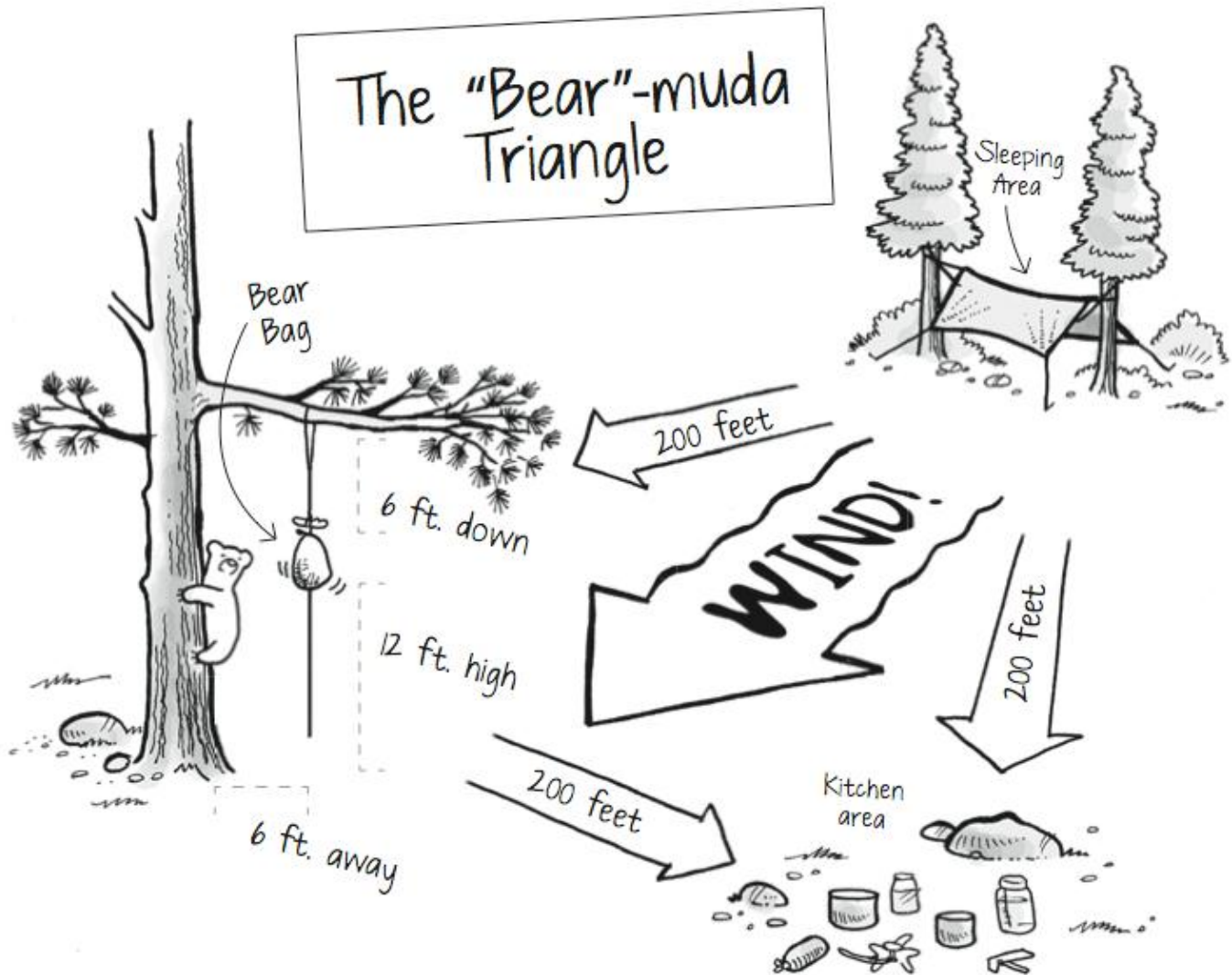


BEAR BAG BASICS

Nothing with a scent or smell should be in, or upwind of, your sleeping area. If an animal is tracking a scent, you do not want the animal's track/path to take it right through your sleeping area on its way to the source of the odor. The following basics should be followed:



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Aside from Food, "SMELLABLES" also include, but are not limited to:

- Chapstick
- Sun block or Sun Tan Lotion
- Duct Tape, Band-Aids, Other Ointments & Lotions from 1st Aid Kit
- Water Bottle/Bladder that has EVER contained anything other than plain water
- Clothes worn while cooking, Tarp sheltering cook area, or even cook's hair

BEAR BAG METHODS

There are several methods to hang a bear bag, each one has its strengths & weaknesses. **NO MATTER WHICH METHOD, FIND TREES & GET ROPES STRUNG WELL BEFORE DARK!**

COUNTER BALANCE

PROS:

- SIMPLE & QUICK
- USES MINIMAL ROPE

CONS:

- HARD TO FIND BRANCH THAT WORKS TO KEEP HIGH & FAR FROM TRUNK
- FRICTION ON BRANCH AS BAG WEIGHT INCREASES

PCT (Pacific Coast Trail)

PROS:

- WORK WITH HEAVIER BEAR BAG LOADS
- DOESN'T REQUIRE IDEAL BRANCH W/ 2ND TREE TIE

CONS:

- REQUIRES LONGER ROPE
- HARDER TO GET ROPE OVER BRANCH AT TREE TRUNK USING 2ND TREE
- REQUIRES BINER & CLOVE

MARRISON HAUL

PROS:

- SAME AS PCT
- LESS FRICTION

CONS:

- SAME AS PCT
- REQUIRES 2 BINERS & TRUCKER H or ALPINE BTFLY

PULLEY SYSTEM

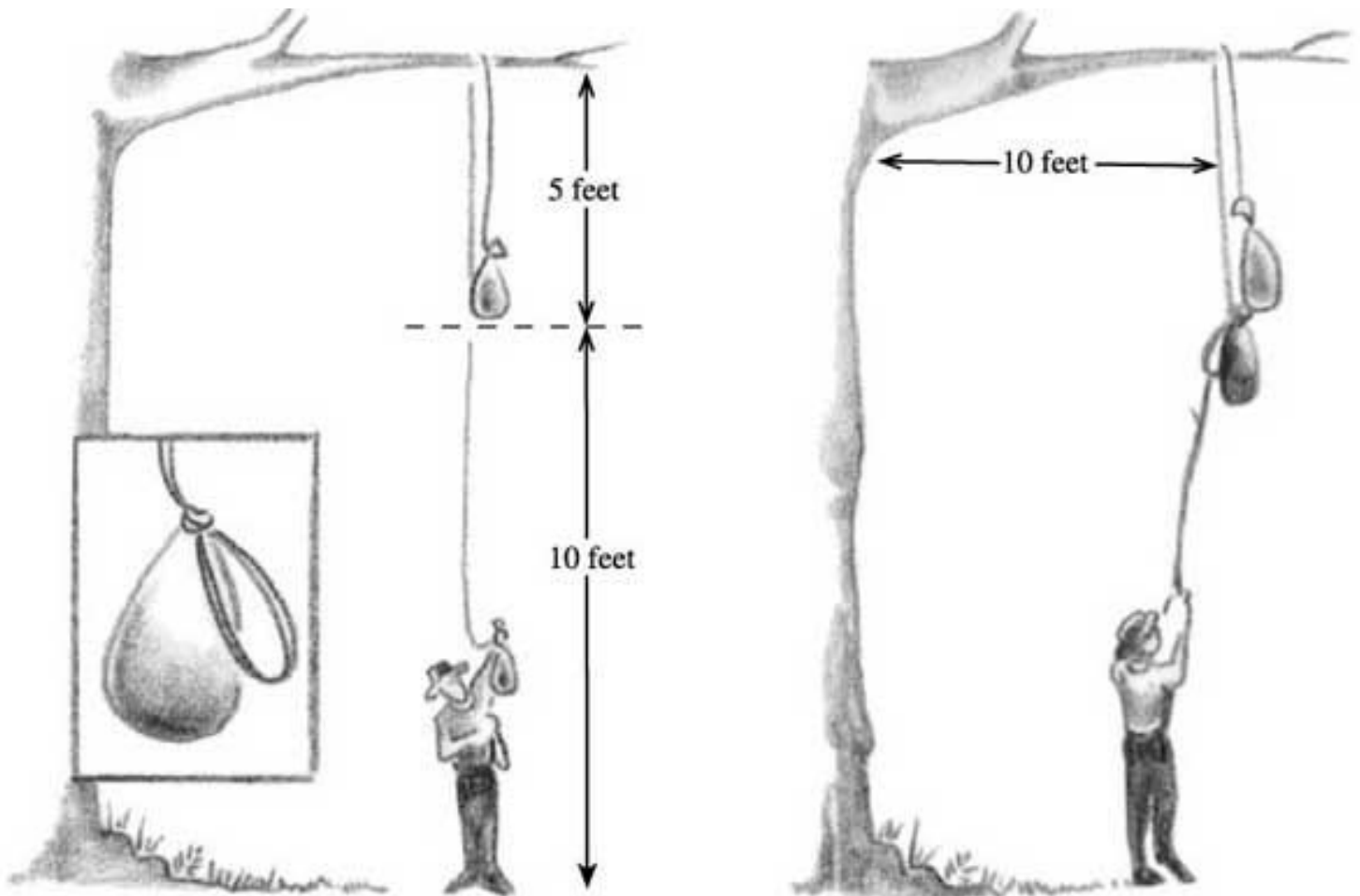
PROS:

