

Icy Survival



Your team has been assigned to drill ice cores 40 km (25 mi) from base camp. You've just completed a week of survival training and know that it's essential to bring individual survival packs in case of an emergency situation. Freak storms can happen without warning. You might need to wait out a storm that prevents you from moving to safety, and rescue teams from reaching you. Your team must decide which items to put in the packs so that each team member could survive in severe weather for 24 hours. Choose carefully—your life might depend on it!

Materials

- copy of **Antarctic Conditions Fact Sheet**

1 Read the list of possible items and decide which you think are essential or not essential. Use the **Antarctic Conditions Fact Sheet** to help make decisions.

Your main goals are to:

- protect your body temperature
- ensure a source of fluids
- ensure a source of calories

2 As a group, decide which ten essential items you will bring. Each pack must contain:

- the **same** eight items per individual agreed on by all group members
- two additional items which will be shared by the group; these two items should be **different** for each member's pack

Possible items for survival pack	Essential	Not essential	Why?
camera			
flashlight			
matches			
drill			
snow shovel/ice saw			
tent			
sleeping bag			
1/2 loaf bread			
snowshoes			
journal/pencil			
backpacking stove/kerosene			
1/2 gallon water			
cheese			
beef jerky			
book			
chocolate bar			
picture of someone you love			
mittens/socks/face mask			
gorp (nuts and raisin mix)			
signal mirror			
rifle			
thermal sleeping pad			
blanket			
suntan lotion			
insect repellent			
dehydrated food			
cup/spoon			
individual first-aid kit			
pot and pan set			
sledgehammer			
radio with spare batteries			
toilet paper			