





MOST CRUCIAL COMPONENTS OF ANY SERIOUS SURVIVAL PLAN





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INTRODUCTION

THE WORLD IS CHANGING

This isn't the world your grandparents grew up in.

And unless you have your head buried in the sand, I'm sure you see it too...

- → the devastation in New Orleans,
- → the increase in natural disasters ranging from wildfires, floods, droughts, and severe storms,
- → a growing distrust in our government,
- → an increase in lawlessness and crime, and
- → an economy on the brink of collapse

And on top of that there's this underlying feeling that most of us can't shake...a feeling that...



Things are going to get worse

We live in a time where our basic needs are met through a complex network of communications, supply lines, and relationships.

The obvious benefit of this system is the ability to deliver goods and services to specific locations in a highly efficient manner. For example:

- → water is clean and readily available through a simple twist of a faucet;
- → procuring food or drink only takes a quick drive to the grocery store to pick more up; and
- → electricity and fuel to power our appliances and run our vehicles requires one only to plug-in or fill up.

However, the truth of the matter is **most of us are completely dependent on this highly** integrated web to function and run without a hitch and...



It is far from bulletproof

YOU ARE VULNERABLE



All of these interdependent systems we rely on form a fragile web.

Even small disturbances can send shock waves throughout the whole system interrupting the flow of food, energy, and other essential goods and services. Hurricane Katrina, the 9/11 attacks and even small localized storms have proven this to be the case and...

The future may well prove to be worse

Here in the U.S. and globally the economy is teetering on the edge of collapse. Our government continues to live way beyond its means and as a result there is a great possibility for massive inflation and economic upheaval similar to Argentina or Weimar Republic Germany. And all the while, terrorism continues to cause uncertainty and threatens our fragile system.

THE MAJORITY ARE UNPREPARED

Despite recent events (9/11, Katrina, the economy), the majority of people are still unprepared for even minor disruptions – let alone major disasters.

I understand that we, by nature, want to avoid the unpleasant. However, blindly assuming that things will go on working tomorrow just like they did in the past is a recipe for disaster – this is often referred to as *normalcy bias*.

And given that the average family has only 3-days' worth of food in their pantry, if something ever happened to our system...

We are literally 9 meals away from civil unrest

WHERE DO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY STAND?

Now for the ultimate question: Where do you and your family stand? If something were to happen tomorrow where you were out of power, fuel, water, and access to food from the grocery stores, how would you survive? Do you have enough food and water set aside to ride it out? Or are you hoping to be bailed out by a government that may never come?

THE 3 LEVELS OF DISASTER

There are three levels of disaster that you need to be aware of. Knowing where you stand in

Disasters are categorized by how long it will take	Level I	Level II	Level III
	Disaster	Disaster	Disaster
for help to arrive or for society to return to normal.	Minor disruptions in power or supply lasting up to 2 weeks. These disasters require minimal supplies to get through.	Disasters causing significant disruptions in power or supply lasting up to 3 months. Crime and lawlessness begin to become a significant concern. Supplies and skill start to become both needed.	Disasters lasting up to 1 year or more. Complete societal breakdown and anarchy occurs. Long-term supplies, skill, and the ability to be adaptable and largely self-sufficient is absolutely crucial at this level.

relation to them is critical to knowing how much you should prepare:

As the level of disaster increases, the more skill and supplies you will need to survive.

How far you decide to go in your preparations is a decision you and your family must make but what's most important is...

The Time to Prepare is NOW

Disaster will not wait for you. The sooner you make your preparations the better off you'll be should disaster strike.

In the next section you'll learn the 5 most crucial components (the core principles if you will) of any effective survival plan. Miss just one of these and you and your family may not survive...



SECTION 1: THE 5 MOST CRUCIAL COMPONENTS OF ANY SERIOUS SURVIVAL PLAN

Hopefully (if you don't already) you realize the importance of "prepping" and perhaps, even before reading this, you began putting together some supplies for a possible disaster. But the question is...

Are you sure you're stocking up on the right stuff?

When it comes to prepping, there are two main scenarios you'll need to prepare for. They are: "Sheltering-in-Place" and "Bugging Out".

"Sheltering-in-Place" is basically the process of riding out a disaster in a fixed location like your home or a survival retreat. "Bugging Out" on the other hand is surviving while on the road or in an austere location devoid of "modern" conveniences -- with the purpose of eventually reaching a shelter-in-place location.

It doesn't matter if you're putting together a specialized survival kit like a Bug-Out Bag to help you evacuate to a safer location or you're prepping your home for the end of the world, when it comes down to it there are five key components that YOU MUST account for in any survival situation or you likely will not survive.

These five components I refer to as the 5 Pillars of Survival. Here they are:

- 1. Personal Health & Security
- 2. Shelter
- 3. Water
- 4. Heat and Energy
- 5. **Food**

Here they are broken down into more detail:



PERSONAL HEALTH & SECURITY

The safety and health of you and your loved ones is paramount in any disaster-type situation. For without health and security it really doesn't matter how much food or

water you have stored away. It won't do you much good if you're too sick to use it, in constant danger, or worse...dead.

What you'll want to include in this category are all the items you need to provide health and security for you and your family members or group. Typically this can be broken down into the following subcategories: medical, hygiene and security.