- LESS FRICTION
- NO STRESS ON TREES
- EASY TO GET HORIZONTAL DISTANCE FROM TREES

CONS:

- REQUIRES 2 ROPES, ONE OF WHICH QUITE LONG
- VERY DIFFICULT TO GET HEAVIER LOADS HIGH
- 2 BINERS & TREES

COUNTER BALANCE METHOD:




PCT (Pacific Coast Trail) METHOD:

HANGING A BEAR BAG—THE "PCT" METHOD

Illustration ©2013 by Derek Hansen, TheUltimateHang.com

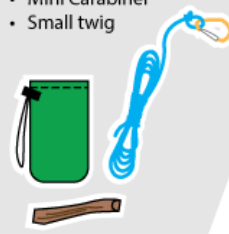
If hung "upside down" be sure to tie a slippery overhand knot to prevent the cord lock from loosening



The bear bag should be big enough for all food, trash, and "smellable" items.

EQUIPMENT

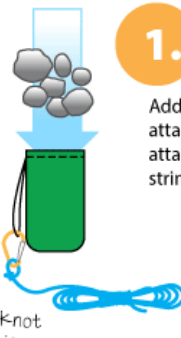
- Bear Bag
- 40 ft (12 m) Rope
- Throw/Rope Bag
- Mini Carabiner
- Small twig



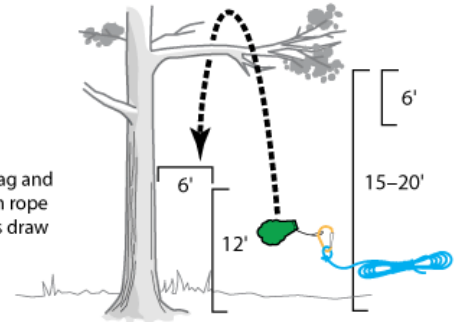
Bags with a webbing strap or loop are ideal

1.

Add rocks to throw bag and attach carabiner (with rope attached) to the bag's draw string to secure.



