

# Stay Warm and Dry Through Winter




This document provides winterization advice to help **maintain warmth and dryness** during the cold season, whether in a **tent or a makeshift shelter**.


All illustrations apply to **both shelter types** for easy reference.



 **Collaborate with Neighbours** Identify risks related to winter weather

 **Siting** Avoid areas prone to flooding.

 **Flooring** Keep the ground dry.

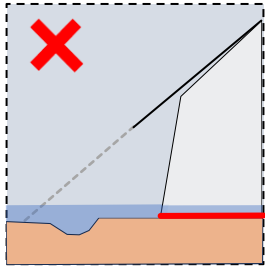
 **Drainage** Stop water from pooling around you.

 **Walls & Roof Cover** Keep the shelter warm.

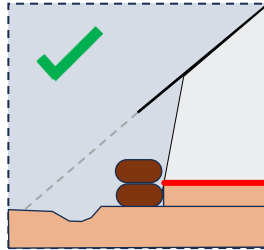
# Stay Warm and Dry Through Winter

## Raise the Shelter Interior, Add Perimeter Drainage, and Protect with Sandbags

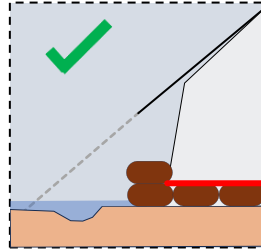
### ❑ Raise Your Shelter Floor By At Least 15–30 cm



When the shelter floor is level with the ground, rainwater easily enters, causing dampness and cold



**Backfill & Compact Soil Layer**



**Sandbags**

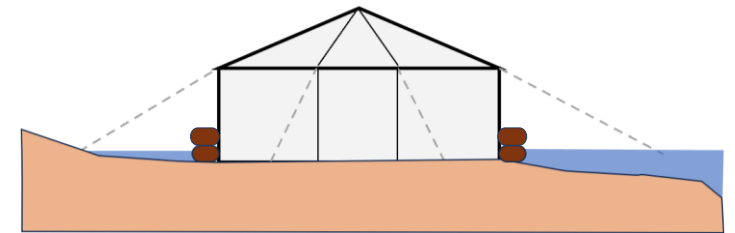


### ❑ Cover Floor, Walls and Roof

**Floor covering helps keep the shelter drier:** Add a damp-proof layer on your raised floor, such as tarpaulin.

**Adding drapes or extra fabric to the walls and roof** can boost warmth.

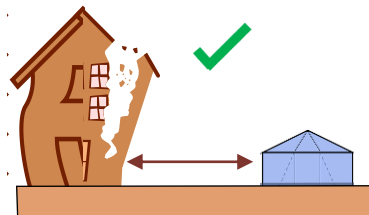
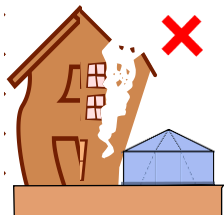
### ❑ Use Sandbags Around Your Shelter



**Line up sandbags** along the shelter walls to protect the shelter from water entering.

## Siting Recommendation

### ❑ Don't Place Your Shelter Near Damaged Building Or Bulging, Leaning, Or Cracked Walls



### ❑ Pick A Safe Spot From Flooding

Check slope direction and ensure water flows away from your shelter.

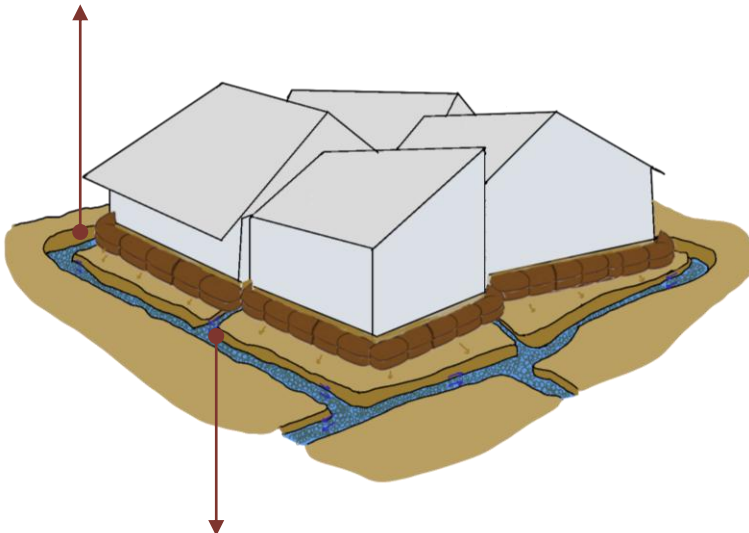
Always work as a team with your neighbors to spot risks!