MEDICAL AND HYGIENE

For medical items this includes items such as first-aid and trauma kits, extra prescription and over-the-counter medicine. The hygiene component includes items such as soap, disinfectants, toothpaste and toilet paper.

SECURITY

The second part of this category contains those things that you would need to keep you safe and secure.

For a shelter-in-place situation this could include early-warning devices such as motion detectors, guard dogs, and perimeter alarms as well as passive and active deterrents such as fences, upgraded locks, physical barriers, firearms and so forth.

If you're packing a kit for bugging out, you may consider items such as firearms, pepper spray, knives etc. – basically anything portable that you feel comfortable using to protect your life and the lives of your loved ones.



SHELTER

The primary purpose of shelter is to keep your body at a steady 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit. When you are considering the shelter portion of your survival plan you must keep in mind all those things that would help you do that.

For example you need to consider staying warm in cool weather, dry during wet weather, cool in hot weather and everything in between.

Basically, whatever contingency you're planning for you'll want to include the shelter component. In other words if you are planning on riding out a storm or a disaster in your home or retreat by sheltering-in-place, you'll need to think of all the things you need to do to protect yourself from the elements.

This includes weatherproofing and insulating your home as well as shoring it up in preparation for disasters common in your area. (*Note: A fantastic resource for preparing your home for*



disasters can be found on <u>FEMA's website</u>. It will tell you steps to do BEFORE, DURING, and AFTER various types of common disasters.)

For bugging-out, your shelter component may include winter clothing, rain gear, sleeping bags, tents, and bivy sacks.

WATER

Water is life. Without it you will not last very long.

Given this fact, water is one of the most important of all preparations to make in both sheltering-in-place and bugging out.

For a shelter-in-place situation, you generally want to store a minimum of 1 gallon of water per person per day for a period lasting two-weeks. So that means at minimum you'll need at least 14 gallons of water per person in your family or group. Keep in mind, this only accounts for cooking and drinking. If you require water for washing, you'll want to store more.

In addition to the actual storage of water, it's necessary to have a means of filtering it as well. Although you may have access to a water source, having a quality water filter is crucial so as to avoid drinking water that may have become contaminated.

For bugging out, large amounts of water storage may not be possible given weight and space restrictions so again, having a quality water filter for any water you may find while on the road is very important.

In general your survival plan needs to account for the storage, collection and filtering of water – again for both a fixed location or on the road.

If you're interested in getting started with water storage you can find more details in Section 2: Getting Started with Food Storage



HEAT & ENERGY

This pillar pertains to those things you would need for heat and energy.

Without heat and energy you would not be able to cook your food, warm your home, or run those devices that you depend on for every-day living. This also includes your



fuel and lighting needs.

Breaking it down into sheltering-in-place and bugging out you'll need to consider what types of gear you require to provide these resources.

Here are some examples:

Sheltering-in-Place		Bugging Out	
batteries	flashlights & lanterns	flashlights	stove fuel
solar setup	firewood	matches	tinder
generator	off-grid cookstoves	firestarters	lighters
wood stove	lighters/matches	campstoves	
off-grid space	fuel	extra batteries	
heaters			



FOOD

The final pillar is food.

When you're putting together your survival plan for both a fixed location and bug-out scenario you'll want to consider having enough food set aside.

How much food is enough? For a bug-out scenario – given the space and weight limitations -- it really isn't practical to have much more than a few days of food. But for a shelter-in-place scenario it really depends on how far you want to take your preparations.

If you're interested in getting started with food storage for a shelter-in-place situation you can find more details in <u>Section 2: Getting Started with Food and Water Storage.</u>



TOOLS

With the Five Pillars in place, you can now add additional "tools" to your plan. **Tools** are all those things that aren't absolutely necessary for survival but make surviving much easier.

This includes support items such as survival knives, navigation equipment, communication gear, paracord and duct tape as well as things for mental sanity like games, digital-music players, fun and inspirational literature and so on.

In addition to physical "tools", I also like to include mental "tools" (skills) in this category as well. This is where training comes into play. After all, **training trumps gear** and the more you know the less you need.

When you consider training options, it helps to complement each of the five pillars. Here's an example list:

PERSONAL HEALTH & SECURITY

- → EMT/Paramedic training
- → Combat medic training
- → First-aid/CPR training
- → Herbalism
- → Firearms training
- → Martial arts training

SHELTER

- → Home repair skills
- → Primitive shelter making
- → Clothes/Shoe making
- → Knitting/Sewing/Crocheting

WATER

- → Finding it in the wild
- → Primitive filtering
- → Alternate collection methods (solar still etc)

HEAT AND ENERGY

- → Primitive firemaking
- → Gassifier building
- → Solar energy setups and repair

FOOD

- → Hunting
- → Fishing
- → Trapping



- → Tracking
- → Edible plant identification and use
- → Cooking/Baking

Now that you know the foundational principles (or pillars) of any survival plan, let's go into more detail about what many people get stuck on: the food/water portion. In the next section, you'll learn a simple 5-step process for getting started with food/water storage...



SECTION 2: GETTING STARTED WITH FOOD AND WATER STORAGE

STEP 1: WATER

The first part of your preparations should be water.



Water? Aren't we talking about food storage here?