Tie a bowline knot on the carabiner

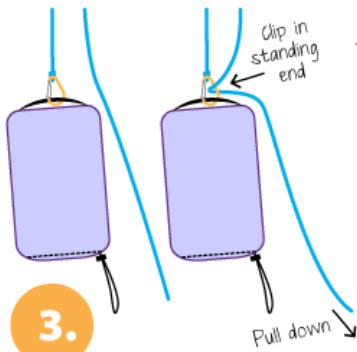


2. Toss the throw bag over a sturdy branch that is 15-20 ft (4.5-6 m) above the ground.

NOTE: When properly hung, the bear bag should hang at least 12 ft (4 m) above the ground and 6 ft (~2 m) down from the branch and away from the tree trunk.

(See <http://Ant.org/blog/hanging-bear-bag>)

3.



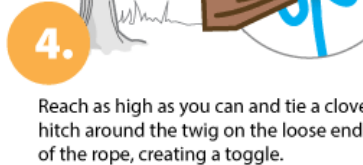
Clip in standing end

Pull down

Unclip throw bag from carabiner. Clip carabiner to bear bag. Feed loose end of the rope through carabiner and pull loose end to raise the bear bag to the top of the tree branch.

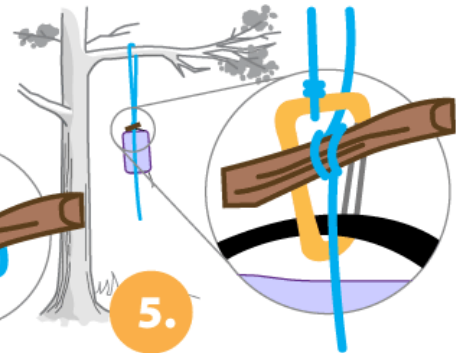


4.



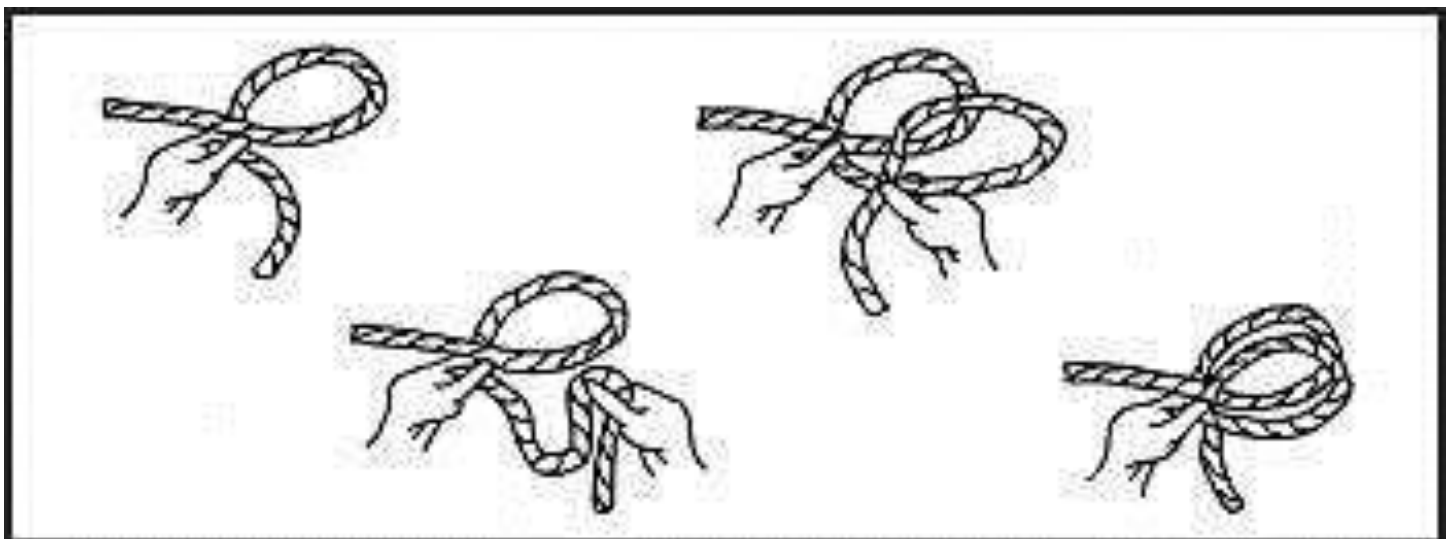
Reach as high as you can and tie a clove hitch around the twig on the loose end of the rope, creating a toggle.

