



Tools and Equipment List

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Below are some of the basic tools and equipment used to wildcraft (gather) and prepare herbal medicines. Only the ones in the box are required for class, though it would be useful to have a number of the others as well. These tools do not need to be purchased before the program as there will be an early class demonstrating them. Listed below is the equipment I personally find most useful, but personal preferences play a big part in which tools you purchase, so you may want to try them out beforehand. If you plan on wildcrafting much, these tools will be close allies, so choose carefully. There is a brief list at the end of places to purchase them.

As a rule, more expensive tools are of a better quality and thus last longer. This will help you avoid the frustration of their bending and breaking while out gathering. Their design may also be easier on your body. Some tool brands and companies offer guarantees, which sometimes come in handy.

Tools required for class

1) Pruners—The most used wildcrafting tool. Felco #2 are a good all around pruner. Pruners come in different sizes and should be able to open fully in your hand without pushing beyond your extended hand reach for comfort (\$30-\$50)

Belt holster—For your pruner, this will make carrying them easier and saves tearing pockets. (\$8)

2) Hori-Hori/Farmers Weeder—A very useful digging tool easily replacing the trowel in gathering. There are a few models available, I like the one with the wooden handle ([see here](#)). (\$25)

3) Digging/Spading Fork —Very useful for digging up most roots and rhizomes. Purchase a sturdy one with *square*, not flat tines. Digging forks are generally much easier to wildcraft with than shovels and they also do less damage. Peaceful Valley has a number of different models (\$50-\$100).

Wildcrafting Tools

1. **Burlap Bags**-Very useful for gathering and transporting plants
2. **Gloves**-to gather stinging and spiny plants
3. **Loppers** —To cut branches and to process roots and other large and/or hard plant parts.

4. **Saw** –To cut branches.
5. **Shovel/Spade** –Heavy-duty to dig rocky ground and for digging deep
6. **Tarp**-Canvas and plastic to process plants on and keep them covered

Field Botany Kit- I have all of these available for sale to students

1. Loupes (magnifying lens)-2 needed
 - 10x
 - 16x (one needed in this magnification range)
2. Tweezers -Two pair. Sharp-pointed and self-closing
3. Scissors-Small and sharp
4. Ruler-Inches and metric 6"/15cm
5. Razor blades-straight-edge, to dissect plants

Medicine Making Equipment-these are some of the basic tools.

1. **Alcohol** –95% ethyl alcohol. Students usually mail order this together. Alcohol is *very* flammable. Make sure it is contained in a tightly-sealed spill-proof unbreakable and clearly marked container. (\$65/gal)
2. **Canning Jars**-Quart and pint size for preparing medicines. Canning jars (i.e., Mason) are a stronger glass than regular jars.
3. **Cleaver** -A large size for cutting and processing tough plant parts.
4. **Cutting Board**-Portable and easily cleaned
5. **Measuring cup**-To prepare fluid medicines
6. **Weighing Scale**- 5lb, for weighing herbs to prepare medicines.

Other Handy Items

- Boots
- Camping gear
- Cold weather clothing
- Hat
- Knife
- Rain gear
- Sandals
- Water bottle

Resources

1. [A.M. Leonard Tool](#)
2. [Peaceful Valley Farm Garden and Supply](#)