Well, you can have all the food in the world but if you don't have water you won't be living long enough to enjoy that food. In most cases, you'll be around for around three days.

One easy way to remember this is with **the 3-3-3 rule**: Generally speaking you cannot live longer than 3 minutes without air, 3 days without water, and 3 weeks without food.

In an ideal world, we would all have a year's supply of water stored away. However for most people, storing a year's supply of water is not practical and in many cases not necessary. At a minimum you should store at least 2 weeks (14 days) worth of water.

Here are some pointers:

You should have at minimum one gallon per person, per day, for 14 days:

One gallon per person is just enough for cooking and drinking. This does not include water for washing (you'll need to factor more for that).

14 days acts as a buffer zone that gives you time until the infrastructure problem is fixed or at least until you can figure out other water-procurement methods.

If you live in an arid area where water is hard to come by then it's absolutely important that you store as much as is practical. If you have the space, look into purchasing some <u>55 Gallon Water Barrels</u>.

Store the water in a cool, dark place:

Light and heat break down plastics and can contribute to bacterial growth. Limit exposure to both. Preferably avoid moist areas where mold easily forms.

Ideally PETE or food-grade plastic containers should be used:

Used soda or juice bottles work great in a pinch. Just be sure to clean it out well. I wouldn't recommend used plastic milk jugs though. Milk contains a protein that doesn't easily wash out and may contribute to bacterial growth. Plastic 'water' jugs with screw-on tops can be used although they need to be rotated yearly due to becoming brittle with time.

• Thoroughly wash your containers before filling them up:

Wash the containers with warm, soapy water and sanitize them by putting a teaspoon of household bleach (non-scented) in a gallon of water. Pour this solution into the container and let it sit for about two minutes. Then rinse out with potable (suitable for drinking) water.

Treat non-chlorinated water with bleach:

Most municipal water sources are chlorinated so bottles can be filled up right from the tap. If you get your water from a well or other water source than adding bleach will prepare the water for storage. The general rule is 8 drops of non-scented liquid household chlorine bleach per gallon of water (2 drops per quart).

Rotate the water regularly:

If you are not storing commercially bottled water then it's a good idea to rotate the water every six months. I find it easiest to just use the water, then when finished I'll follow the steps above putting the newly-filled water container in the back of the storage queue FIFO style (first-in first-out).

Storing water is an easy step. Instead of throwing out your used water jugs or soda bottles, clean them out and fill them up with water. With time the process becomes a regular habit and you'll have your minimum 2 weeks of stored water in no time. Just be sure to start now!

STEP 2: BUILDING YOUR SHORT-TERM SUPPLY

Now that you have at least 2 weeks' worth of water stored away, you are ready to move on to the next step...building a short-term supply of food.

When people first decide they need food storage, they immediately get overwhelmed. They hear about getting a years' supply and don't know where to start.

It need not be so difficult

As with most things, start off small and build from there. That's where the short-term supply comes into play.

The short-term food supply primarily consists of non-perishable items that are part of your normal daily consumption such as pasta, canned goods, jarred sauces, frozen meats, juices and so on. Included in this list are other non-food essentials such as medicine, hygiene products (don't forget the toilet paper), diapers and other kid-related needs, cleaning supplies, and so on.

What's great about this supply is that you don't have to change your daily or weekly routine in order to build it up. The best way to begin is to buy just a little-bit extra each time you go shopping.

The way I recommend is to start with building a 2-week's supply (what I *call "The 2-Week Pantry"*), then work towards a month's supply and then finally three months.

Once you reach an amount sufficient for a three-month supply it's important that you then rotate it — replacing/purchasing those items that you use as you need them.

Since our food storage is in our basement, I find it easiest to just keep a little white board with a marker down where our three-months supply is to quickly jot down whatever we take up to use. At the end of the week, this list then gets copied to my wife's iPhone where she goes out and purchases whatever is on the list.

What you're left with is a rotating supply of food that will never get older than three months, and...

Let's not forget the added bonus of peace of mind.

STEP 3: LONG-TERM FOOD STORAGE

At this point, you should have 2-weeks' worth of water stored away (or more if you live in areas where natural sources of water are hard to find). You should also have a three-month supply of food and other necessities that you are continually using and replacing. Once those are all set, the next step is to now start thinking about your longer-term needs.

When I refer to 'longer-term needs', I'm talking about storing a year's worth of food or more.

While the food that typically goes into a 3-months rotating supply generally needs to be eaten within a few months to a year, your 'long-term' storage will contain those items that will last much much longer — typically 10-30 years or more. These are foods that you will use to stay alive, such as wheat, white rice, and beans.

Before you throw your hands up in despair, don't feel you need to go out and buy a whole year's worth in one setting. Just as with the three-month supply, you'll want to gradually build up this supply of food. Let's go through the process of how it's done...

TASK 1: PREPARE YOUR STORAGE AREA:

The first step is to determine where you want to store your long-term supply. In the three-month supply, simple shelves are all you need. But with a year's worth, you need a space that is large enough and preferably away from heat and light. If you have a basement this is the ideal place. If not then an available closet, room, or storage area will also work in a pinch.

My house, for example, was made in the early 1940s and has an old wine cellar area that shoots off from the main foundation. This room is ideal because it doesn't fluctuate too much in temperature and is always dark.

