

Baggy's guide to ~~expensive and unnecessary~~ important & useful gadgets

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Introduction

This is a gadget guide. If it's a good gadget then you may be able to live life without it but once you have them you wont be able to live without them.

gad-get: (noun), An often small mechanical or electronic device with a practical use, not just a novelty

Baggy
9th Barking & Dagenham Scout Group
baggy@scoutingresources.org.uk

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
www.glne-scouts.org.uk
www.scoutingresources.org.uk

<p>Maglites & stuff</p>	<p>Cant be beaten for quality and toughness. With good batteries they are bright for their size. The solitaire is ideal for keyrings and rucksacks as it comes with a small lanyard and uses just one AAA battery. The larger ones can be made versatile with the use of the pouches (the Nite-Exe pouch includes Velcro pockets for spare batteries) and a headstrap to turn them into head torches.</p>
<p>Look out for ...</p> <p>Maglite Solitaire - £10</p> <p>Maglite AA - £15</p> <p>Maglite headstrap - £5</p> <p>Maglite beltpouch - £5</p> <p>Nite-Exe beltpouch - £5</p>	
<p>Baggy has... 7 maglites and 4 pouches/headstraps</p> <p>Its sort of a cult thing once you get into it but they really do last and put up with a large amount of abuse.</p>	

<p>Trasers</p>	<p>A traser glowing is a small plastic keyring type attachment that gives off a soft glow. Apparently they last for 5–10 years and work all the time (they don't need to recharge in sunlight or anything as it is laser injected gas). They come in a variety of colours (the green one is brightest) and can be seen at a reasonable distance.</p> <p>Just be sure not to bash them about and throw them on a hard floor as if the double casing is cracked the gas will escape.</p>
<p>Look out for ...</p> <p>Traser Glowing - £5</p>	
<p>Baggy has... 2 green, 1 yellow and a purple one.</p> <p>I use these on my housekeys (useful if you drop them in the dark coming home from the pub), on my whistle (so I can find it any time) and on my torches (no good having a torch if you cant find it in the dark).</p>	

<p>Multitools</p>	<p>Multitools abound nowadays and can be very useful around the house, not just at camp. They usually comprise a main pincer frame with a multitude of extra bits like knives, screwdrivers, bottle openers etc.</p> <p>Just having one of these can enable you to do most repair work at camp without having to lug around an entire toolbox.</p> <p>The king of the multitools are the leatherman series, although this will really hurt your wallet. Get a reasonable quality imitation one instead and steer clear of the very cheap foreign import versions.</p>
<p>Look out for ...</p> <p>Leatherman - £lots!</p>	
<p>Baggy has... several</p> <p>I have one good one that sits in its own pouch and comes complete with a set of screwdriver type attachments. This has saved my bacon on camp repairs more than once.</p>	

<p>Fire tools</p>	<p>You can get a nice little flint and steel firelighting set for about £5. This can be useful if you don't have (run out of ?) matches. Even better a magnesium block and striker will create hot sparks to light your fire.</p>
<p>Look out for ...</p> <p>Magnesium & Flint lighters Waterproof matches</p>	<p>Waterproof and windproof matches don't come cheap but can be life savers.</p> <p>Special windproof lighters are an option but beware of safety and storage.</p> <p>Night lights and other candles are your best friend. Light these with a single match and you effectively have a match that will last hours.</p> <p>You can make a very effective firelighter by filling a cardboard egg carton with wood shavings, paper and cotton wool and thoroughly soaking the entire thing in melted wax.</p> <p>You will not be allowed to keep, bring or use these without prior permission.</p>
<p>Baggy has... several bits</p> <p>The lighters are useful to teach different firelighting methods and the magnesium block can be much better than firelighters. A zippo lighter is useful as it is windproof.</p>	

Buying Stuff

I have ordered many of my items from the internet. As long as you can trust the site it is safe, quick, easy and normally much cheaper. You can get some unbeatable special offers online. A selection of some of the sources are listed below:

Gadgets – <http://www.gadgets.co.uk/>

Useful for items like torches (and lots of other more useless gadgets!)

Outdoor Accessories - <http://www.outdooraccessories.co.uk/>

Gear Zone - <http://www.gear-zone.co.uk/>

Can offer a slightly different range although only uses good quality items

Outdoor Gear – <http://www.outdoorgear.co.uk/>