# Stay Warm and Dry Through Winter

Whether You Can Raise the Shelter or Not: Always Dig Drainage Channels to Prevent Water Buildup

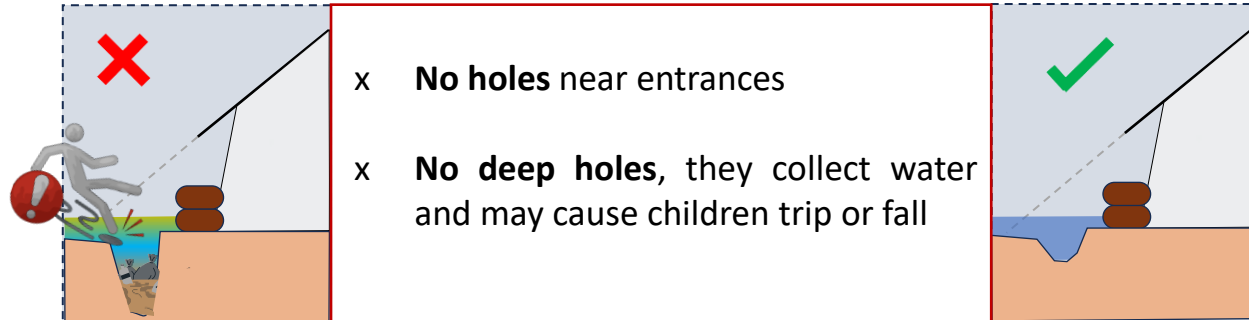
## ❑ Dig Drainage Around the shelters

**Perimeter Drainage Trenches:** Runs around the entire group of shelters to divert water outward.



**Cross trench:** Channels water between shelters to prevent pooling.

## ❑ Avoid Deep Digging Around Shelters

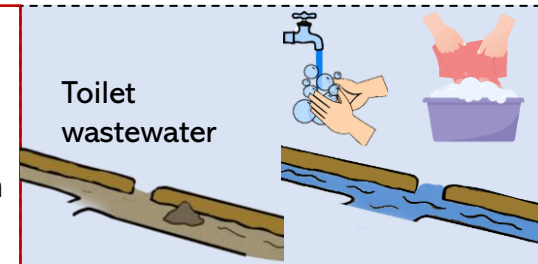


Keep drainage clean to avoid blockages and overflow

## ❑ Avoid Contamination Of Grey Water With Wastewater

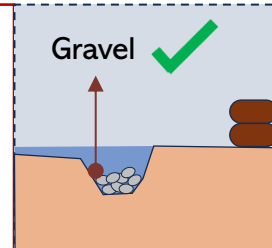
**Do not mix toilet wastewater with greywater.**

Mixing can lead to contamination and health risks.



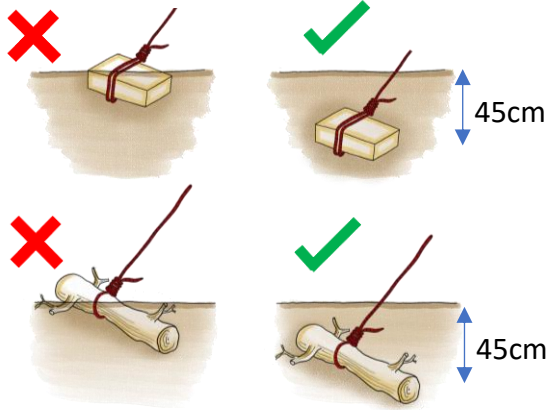
## ❑ Add Gravel Inside The Drainage Trench

To control water flow and reduce water pooling and mud



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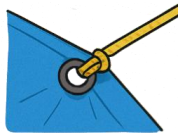
## Anchor Your Shelter Firmly



Use available materials (bricks, wood, or steel bars) to reinforce the structure against wind.