Don't get caught up in thinking that you can't do long-term food storage because you need to have the 'ideal' spot, or that because you live in a small apartment it wouldn't work for you. **Part of self-reliance is making do with what you have.** Think a little bit and you'll come up with a solution.

TASK 2: DETERMINE HOW MUCH YOU NEED:

Trying to figure out just how much long-term food storage you need for your family can be a bit of a chore. To make this step easy for you, I've included a link to a food storage calculator that figures out the suggested needs based on the amount of weeks and number of people that you want to store away for. You can <u>access the food-storage calculator here</u>.

TASK 3: GRADUALLY BUILD UP YOUR YEAR'S SUPPLY

For most people's budgets, buying a year's worth of food storage in one fell swoop is not possible.

Although it is very important to have a year's supply, I wouldn't recommend going into debt to get it. Instead, start small. Just like with your 3-month supply of food you want to gradually build it up over time. You'll be surprised at how quickly this store of food builds up.

My wife and I, for example, began building our year's supply by buying \$25 worth of bulk items per month (rice, wheat, beans etc). As we had a little extra money to play with, we would buy more and within a year's time we were able to build up a one-year supply of food.

As with any goal, break it up into manageable chunks. Start with a 3-month supply of long-term food items, and then move onto 6 months and finally a year's worth. Again...

It's important that you start now.

TASK 4: BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH THE BASIC LONG-TERM FOODS AND HOW TO USE AND STORE THEM

There are a ton of resources online which can teach you what foods are best for long-term storage, how you should store them, and what types of meals you can make out of them. Some of my favorite sites are (links will work in Adobe Reader):

<u>Food Storage Made Easy</u> – Don't be dissuaded by all the pink. Julie and Jodie have a great talent for making food storage understandable and available for the masses -- lots of good resources and ideas.

<u>Every Day Food Storage</u> – Crystal's blog is a great resource for how to use food storage in day-to-day life.

<u>Simply Living Smart</u> – A ton of info and videos related to everything food storage.

<u>Provident Living</u> – A great resource for self-reliance put together by the LDS church.

TASK 5: PRACTICE USING YOUR FOOD STORAGE NOW

Get accustomed to cooking and using your long-term food storage in your everyday life.

Now is the time to find out what you like and dislike, or what you're allergic to — not in the middle of a crisis situation.

The more you get used to eating and preparing your food storage now, the easier the transition will be when you have no choice.

It's best to include as part of your 3-month supply a portion of your long-term storage. For example, we use as part of our 3-month storage a portion of our long-term supply such as wheat (that we grind into flour), rice, oil, salt, yeast, sugar etc. This saves a ton of money in the long term and it keeps our stock well rotated.

Remember with all of this; take it one step at a time.

By starting small you will quickly get into a rhythm and build some nice momentum. Soon you'll be as obsessed with it as me and your family will be calling YOU the human squirrel.

STEP 4: NON-FOOD ITEMS

If you've followed each of the previous steps you should now have 2-weeks' worth of water, a three-month supply of food and other necessities that is continually rotated, and you should be working towards a year's supply of long-term food items.

This next step - Step 4 - is really just an extension of Step 3.

You can do this step in tandem with procuring your year's supply of food or you can finish Step 3 first before moving on to this step. The only thing I'd recommend is that you focus on the food items first and foremost. Buy the non-food items when you see good sales, otherwise purchase your long-term food first. **Remember, you can eat wheat not toilet paper**.

It's important that you build up a supply of items that are commonly used by your family. Here's a recommended list that should get you started:

PAPER SUPPLIES

- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Diapers/Wipes
- Tissue Paper
- Feminine Products
- Cotton Balls

PERSONAL HYGIENE

- Soap
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Shaving Cream
- Diaper Rash Cream
- Toothpaste/Toothbrushes

CLEANING SUPPLIES

- All-Purpose Cleaner
- Bleach
- Laundry/Dish Soap
- Trashbags

MISCELLANEOUS

- Dog/Cat Food (Hey...Fido needs to live too, unless of course you're planning on eating Fido as part of your food storage)
- Batteries
- Candles
- Light Bulbs
- Fuel

By no means is this list exhaustive (*you can find a more extensive list in the "77 Items" section later on in this document*). On the other hand, don't get so caught up that you feel you need everything right away either. Build up slowly and as you have the means and resources available stock up on these items.

What's great about most of the items on this list is that particular storage parameters (heat, light, etc) aren't that big of an issue. Any free space will do: your barn, shed, attic, basement, under the bed and so on.

STEP 5: THE BASICS AND BEYOND

If you've been able to accomplish all the steps before this one, let me congratulate you! Your household should now be able to survive a year without any need for grocery stores, mini-marts, food stamps, or government handouts. Feels good doesn't it?

If you're only reading this though, I hope by now you have a better understanding of where you need to begin. **The most important thing to get out of all of this is to** (lest you get weary with me repeating myself) **start small**. Begin with Step 1. Once you gain confidence in storing bottles of water, take on Step 2 which is only a matter of buying a little extra of what you already eat and use each time you go shopping.

