

UNDERGROUND WEAPONS

By John Hartman



FIGHT 4 FAMILY

When you're concerned about home security, the gun store isn't the only place you can turn to when you want to protect your family. In your home, there are plenty of options you have to fashion everyday items into an arsenal without breaking the bank. It gives you a little more confidence should something serious happen in your home, but remember these are all dangerous weapons. Some are illegal to own in some states, so be sure to check your local regulations before starting one of these weekend DIY projects:

Collapsible steel baton

You will need:

- Three lengths of steel pipe, 1 ft each in length
- The largest pipe should be an inch in diameter, the next slightly thinner, the third thinner again. Each thinner piece should fit inside the next largest size.
 - *Number one pipe is the thinnest*
 - *Number two pipe is the middle*
 - *Number three pipe is the largest*
- Steel caps for both ends of the three lengths of pipe
- Lead sinkers to fill the thinnest section of pipe and a drill



1. Take the number three piece of pipe and fix one end with the steel cap that fits
2. Take the cap that fits the number two pipe, and drill a hole so the thinnest piece of pipe can slide through, but stops when it hits the steel cap you just screwed on
3. Fix the undrilled number two cap to one end of your number two pipe
4. Take the cap that fits the number three pipe, and drill a hole so the number two piece of pipe can slide through, but stops when it hits the steel cap
5. Fix the undrilled number three cap to the butt-end of the baton.
6. Fix the drilled number three cap to the number three pipe, covering the sliding connection between the number three and number two pipes
7. Fix the drilled number two cap to the number two pipe, covering the sliding connection between the number two and number one pipes
8. Test to make sure the entire apparatus is sliding smoothly. If not you may need to adjust the holes that have been drilled in the caps, or give the connections a spray with WD-40.
9. Fill the thinnest pipe with lead sinkers, and close this off with the final cap on the tip. The weight helps the baton to open up when you take a swing.

Pepper spray

One of the go-to weapons in the self defense niche, pepper spray has transformed an industry giving police officers and civilians a nonlethal alternative to deter a potential threat.

The good news is that you can make your own pepper spray at home, and while it won't be as potent as the industrial grade, this homemade recipe will create a spray that will cause any intruder to stop in their tracks and contemplate what they were thinking trying to break into your home.



Pepper spray is very stable, but due to the concentrations of chili required it can be very irritating should you touch your eyes while you're making this. Take adequate precaution, our recommendation is to wear both eye protection and a surgical mask to nullify any risk you contaminate yourself.

You will need:

- A spray container. Check it first for leaks, you don't want this seeping out.
- Two pots with a lid, a large size and a smaller size
- Coffee filters and a funnel
- Mortar and pestle
- 16 ounces of alcohol (91% Isopropyl)
- A pound of ground chili seeds (check the rating of the ones you order, and get the hottest)
- 100ml of baby oil

1. Use the mortar and pestle to ensure your chili seeds are finely ground.
2. Put the chili seeds and the alcohol into the pot, and with the lid on, boil for 30 mins.
3. You'll notice a dark red liquid starts to form in the pot, this is what we're after.
4. Strain the liquid through the coffee filters and funnel to remove any sediment.
5. Transfer the filtered liquid into the smaller pot.
6. Add 3 cups of water, and set it to a soft boil. Keep the heat on until it starts to evaporate, and continue stirring until it forms again into a thick red liquid. This takes about 10 mins.
7. Let the mixture sit and cool, and mix in the baby oil.
8. The baby oil helps your homemade pepper spray to stick to whomever you hit with it.
9. Place the mixture in your spray container, and you're ready to go.
10. For optimal range in home defense, use your pepper spray in a pressurized water gun.
11. Store any leftover solution in an airtight container in a cool dry place.

Slingshot

Slingshots are the go-to weapons of our childhood. We all remember Dennis the Menace and Bart Simpson causing havoc in their neighborhoods, and both of them always had a trusty slingshot hanging out their back pocket.

As an adult, a slingshot can actually be a very effective weapon. A well built slingshot fires a ball bearing hard enough to take down a small animal, and cause a significant amount of pain to someone sneaking around your yard. Plus it's basically silent, except for the yelp your target makes when you hit them!



You will need:

- Y shaped branch that can fit in your hand (6-9 inches long, 1-2 inches thick)
 - Microwave
 - Knife or a saw
 - 1/4 inch latex surgical tubing. Eye out how long you want the bands to be, and double it.
 - Dental floss
 - Strip of leather to use as the pouch
 - Small lead sinkers, ball bearings or steel balls to use as projectiles
1. When searching for a branch, find one with the least amount of cracks. It will be stronger.
 2. If you cut a fork fresh from a tree, you need to dry the wood. This is easy in a microwave, just wrap the branch in a towel and zap it on high for 30 sec bursts (with a 1-2 min break in between). Repeat until the wood stops hissing, it should take 5 or 6 zaps in the microwave.
 3. Use your saw (or the knife) to carve notches at the top of each of the fork prongs. This is where you will attach your bands.
 4. Cut the latex tubing in half, so you have two pieces of equal length
 5. Wrap the latex tubing around the fork prongs so it doubles back on itself, and use the dental floss to secure both the latex tubing to itself, and the notches on the fork. Tie it secure.
 6. Trim your leather strip so it's an octagonal shape, and cut two holes on either side
 7. Slide the ends of the latex tube through the holes in the leather, fold the tube back on itself and tie them tight with the dental floss.
 8. Your slingshot is now ready to use. Line up some cans in your backyard to test your accuracy.
 9. After using it for a while, you may realize the slingshot bands need adjusting. If so, trim them a little shorter for greater force when you're firing.
 10. With extended use the latex bands will start to weaken. Replace them as soon as you see any wear and tear.

