

# • **RED HOT** •

## **Side Jet Alcohol Stove**

FOR ULTRALIGHT TRAVEL

**WARNING: THIS STOVE BURNS ALCOHOL FUEL ONLY. NEVER USE GASOLINE, WHITE GAS OR ANY FUEL OTHER THAN ALCOHOL!**

The aluminum alcohol stove is one of the greatest developments in ultralight adventure travel. This stove will boil water nearly as fast as a conventional backpacking stove but is so compact it fits in your drinking cup. And at less than ½-oz it's light enough to carry on day trips too. But before you head out read the following.

### **LOCATING ALCOHOL FUEL**

This stove burns alcohol fuel only. The two types of alcohol that work best are:

- **Methyl Alcohol** (Methanol) available as “HEET Gas Line Antifreeze.” It's sold at auto supply stores and variety stores such as Fred Meyer and Walmart. Buy the version in the yellow bottle, not the red one. The 12-oz size will boil 24-cups of water.
- **Ethyl Alcohol** (Ethanol) labeled “Denatured Alcohol.” This is sold at outdoor shops and hardware stores. It costs more per ounce than HEET but comes in a larger container. The 32-oz can is enough to boil 64-cups (4-gallons) of water.

### **LIGHTING THE STOVE**

1. Remove the little plastic measuring cup that comes included with the stove.
2. Place the stove on a level, heat-resistant surface — the stove will get very hot.
3. Measure out ½ to 1½-oz of alcohol and pour it into the center hole of the stove.  
**Important: The fuel must remain below the level of the side jets.**
4. Light the stove and allow it to heat until the side jets ignite, about one minute.
5. Place your metal cup or cook pot directly on top of the stove — that's it!

**Caution: An alcohol flame is nearly invisible. The flame must be completely extinguished and the stove cool to the touch before adding additional fuel.**

### **TIPS FOR USE**

- With an alcohol stove there is no OFF switch. Instead, you simply add the amount of fuel needed for the job and then allow the stove to burn out. This is actually easier than it sounds: At room temperature ½-oz of fuel is just right for boiling 1-cup of water, ¾-oz will boil 2-cups and 1½-oz will boil 4-cups.
- In cool weather or when the water is icy cold you'll need to use a bit more fuel. When it's warm you'll need less. With a little practice you'll get it right every time.
- When the stove gets going it can't be blown out. Even so, a windscreen is recommended (DIY or purchased) as it will greatly improve fuel efficiency.
- An improvised pot steady should be used with pots larger than 1-liter or when stirring vigorously. Use three tent pegs placed at stove height.
- Carry the fuel in a plastic container. A 20-oz pop bottle with a squirt top is ideal.

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