Even if you are only able to accomplish the first two steps, you'll gain a huge amount of confidence and peace of mind. This should carry you over to Step 3 and 4 which is building your year's supply of food and essential non-food items. While the last two steps are more involved, you need not feel overwhelmed. Again, just begin small and build up from there (are you beginning to see a pattern here?). Soon you'll be well on your way to a year's supply.

So what's next?

Once you've completed the four steps, where do you go from there?

Well there's still plenty to do and learn. Since I consider food storage in the realm of survival, if you really want to go beyond just surviving and instead move onto thriving during those hard times ahead, there happens to be a plethora of skills and knowledge to gain on the subject of self-reliance and preparedness (again, this goes back to the "Tools" part previously discussed in the 5-Pillars Section above).

Here's a list of just some of the subjects that you can learn about:

- Clothes Making and Household Crafts
- Financial Security
- Gardening
- Homesteading
- Raising Livestock (chickens, goats, rabbits etc)
- Solar, Wind, and Other Forms of Alternate Energy
- Primitive, Urban, and Wilderness Survival Skills
- Self-Defense (Unarmed and Armed)
- Local Plant Identification and Use
- Herbal Medicine
- Hunting
- and More...!

What's important is that you continue to grow and develop. The more self-reliant you can become the more helpful you will be to those who are less fortunate during the hard times ahead.

If you are someone who would rather have an easy reference-list of items to stock up on, in the next section you'll learn the "77 Critical Items that Disappear During a Disaster"...



SECTION 3: 77 CRITICAL ITEMS THAT DISAPPEAR DURING A DISASTER



Whenever crisis happens, the typical response of people who haven't planned ahead is a mad rush to the gas stations, food marts and hardware stores...

Effectively, and quite literally, emptying the shelves.

With the combination of limited supply and desperate people, violence is a common

occurrence.

By following the instructions I outlined in the previous sections, you will have tremendous peace-of-mind and confidence knowing that you will never have to join those flocks of people.

Here is a list of 77 common items that vanish during a disaster -- organized into the <u>5 Pillars of Survival (+ Tools)</u>. While you're working through your survival plan, feel free to use this as a reference list of items to stock up on.



PERSONAL HEALTH & SECURITY

SECURITY

1. ammunition

HEALTH

2. vitamin supplements





- 3. antacids
- 4. antibiotics
- 5. rubbing alcohol & hydrogen peroxide
- 6. laxative and diarrhea remedies
- 7. antihistamine
- 8. Epsom salts
- 9. first-aid kits
- **10.** insect repellant

HYGIENE

- 11. portable toilets
- 12. toilet paper
- 13. paper towels
- 14. diapers
- 15. wet wipes
- **16.** sanitary napkins & tampons
- 17. bath soap
- 18. laundry detergent
- 19. waterless hand sanitizer
- 20. disinfectant
- 21. bleach
- 22. trash bags
- 23. toothpaste and toothbrushes
- 24. shampoo & conditioner
- 25. shaving equipment



SHELTER

- 26. thermal underwear
- 27. insulated coveralls
- 28. sleeping bags
- **29**. tents
- 30. heavy work gloves
- 31. boots
- 32. rain gear









WATER

- 33. water
- **34.** ice
- 35. water filters



HEAT & ENERGY

- 36. batteries
- 37. flashlights
- 38. candles
- 39. lighters
- 40. matches
- 41. seasoned firewood
- 42. lanterns
- 43. lantern fuel, wicks and mantles
- 44. butane igniter
- 45. charcoal grills
- 46. charcoal
- 47. camp stoves
- **48.** propane for camp stoves
- **49.** propane cylinders (for grill and heating)
- 50. generators
- **51.** gasoline storage containers
- 52. gasoline
- **53.** 2-stroke oil
- 54. solar panels



FOOD







- **55.** flour
- 56. yeast
- 57. sugar
- **58.** milk
- **59.** rice and beans
- **60.** powdered milk
- **61.** canned goods
- **62.** ready-made meals
- 63. bouillon cubes
- **64.** cooking oil
- **65.** peanut butter
- **66.** baby food and formula
- 67. coffee
- **68.** cast iron Dutch oven
- 69. cast iron cookware



TOOLS

- 70. re-sealable plastic bags
- 71. pocket and camping knives
- 72. cigarettes
- 73. 5-gallon plastic buckets
- **74.** duct tape
- 75. chain-saws
- 76. bow saws, axes, wedges
- 77. hand-crank and emergency radios



A SNEAK PEAK INTO PREPPER ACADEMY

As I discussed in the beginning of this document, the sad fact is...

The majority are far from prepared for even minor disasters.

For most, it's ignorance (or denial) that prevents them from prepping but for the few — like you — who are awake and want to be prepared, the common frustrations are not knowing where to begin, being overwhelmed with the ton of information out there, or feeling you don't have the resources to properly prepare.

Believe me, I get it, I was once there myself.

Here's my story...

During my early twenties I was big into wilderness survival. I'd received training from some of the top instructors in our nation and really had a passion for practicing and perfecting the skills I was taught. I don't claim to be an expert by any means but I certainly felt (and still feel) that on my own I would make it out in the bush with nothing but the clothes on my back and (ideally) a knife in my hand.

I never worried about "prepping" or thought of doing anything like food storage since I figured if there ever was a time that things went south I could always just run to the woods and survive on my own.

Fast forward a few years...