## Secure Roof Cover

Reinforce tarps and plastic sheets to protect against wind and rain

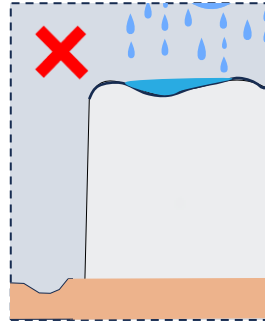


Pull tarp through eyelet



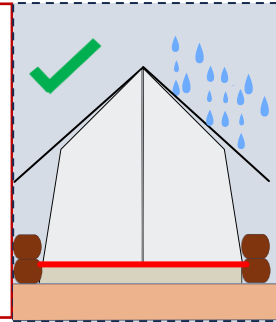
No eyelets? Use a stone or any other non-sharp material inside tarp, to hold the knot

## Provide A Slope To The Roof



Avoid flat or loose roofs. they collect water and flap in wind.

Use a sloped roof to shed rain efficiently.

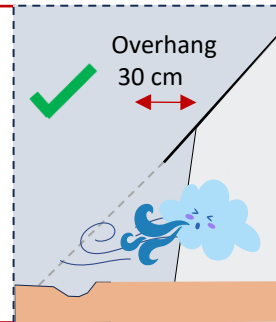


## Add Overhangs



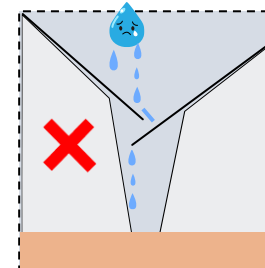
Use overhangs to protect walls from rain.

Keep them short (around 30cm) to prevent sagging or wind uplift

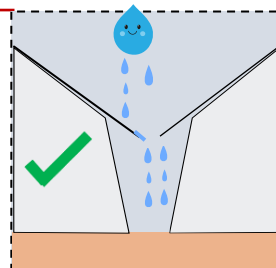


It's important to add an overhang to the roof and above openings to keep rain and wind out.

## Coordinate With Your Neighbors



Work together to manage water flow and prevent runoff onto adjacent roofs.



# Stay Warm and Dry Through Winter

## Cooking And Lighting – Fire Prevention And Health Risks

### It Is Recommended To Cook Outside.



It's best to cook in **outdoor areas**, away from any flammable materials, to reduce the risk of fire.

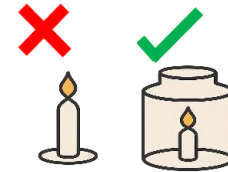
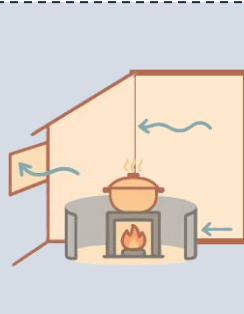
### If It's Not Possible And You Have To Cook Inside The Same Area You're Occupying, Make Sure To:



- ✓ **Avoid an open flame**
- ✓ **Keep the flame enclosed** in a stove or metal cage
- ✓ **Raise the stove** using bricks



- ✓ Don't let the stove **unattended**
- ✓ Use a **metal/clay barrier** around the stove, if available.
- ✓ **Keep distance** between the walls and the stove
- ✓ **Ensure ventilation** while cooking
- ✓ **Ensure the stove is turned off** completely after use.



Be aware of fire and health risks such as oil or kerosene lamps and candles.

Keep the fire away from any flammable materials and children.

If candles are used, try to secure them in a non-combustible holders.

### If your shelter catches fire, EVACUATE!

Keep a bucket of sand or soil nearby to smother flames.



### If your clothing catch fire.....STOP DROP ROLL! until flames are out.



Cool the burn by pouring cold water over yourself. Keep your clothes on and seek medical help before removing them.