

OPTIONS

Large Can Sizes

Large cans may measure between 15cm - 19cm high.

Two cans with a 2cm difference in height is ideal, so that trimming the furnace is not necessary.

Extra Cans

These are handy for practice and in case of mistakes.

Aviation Tin Snips

Aviation style tin snips, as opposed to scissor style snips, are easier to work with, if available.

- If your tin snips are marked 'L' then they are designed to make straight cuts and curves to the left.
- Snips marked 'R' will make straight and right-curving cuts. Right-handed people will find left-curving tin snips easiest to use.
- Left-handed people will find right-curving tin snips easier to use.

Can Puncturing Tools

To start a round cut, you must first puncture the can in the middle of the area to be cut.

You can make a hole either by pressing and twisting tin snips, chisel or scissors. If none of these are available, you can try a hammer and nail.

Cookie / Cake Tin Base

A cookie or cake tin (minimum 8cm high, 19cm wide) can be used as a cookstove base instead of a pan.

Blow pipe

A metal tube 2 - 3cm wide and 30 - 40cm long can be used to restart the flame if blown out by the wind.

Firesteel

A magnesium-based firestick can be used to light the tinder. If available, this is cheaper and more reliable than matches with up to 1,000 lightings per stick.

Used Cooking Oil OR Candle Wax

1 tsp. oil or ½cm cube of wax can be dropped on fuel to boost the flame if needed.

High Temperature Paint

High temperature paint can be applied to the cans used in the cookstove after they have been cut. The paint protects the metal from rust and extends the cookstove lifetime.

Moisture Meter

A moisture meter can test the dryness of fuel and kindling. Moisture should be 13% or less. If fuel is damp, it will make smoke and not burn reliably.

Shredder

A shredder can be used to quickly chop dry sticks into fuelwood chunks. The rolling blade type works better than the spinning blade type.

HANDLE OPTION 2

Benefits

- Stronger than wire handle
- Can be re-used or changed to another cookstove
- Less time intensive
- Eliminates the need for a 4th large can

Tools

- Marker pen
- Measuring tape
- Square nose pliers or spanner
- Screwdriver to fit the bolt head
- Drill and 6mm drill bit
- Piece of wood
3 cm x 3 cm x 12 cm.
- Builders band (x2)
2 cm wide x 60 cm long
- Bolts and nuts (x4)
6 mm x 4 cm long
Square nuts are best



The builders band (right) keeps the pot holder in place and attaches to the wood handle.

Instructions

1. Wrap one band around the top of the can, with 5mm of the band raised above the can's top edge.
2. Bend both ends of the band outward (between the large central holes), leaving a gap of around 3.5cm.
3. Wrap the other builders band around the middle of the can, 7.5cm from the can's top edge. The distance between the center of each band should be 7cm.
4. Bend both ends of this lower band outward (between the large central holes), leaving a gap around 3cm.
5. Fit two sets of nuts and bolts into the builders bands, close to the bend in the band.
 - Tighten the nuts so the band grips loosely around the can.
 - The gaps between the band ends should be at least 1.5cm.
 - If the gap is smaller, reposition the bolt in the next hole in the band.
6. Drill 2 holes in the wood, 6mm in diameter and 7cm apart.
7. Place the wood between the ends of both builders bands and secure it with two sets of nuts and bolts.
8. Fit the other two sets of nuts and bolts into the builders band, around 4 to 5cm from the other set, close to the bend in the band.
9. Fully tighten all sets of nuts and bolts, to tighten the bands onto the can.
10. Use pliers to bend the raised edge of the top band slightly outwards.



The builders band creates a lip in which the chimney piece sits securely.