I get married and have a kid (yes, that's her to the left there. She's beautiful isn't she? :)).

In that moment my priorities changed. It suddenly dawned on me that it just wasn't practical to "run off in the woods" anymore. It wasn't realistic for my wife and I to be living out of a leaf hut feeding my new daughter a freshly-caught squirrel with a side of cattail and acorn bread (despite one of our first dates spent gutting, skinning and quartering a deer. Look at those lovebirds

there...aren't we a sweet couple? lol).

And with the way the world was going it was then that I realized just how unprepared I was.

So that sent me off on my journey to become a "prepper".



And man, was I overwhelmed!!

There was SO MUCH INFORMATION out

there in the form of blogs, books, YouTube videos and forums that I didn't know how to begin or where to start. On top of that, as a young father barely starting my career I just didn't have the resources to buy those freeze-dried, made-for-you, multiple-thousand-dollar food storage supply kits (let alone a remote, fully-stocked retreat up in the mountains somewhere).

I needed to learn how to prepare with the limited funds and resources I had at that time.

It wasn't until after a long time of digging and reading and consuming articles, forum entries, and book after book that I finally got to the point where I figured out what I needed and







where I should to begin.

So slowly but surely I built on my food storage and preps with only \$25 extra a month to the point where we are now with enough supplies to last us for a year (and I'm still prepping ©).

As I was learning and prepping, to show others what I was doing and to help others on their journey I also started a blog a few years ago called **TacticalIntelligence.net**. Since then it has become one of the go-to blogs on preparedness with over 10,000 subscribers as of this writing.

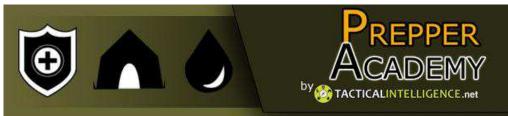
But even after creating this blog, I would still get the same questions from people time and time again...

- Where do I begin?
- What should I be focusing on for preps?
- What types of disasters and events should I be focusing on preparing for?
- What do I do if I don't have much money?
- Or much space?
- What if I live in the city and don't have a bug-out location, how do I prepare?

Questions like these kept coming and I'd try to answer as best I could with emails and blog posts but blogging didn't seem to be the answer.

I started the blog with the intention of helping others get better prepared but despite that I still felt many people were not making much progress or worse, were still just as confused as I was when I began.

The biggest drawback to what's out there now is that since forums, YouTube videos, and blogs are made up of random topics, there is no real DIRECTION in how to begin, what to do, and what steps to take.





There's nothing wrong with those media — **they are fantastic resources**. But for someone who doesn't have a ton of time to decipher what is most important, or wants to know where to begin, or even someone more experienced that wants to know what else they need to take it to the next level, it's not ideal.

It was then that I realized that blogging, YouTube, forums, or even a book was not what was needed.

What is lacking is a format that takes you through an easy-to-follow, step-by-step process of becoming prepared — no matter where you live or what resources you have.

Given this need, I decided to come up with something I call Prepper Academy.

And if you aren't already, this WILL get you prepared.

It uses a process of guided modules and courses in combination with a rich, multi-media experience – to give exact direction and to drive learning.

And that's how Prepper Academy was borne...

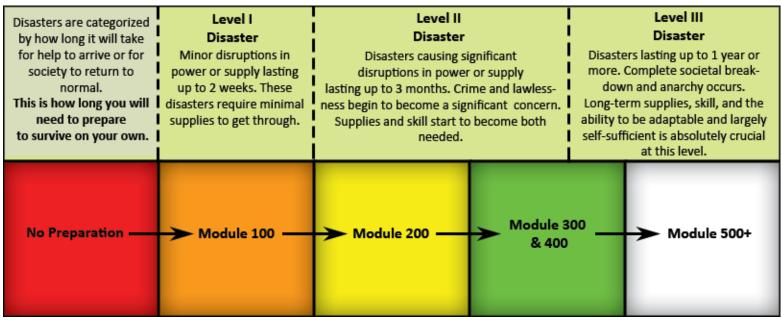
Prepper Academy is THE online "university" for preppers of ALL levels.

Prepper Academy is an online resource that helps you get prepared.



The central focus of the academy is a set of guided courses that are designed to take you step by step from being utterly unprepared to the ultimate goal of self-sufficiency — accommodating even the most modest of budgets.

Prepper Academy is broken up into five modules with multiple courses per module. Each month you'll receive new courses that guide you through the various modules **bringing you** closer to the goal of personal freedom and independence.



As you move through the various modules **your ability to effectively survive a wide variety of disasters will increase** as shown in the following graphic:

Here's an example of what you'll find just in Module 100:

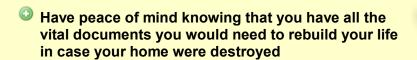


MODULE 100: The Prepper's Foundation

What you'll learn:

Course 101: Building a Bug-Out Binder

After completing this course, you will have created a highlycustomized emergency binder that is designed to be quickly taken with you if you were forced to evacuate your home. By having this binder, you will...





- Have a solid bug-out plan in place telling you what to do, when to leave, where to go, and how to get there, and...
- Be way ahead of the mad rush of people exiting your area by knowing the "precursor signals" that tell you it's time to leave.

