

Ben Hunt built more with just an ax and a knife than most of us could with a fully stocked workshop.

SNOW GOGGLES

BY V. BEN HUNT, HALES CORNERS, WIS.

Nothing beats a pair of these goggles when a bright sun is shining on snow and ice. They can be made of any straight grained soft wood.

1. Make a cardboard template of your forehead, mark the wood, cut out this section and cut out to fit nose. (Lower drawing)
2. Then mark the rest of the block as shown above and cut away surplus wood from front.
3. Gouge out the cups for the eyes—about 1/4" deep. Thickness of wood of slots should be between 1/8" & 3/32".
4. Use a coping saw blade.

Saw eye slots a little below center after cups are hollowed out.

Finish with a coat of boiled linseed oil.

Goggles can also be made without the visor. In that case just round out the front. The nose can be cut out instead of being shaped but in cold weather this method is warmer.

Don't forget to sandpaper.

How the lower edge looks.

How the edge looks.

Don't the eye cups or the entire inner saw dull back.

BEAR PAW SNOWSHOES

BY BEN HUNT

Bear-paw snowshoes are fine for rough and wooded country. They are light in weight and are easily carried on a pack when they are not being worn.

Cut a straight hickory, ash or elm sapling 3 1/2 inches at the butt end and at least 7 feet long. Rip it through the center and trim it down to size, using a draw-knife for roughing and a spoke-shave for trimming.

Band them around the form before they dry out. Green wood bends nicely.

POUND PIECES OF LOG, NAILED TO PLANK.

SPREADER.

BLOCK TO PREVENT SPLINTERING.

FORM can be made like this or it can be sawed out of a 2" plank like this.

ORDER OF OPERATIONS

1. Make a form—either style.
2. Rip sapling for frames.
3. Shape with drawknife and spoke-shave.
4. Bend around form while green.
5. While frames are drying on form, make crossarms.
6. Remove frames when dry and tie end temporarily.
7. Cut mortises and set cross arms.
8. Wrap spliced end with wet rawhide and let dry.
9. Drill 1/8" holes for lanyard.
10. You are now ready for webbing.
11. Thread 1/8" lanyard through holes in toe.
12. Weave drognails A to AA, B to BB & C to CC and knot.
13. Weave in cross strands & fasten with wall hitches.
14. Put in cross thongs X-X.
15. Weave body section, starting at X and follow through carefully as shown.
16. Now you can wrap X-X.
17. Thread cross thongs in heel using an awl to spread up and down thongs.

WEDDING WITH WET CALF RAWHIDE.

Holes for lanyard.

SECTION AT A (70°)

SECTION OF FRAME

FASTEN END LIKE THIS WITH TWO HALF HITCHES.

Drill 1/8" holes through rawhide and frame. At 19-9-4-14 & 24 drill two holes as at toe.

As a last word:—Don't let your frame get dry before banding, and keep the rawhide wet while weaving.

Trim tapered ends to fit snug and lash with wet rawhide.

MAKE BOTH SHOES ALIKE.

Tapers are about 8 or 9" long. When dry finish entire snowshoe with good spar varnish.

Ben Hunt's Winter Survival Crafts