

- [Skip to main content](#)
- [Skip to site navigation](#)
- [Skip to right column](#)
- [Skip to footer for general site information](#)



[Home](#) > [Winter](#) > Outdoor Action Guide to Snow Shelters

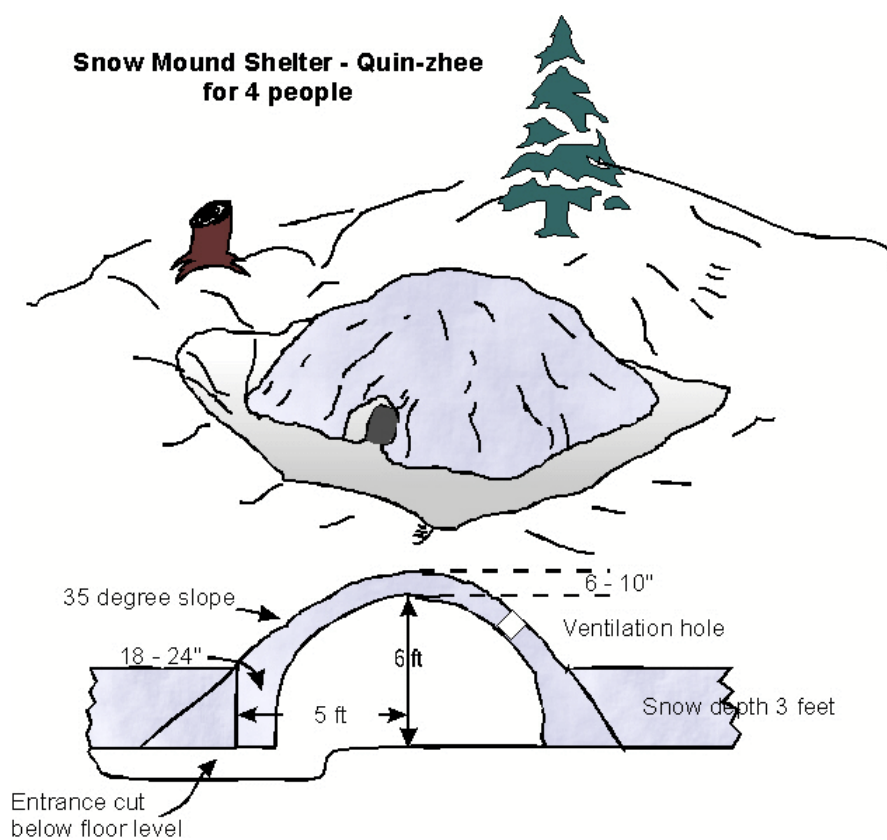
Friday December 04, 2009

## Outdoor Action Guide to Snow Shelters

- [OA Guide to Hypothermia & Cold Weather Injuries](#)
- [OA Guide to Winter Camping](#)
- [OA Guide to Winter Shelters \(PDF\)](#)

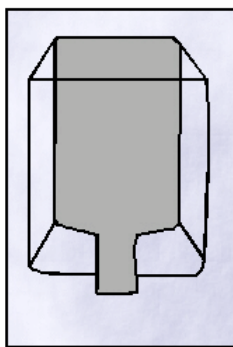
Winter travel can be hazardous. The information provided here is designed for educational use only and is not a substitute for specific training or experience. Princeton University and the author assume no liability for any individual's use of or reliance upon any material contained or referenced herein. When going into cold weather conditions it is your responsibility to have the proper knowledge, experience, and equipment to travel safely. The material contained in this article may not be the most current.

### Snow Mound Shelter - Quin-zhee for 4 people

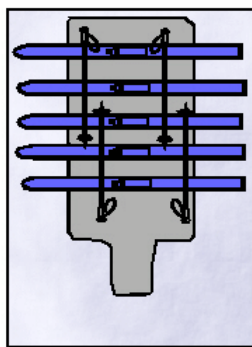


**Snow Trench Shelter**

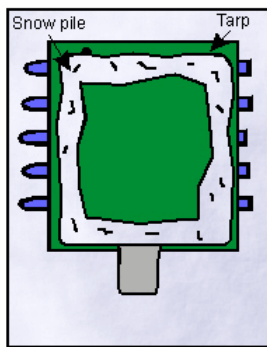
*Top view*



Dig a trench in the snow. Beveling the walls as you go down makes a bigger sleeping area with a smaller roof opening to cover.