5.



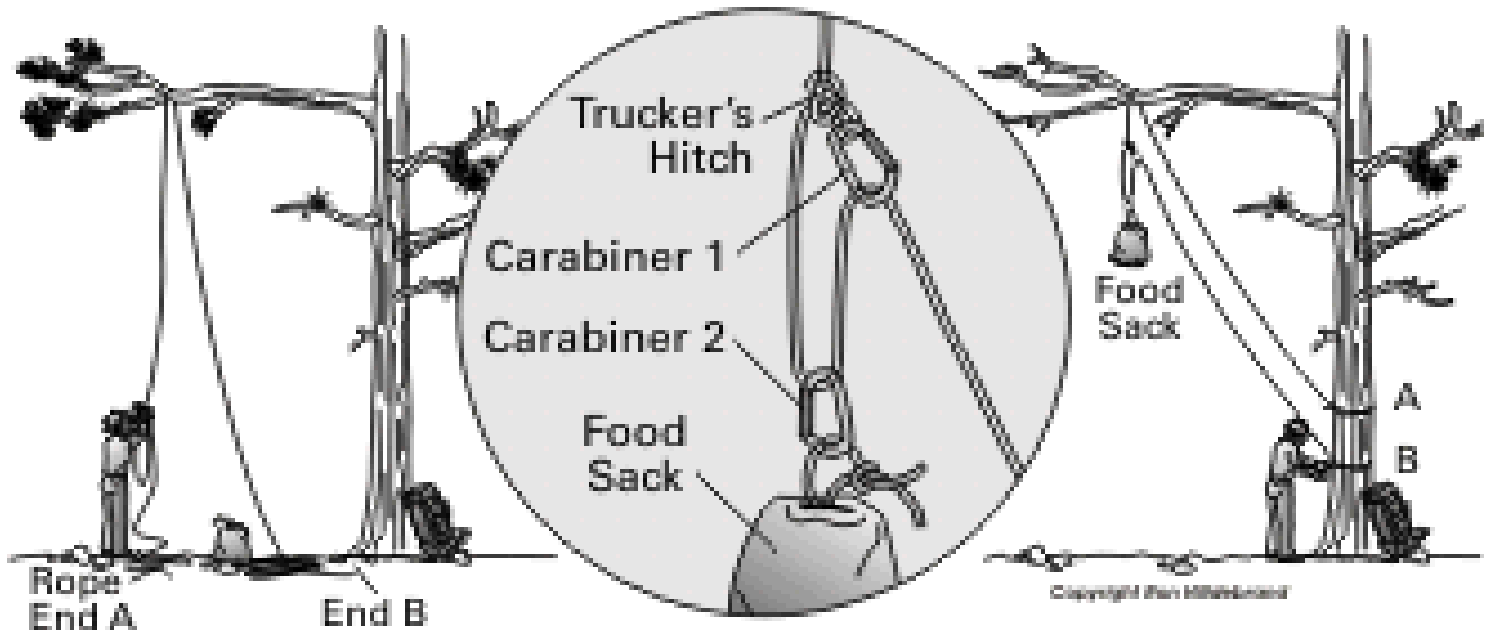
Release the loose end of the rope. The bear bag will stop at the toggle.

