

Improvised Signaling Devices

This playbook describes how to create signaling devices from everyday materials. The objective is to attract attention for assistance or rescue.

Step 1: **Material Gathering**

Locate and collect materials that can be used to create a signaling device. This includes reflective items, bright colored fabric, or anything that can be used to make noise, create light, or reflect sunlight.

Step 2: **Visual Signals**

Assemble the visual signaling devices using the collected materials. Options include creating flags with the fabric, using mirrors or any reflective surface to reflect sunlight, or spelling out SOS with rocks or logs in an open area.

Step 3: **Audible Signals**

Create noise-making devices if material is available. This can be as simple as a whistle made from a can or banging metal objects together to create a rhythmic sound.

Step 4: **Fire Signals**

If it's safe to do so, build a signal fire. Opt for green foliage or rubber to create smoke and place the fire in a visible location, ideally higher ground.

Step 5: **Maintain Signals**

Once created, maintain your signals. Ensure that visual signals remain visible and that any audio or fire signals can be activated or produced when there is a chance of being seen or heard by rescuers.

Step 6: **Continuous Monitoring**

Regularly monitor nearby areas and sounds for potential rescuers. Use signaling devices as soon as an opportunity arises, and be prepared to guide rescuers to your location if necessary.

General Notes

Safety First

Always prioritize safety when creating signals. Do not take risks that may worsen your situation.

Visibility

Maximize the visibility of your signals. Place them in open areas, ideally on high ground, and consider the perspective of aerial or distant rescuers.

Legality

Be aware of any local laws and regulations when creating fire signals. Only start a fire when it is legal and safe to do so.