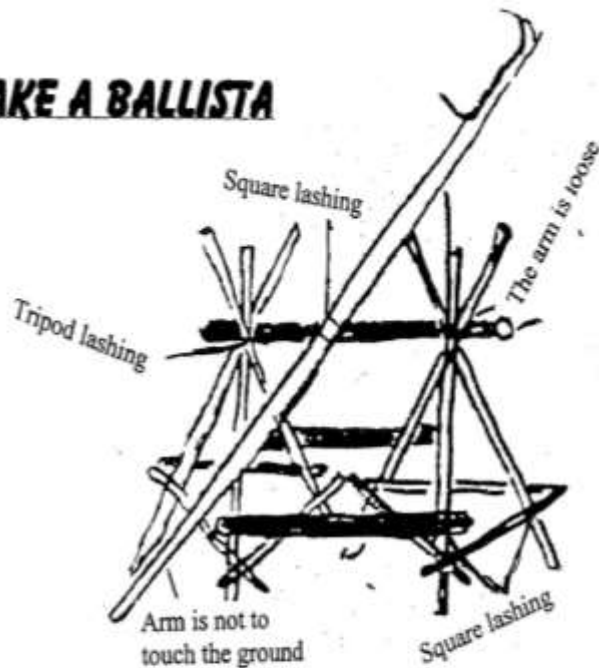
Find bracken to make the roof and weave onto the main branches. Start at the bottom making the upper levels overlap the lower ones to help the rain run off.

Taw Bottom Challenge

The equipment will be in the Equipment Store.

HOW TO MAKE A BALLISTA

You will need –
14 poles
9 small spars
4 large spars
2 thicker long spars
2 Arms with containers
6 long cords
20 short cords



For each ballista make two tripods with poles.
Stablelise them with the shorter spars
Join the two tripods together with the larger spars
Using square lashing attach the arm to the thicker long spar ensuring when it is in place between the two tripods it just does not touch the ground when fired.
The spar holding the firing arm is not attached to the tripods, it has to be loose so that it can rotate.
Remember to hold the tripods steady when firing by holding them near to the ground.

Now you can either fire balls to the opposite team for them to catch or have a water fight by filling small sandwich bags with water, remember to tie them before firing.

N.B. you will need to bring your own balls and plastic bags.

Taw Bottom Challenge

The equipment will be in the Equipment Store.



Pioneering

With Alan Green and Dave Bisby
Illustrated by David Anthony

A Chariot

To use the chariot, two Scouts support the longer horizontal stave while the rider sits on the cross members and places his feet on the outside parts of the wheel axle. The chariot is then pushed along.

Introduction

This is a great activity for Troop nights. It involves making a narrow trestle fitted with a single wheel.

Equipment

- 5 x Staves 1.8 metres (6 feet) long.
- 1 x 0.5 metre (2 feet) steel tube (metal gas pipe is ideal).
- 1 x wheel to fit on to tube.
- 9 x light cords about 2 metres long (7 feet).

Method

Make the trestle as follows...

● Fit the wheel to the metal tube and, using square lashings, lash two of the long staves to the tube either side of the wheel. Make sure that the wheel is free to turn and that there is sufficient tube each side of the frame for a rider to stand on. Also, make sure that the short end of the stave does not extend past the wheel. (a)

● Now fit the remaining stave across the other ends of the long staves. (b)

● To strengthen the chariot, lash the two remaining staves diagonally across the frame using square lashings. Then lash their centres together using a diagonal lashing. (c)

If more chariots are made you can hold races but do make sure that you won't wreck the floor of your Headquarters.

Useful hints

Our Troop uses old wooden cable drums for wheels. If you can't find any, try making them from thick ply or block board or, if funds allow, you can heavy-duty plastic wheels from hardware shops which cost about £6 each.