Thermite bombs

There is nothing quite as destructive as thermite. What makes it remarkable is that it is so stable, and is very safe sitting on a shelf in your weapons arsenal.

It's stable because it requires a massive amount of heat to actually start burning. What makes it an effective weapon is once it's lit, it doesn't stop burning. Thermite will



melt its way through anything it's been placed on top of, and should you need to render an attackers car immobile, a thermite burn will easily melt a hole through their engine block all the way through to the concrete driveway underneath. Seriously.

You will need:

- Aluminum powder
 - You can order this on eBay, or
 - Use a grinder to turn some scrap aluminum into powder and collect the dust
 - Iron oxide (this is essentially rust).
 - You can buy this from paint stores, or
 - You can order this on eBay
 - Magnesium strips
1. Mix the thermite with a ratio of 8 grams aluminum to 3 grams iron oxide.
 2. Because the mixture is by weight, it will look like it's a 50/50 mix of the two powders
 - a. *It's not, the aluminum powder is just much lighter*
 3. Mix the two powders together until they are evenly mixed, and put them in a container
 4. Use a magnesium strip, or a sparkler (which contains magnesium) as the fuse
 5. To ignite, thermite needs a massive amount of heat, much more than a lighter can provide.
 6. Light the magnesium strip, and you'll have a few moments before the fuse burns down to the thermite and generates enough heat to start the thermite burning

Note: Test how fast your magnesium strip takes to burn beforehand. Depending on the thickness of the strip the burn time can vary, anywhere from 20-30 seconds to over a minute before it reaches the thermite. You don't want to alarm your target prematurely, and have them sabotage your weapon before it actually starts burning.

Optional: For anyone after a moldable destructive force, which is very handy should you need to burn through a locked door or a padlock in order to escape, mix 4 parts thermite with one part Play Doh. Knead the powder in until its consistent, and stick it to whatever you want to burn.

PVC Bow

The archer is a mainstay in traditional warfare, and many hunters in America still prefer to stalk their prey with a bow and arrow.

As a home defense weapon the bow is excellent. There are no restrictions on ownership, but in urban areas you can get into trouble if a neighbors reports you practicing in your backyard. Unlike a gun there is no sound, and a powerful bow can do much more damage to an invader than a slingshot.



You will need:

- 5 foot piece of 1/2 inch thick PVC pipe and a 5 foot piece of 3/4 inch thick PVC pipe
- Saw and WD-40
- 4 foot 5 inch fiber glass rod, 3/8 inch thick
- Duct tape and Electrical tape
- String for the bow (masonry twine is best), get twice as much as you think you need
- PVC caps for the ends of the bow

1. Mark a straight line down the length of the 1/2 inch pipe, and cut one side so the pipe opens
2. Spray the WD-40 inside the 3/4 inch pipe, and on the outside of the pipe you just cut
3. Push the 1/2 inch PVC pipe inside the 3/4 inch pipe. It's a tight fit, so be careful not to snap it
4. Put a mark 3/4 of an inch down from the end of each pipe, check its aligned and drill a hole
5. Use a hacksaw and cut down from the end of the pipe to the hole you just cut on both sides
6. Use sandpaper or a metal file to smooth out any rough edges on the cut
7. Wrap the fiberglass rod first with duct tape, and then with electrical tape
8. Push the wrapped fiberglass rod into the center of the PVC pipes
9. If you want to make a rest for the arrow, a piece of pipe insulation is easily attached in the center of your bow with electrical tape
10. Take your string, and cut it in half, and tie each individual piece to each end of the bow, securing it tight in the cut you made in step 5
11. Cover the ends of your bow with the PVC pipe caps
12. Pull your two pieces of string together, bending your bow and tie them with a square knot.
13. This creates the tension in your bow.
14. Trim the knot you tied in the drawstring, but make sure you have at least an inch of overhang in case the knot slips.

For arrows, take a thin tube of PVC, or a thin piece of fiberglass. Cut a notch in the end to allow it to sit in the string, and fix a nail to the other to balance the arrow and add weight to the flight. Duct tape or superglue will help this to stay put. Attach any fletching you have to the butt of the arrow (feathers work well and help it fly straight) with superglue and dental floss to tie them securely. Now you're ready to shoot!

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