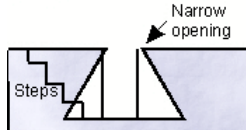


Skis and poles are laid across the trench.

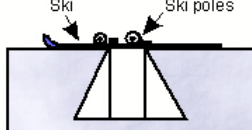


Tarp placed over skis. Snow Piled around perimeter.

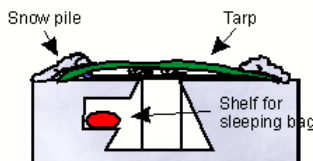
*End view*



Steps  
Narrow opening

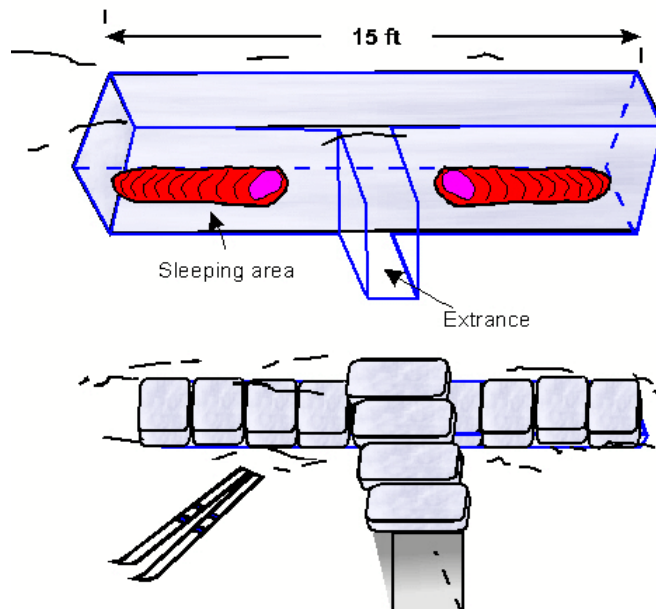


Ski  
Ski poles



Snow pile  
Tarp  
Shelf for sleeping bag

**Snow Trench Shelter**

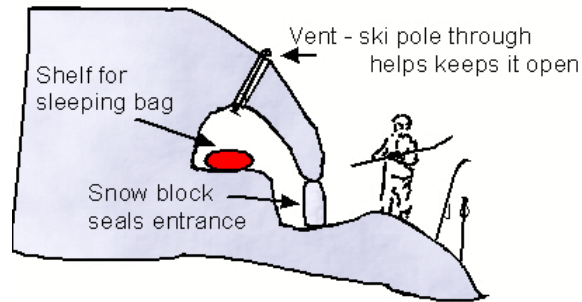


Dig blocks out of the snow to create a T-shaped trench. Shape the blocks to create the roof.

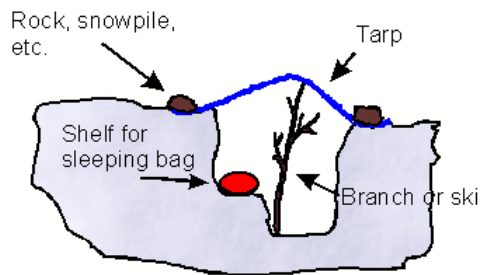
**Snow cave digging under tree branches**



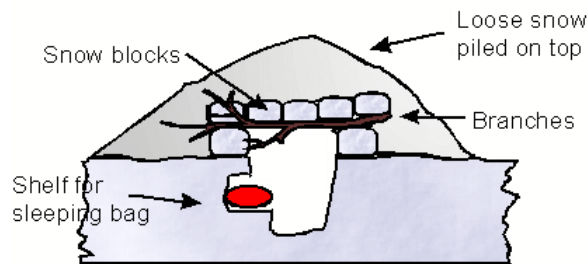
**Snow cave on a slope**



**Snow Trench Shelter**



**Snow Mound Trench Shelter**



### Igloo Construction

