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Emergency log stove

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Family sportsman's class demo 11/3/12

If you have a chain saw and a log you can make an emergency stove top in 5 minutes that is a neat quick-setup burner eliminating the need to make a camp fire. You will need seasoned hardwood.

Shown is a sycamore log 10" x 16". A few dried twigs on the block are for kindling.



Cut an 8 section cross pattern about $\frac{3}{4}$ way down into the log.



Insert the dry twigs all the way down in the center. A little paper or dried leaves crammed down first will help too. These will be lit by a dropped match or burning stick inserted from a side slot. Use as many as needed to get a good hot coal/fire going down low.



When you get a good flame going, insert a few more twigs from the side slots and blow into the slots to get the inner log itself burning.



This was the log stove in just 5 minutes after the kindling start. First timers may take a bit longer to get their own method down, but one or two times practice and these things are pretty easy to get going. This small log gave me about an hour of cooking “burn time”.



My electric power was out here in the mountains last week so I cooked up a chicken dinner.



Side view with lid.



The end results are great. There was plenty of heat for a deep cooking method.



Here is the log stove after an hour. Those coals are still hot enough to boil water.

A larger log will produce a longer burn time. If you try this, make sure to stand near your stove if you plan on using it all the way to the very end (shown) burn time as the “posts” will eventually get thin and may cave in. These posts are still plenty strong to support the cast iron skillet and chicken, but they will burn all the way out.

