

**Plan:**

- When and where will your Patrol share this adventure?
- What do you know about building quinzhees?  
How can you find out more?
- What equipment do you need for building your quinzhee?  
For sleeping in your quinzhee?
- How should you dress for this adventure?

**Do:**

- Build a snow mound. It should be about two metres tall, and three metres across.
- Sink some sticks in to the mound (about a half metre deep).
- Wait several hours for the snow to sinter.
- Hollow out the mound. Stop digging outward when you reach the sticks!
- Finish your quinzhee with a windbreak near the door, a vent and beds.

**Review:**

- What do you know now that you did not know before?
- How did you feel before, during and after this adventure?
- How did your Patrol get along?
- What would you do differently in the future?

**Safety Note:**

- What should your Patrol do to stay safe while building and spending time in quinzhees?
- Be sure to destroy your quinzhees after your adventure so that no young children get hurt playing in them.

**Online Resources:**

- [That sweet pile of fresh snow](#)
- [How to build a quinzee snow shelter](#)
- [Quinzhee building for fun and survival](#)
- [Building a Quinzhee](#)
- [How to build a quinzee](#)
- [Winter Camping Sleeping Systems](#)

Canadianpath.ca

## Quinzhee Camping

MACKENZIE RIVER  
Environment & Outdoors

**The Adventure:**

A quinzhee is a basic snow shelter made by hollowing out a mound of snow. Building a quinzhee can be a lot of fun, but knowing how to make one is also an important winter survival skill. Snow is an effective insulator, and on a cold day an occupied quinzhee is significantly warmer than the air outside.

As a Patrol, build one or two quinzhees and sleep in them overnight. While spending time in a snow shelter can take some getting used to, a well-built quinzhee can be as comfortable as your summer tent.



It starts with Scouts.

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