The PCT Method requires knowing the double loop method of tying the Clove Hitch:

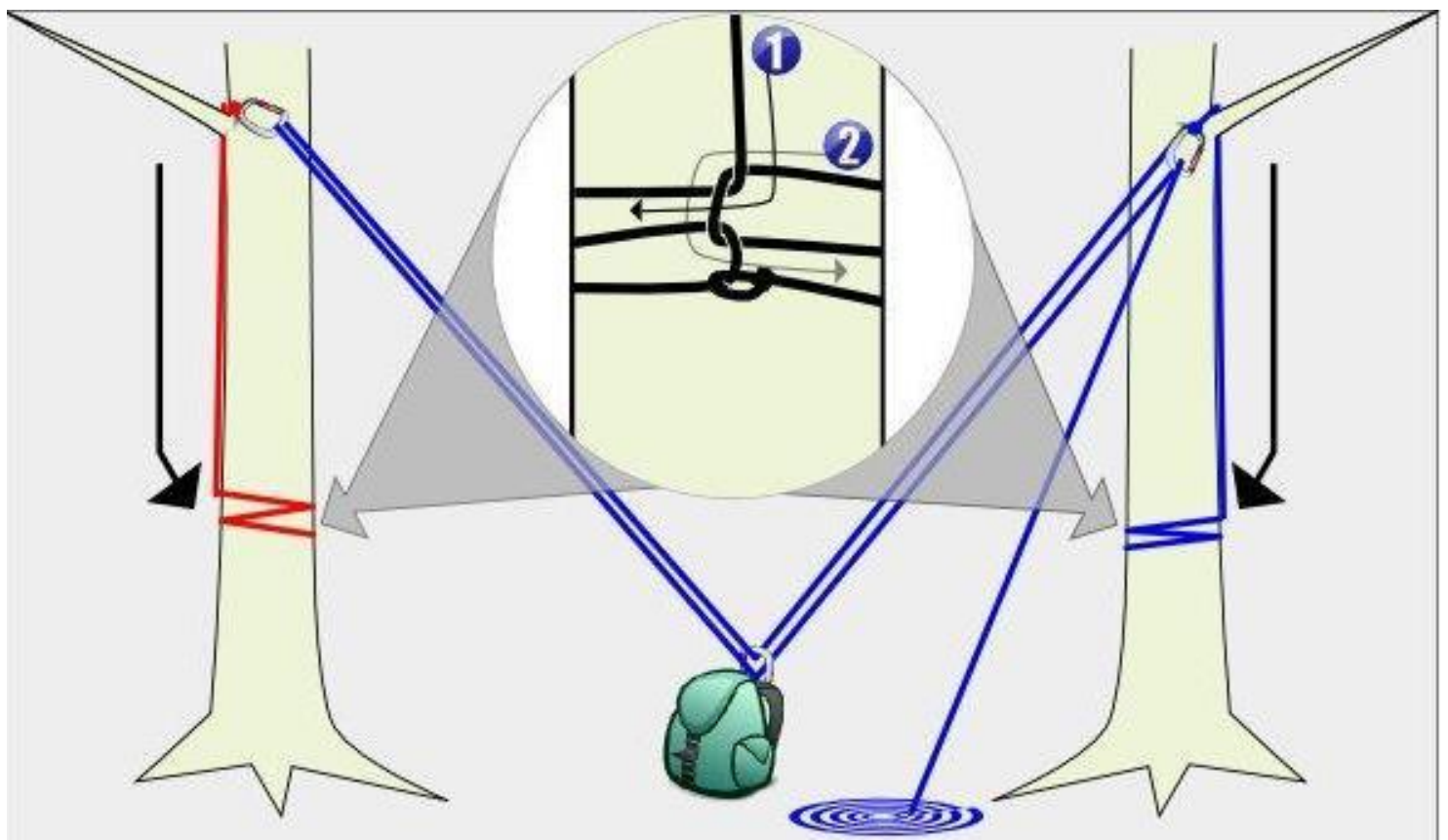


The PCT & MARRISON Methods are the ones we use on the AT as they are easier to lift heavier loads high enough & are not dependent upon the “ideal” branch when tied off to a 2nd tree.

THE MARRISON HAUL METHOD:



THE PULLEY METHOD:



Pulley Method is Very difficult to get heavy loads high enough due to rope length & elongation