Course 102: Building your Disaster Kits

After completing this course, you will have a set of disaster kits which are custom designed for a variety of emergency situations. You'll learn...

• How to build a Bug-Out Bag (BOB) that will help you survive your journey from ground zero to a safe area.





- How to put together an Emergency Car Kit that will keep you warm, safe and comfortable until help arrives or you can get on the road again.
- What a Get-Home Bag (GHB) is, how to put one together, and why it's crucial to carry one whenever you're away from home.
- How to build a proper Emergency Medical/Trauma Kit
- The importance of Every-Day Carry (EDC) kits and what should be in yours.
- The different types of Specialty Kits there are and which ones are essential for you and your household.

Course 103: Battening Down the Hatches (Sheltering-in-Place)

Before disaster strikes your home, it's absolutely essential that you prepare ahead of time. However stocking up on supplies is only half the story. Knowing how to deal with emergencies (before, during and after it hits) is just as important. In this course you will...

- Have peace of mind knowing that in a minor crisis you will never have to join the flocks of people rushing to the stores before the shelves clear
- Have enough supplies to ride out a minor crisis that would affect your power, water, and food supply.
- Learn what types of fuel you should have on hand and how to store it
- Learn how best to purify and store water...even if you live in a small apartment
- Overcome disaster paralysis by learning what to do to prepare your home BEFORE a disaster strikes











Determine the most likely disasters to affect you and how you can prepare for them'

Course 104: Cooking Off-Grid

Knowing how to cook during an extended power outage is crucial for comfort, morale, as well as avoiding food-borne illnesses. In this course you will...



- Know the best off-grid cooking options available that work with big or small budgets
- Discover which off-grid cooking methods are best fit for sheltering-in-place or bugging out
- Know how to make your own off-grid cooking stoves with common every-day items
- Learn how to use an often overlooked but highly effective primitive fire method that is easily built by a 4-year old, can be used in rain, snow or shine, and easily ignites with only one match

Course 105: Survival Sanitation in a Grid-Down World

Even during short-term grid-down situations, major sanitation issues and devastating health problems can erupt. Sanitation may not be as sexy a topic as firearms, bug-out bags, or fire making, but knowing how to keep clean and properly deal with waste and sewage during a grid-down situation is one of the most important pieces of knowledge to have as a modern prepper. In this course you will...





- Learn a simple homemade cleaning solution using items already in your home that is powerful enough to kill Anthrax spores
- Know how to deal with trash when the garbage man stops coming
- Discover the single most effective way to prevent the spread of communicable diseases
- Learn how to properly and safely dispose of human manure whether you're in the city or the country.

And that's just the first module!!

The remaining modules are also chock-full of courses that will take you to that next level of preparedness:

MODULE 200: Building the Prepper-Mart: Your In-Home Convenience Store

In this module you'll learn how to build a reserve that will get you through longer-term emergencies from a job loss to larger scale disasters lasting at least 3-months.

You'll also learn how to preserve your own food to extend shelf life and for those with limited budgets, you'll learn how to build up this reserve without breaking the bank.







Module 200 also gets you started on establishing your Survival Library. You'll learn why it is crucial and what should be in yours.



Module 300: Going the Distance – Long-Term Food Storage and How to Use It



Module 300 is in many ways a continuation of the previous module, except this level is focused on long-term, bulk food storage. It will teach you exactly what to store, where to buy it, how to store it, and most importantly how to use it.

There are far too many preppers with buckets of long-term bulk food just sitting in their basements with no idea how to use them. A

major portion of this module then is teaching you how to integrate them in your every-day life so that when the SHTF you and your family will already be accustomed to using and eating it.

Module 400: Securing What's Yours

Module 400 is all about securing what you've worked so hard to build.

When tough times loom, social unrest and crime increases. It's important during these











times that you know how to secure your home and keep your family safe. This module will help you to put in place active and passive protections for your home and loved ones.

You'll also learn about home caching (for hiding valuables in your home), mindset and awareness training, defensive/offensive tools available for preppers, as well as recommended and inexpensive sources of self-defense training and much more.

Finally, when uncertainty is in the air, you'll want to know how to communicate with your loved ones as well as keep your "ear to the ground". Module 400 goes into detail about the various types of communication options available to

preppers when the grid is up or down.

Module 500+: Developing Self-Sufficiency

Up to this point in the academy (Levels 100 - 400) you've been mostly accumulating stuff to get you through tough times. You could stop at this point, working only on storing more and more stuff (which many do). But to really get beyond SURVIVING and moving into THRIVING and ultimately entering self-sufficiency, you'll want to move on to these higher levels.

Level 500+ is all about skill development. The benefits of learning skills over accumulating stuff is that the more capabilities you learn in these upper levels, the less you'll be dependent upon what you've already accumulated.

As a good friend of mine often says, "Training Trumps Gear" — the more you know the less you need. And best of all as you develop self-sufficiency your stores become less of a necessity and more of an insurance policy.



A ton of thought, research, time and collaboration has gone into Prepper Academy to make it THE go-to resource for a variety of preppers with diverse backgrounds, means, and needs.

And as they say in those cheesy infomercials...

Wait! There's More!!

By becoming a member of Prepper Academy you'll also have access to the following:





At the Prepper Academy forum you'll find a safe place to share, free of spam and disrespectful anonymous people. Our forums are fully moderated, assuring you a relaxing







and rewarding experience.

In addition, you can earn "forum bucks" which reward the top participants every month with fantastic prepper gear like Leatherman multi-tools, water filters, medical kits, books, knives, campstoves and more!

Video Columns



We feature a growing list of video columns from some of the best prepper-videos



available on the web. Videos include Survival Medicine, Analytical Survival and the Personal Defense Network.

A Downloadable Survival Library



A fully-downloadable digital library containing HUNDREDS of documents that you can add to your survival library immediately. You'll have access to documents from various categories such as general preparedness, heat and energy, homesteading, urban survival, wilderness survival, personal protection, and personal health/medical giving you plenty of information to work through for those looking to go above and beyond.

Incredible Discounts

Prepper Academy has teamed up with some of the best vendors of prepper-related supplies and training to provide you with a number of fantastic discounts. Just the savings alone will pay for your membership many months over!

Here are just a few examples of the growing number of vendors and discounts:

OnPoint Tactical



\$100 off your class of choice

School of Natural Healing



\$100 off the online Family Herbalist Course

Self-Sufficient-Life.com









50% off all eBooks

All these including discounts to many more vendors such as:







And More..!

So, How Much Is All Of This Going To Cost Me?

Given the amount of information you get, the incredible discounts, as well as the option to win free prepper gear, I could easily set the **price of membership to be \$30 a month.**



I'm offering membership to this exclusive community at a mere \$7 a month.

When you sign up you'll be paying a fixed price of \$7/mo for as long as you retain your membership. So any future price increases will not affect you.

That's about the cost of an extra value meal at McDonald's!

So why not <u>skip the meal and save your</u> <u>health and your future at the same time</u>?

Is there a catch?

Nope. No catch. No commitments.

When you sign on, you will be charged a flat rate of \$7 per 30 days and you can cancel at any time. If you do decide to cancel there are no hard feelings and you won't need to talk to anyone over the phone or hunt far and wide to end your membership. It's as simple as clicking the "Unsubscribe" button in the membership site and following the simple directions.

Do I get access to all of the content upon joining?

On your first month of joining you'll get access to the following three courses from Module 100:

• Course 101: Building a Bug-Out Binder



- Course 102: Building your Disaster Kits
- Course 103: Battening Down the Hatches (Sheltering-in-Place)

After that, on each 30-day anniversary of your joining, a new course (or courses depending on the module) will be "activated" automatically for you.

There are around 17 courses total in Module 100 through Module 400 and **it will take** around a year to get you through those. Since each of the courses are intended to be completed sequentially and are fairly involved, you will need the time to work through them before moving on to the subsequent courses and modules.

After that, Module 500 is for those willing to go beyond just "Prepping" and want to enter into the realms of self-sufficiency. If you continue as a member at that point, you will continue to receive more courses that further your skills of self-sufficiency such as gardening, wild edible and medicinal plant studies, wilderness survival and more.

All of the core instruction from the courses are in PDF format which can be printed out or saved to your computer, smart phone, tablet or Kindle for your reference — allowing you access to the them even beyond your membership (this does not include the associated video files).

In addition, when you join you will be given unrestricted access to all of the other content, features, and benefits such as the discounts, video and ebook libraries, as well as the chance to win free prepper gear by participating in the community forum.

It's **SO MUCH MORE** than a book, forum, or blog can provide.

Let's quickly review some of the features and benefits:

In Prepper Academy you'll find...

✓ EXCLUSIVE CONTENT - We are constantly adding new videos, courses, lessons, and reference materials that you can't find anywhere else



- ✓ GUIDED LEARNING using the home-study guides, we will instruct and guide you through the prepping process beginning at the most basic and progressively guiding you to the more advanced topics of prepping and self sufficiency
- ✓ A PRIVATE FORUM just for members. Giving you a safe place to share, free of spam and disrespectful anonymous people. Our forums are fully moderated, assuring you a relaxing and rewarding experience.
- ✓ MONTHLY PREPPER-GEAR GIVEAWAYS for the top forum contributors including items such as Leatherman multi-tools, medical kits, emergency food, books, knives, water filters, camp stoves, and more!
- **✓ QUALITY INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS** that demonstrate key skills and examples to further support the coursework.
- ✓ A DOWNLOADABLE LIBRARY containing HUNDREDS OF FILES that you can add to your survival library right away
- ✓ A GROWING COLLECTION OF VIDEO COLUMNS from some of the best prepperrelated videos available on the web
- ✓ **INCREDIBLE DISCOUNTS** from some of the top vendors for prepper-related supplies and training. Just the savings alone will pay for your membership many months over!
- ✓ A GROWING COMMUNITY OF LIKE-MINDED PREPPERS with ALL different experience levels who you can exchange ideas, learn from and share with others

Now, a few questions for you:

- 1. Have you made the decision not to let things like world events, the government, or natural disasters determine you and your loved ones fate?
- 2. Are you the type of person that longs for independence, true liberty, and security?



3. Do you desire to have true confidence in the face of uncertainty?

If you answered YES to the above then I know we are kindred spirits and I would be honored to have you join our growing community over at **Prepper Academy**.

Click the button below or go to http://www.prepperacademy.com/pasp to sign up now!

