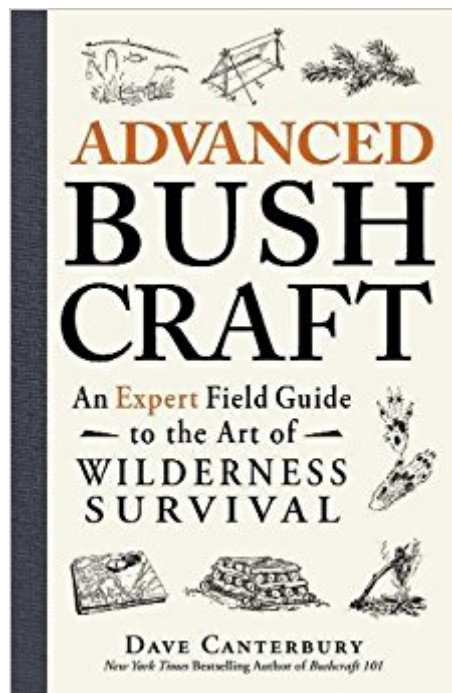




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# Advanced Bushcraft: An Expert Field Guide To The Art Of Wilderness Survival



## Synopsis

Trek deeper into the wilderness with New York Times bestselling author Dave Canterbury! In this valuable guide, survivalist Dave Canterbury goes beyond bushcraft basics to teach you how to survive in the backcountry with little or no equipment. Using the foundation you learned in *Bushcraft 101*, Canterbury shows you how to completely immerse yourself in the wilderness with advanced bushcraft and woodcraft techniques. He covers crucial survival skills like tracking to help you get even closer to wildlife, crafting medicines from plants, and navigating without the use of a map or compass. He also offers ways to improvise and save money on bushcraft essentials like fire-starting tools and packs. With Canterbury's expert advice and guidance, you will learn how to forgo your equipment, make use of your surroundings, and truly enjoy the wilderness. Whether you're eager to learn more after your first real outdoor adventure or have been exploring the backcountry for years, *Advanced Bushcraft* will help you take your self-reliance and wilderness experience to the next level.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The book is about survival in the sense that you are getting deeper skills than what you might normally get into, like preserving acorns for flour.... You will definitely learn something from this book." --ShadowFox

Dave Canterbury is the co-owner and supervising instructor at the Pathfinder School, which USA

TODAY named one of the Top 12 Survival Schools in the United States. He has been published in *Self Reliance Illustrated*, *New Pioneer*, *American Frontiersman*, and *Trapper's World*. Dave is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Bushcraft 101*, *Advanced Bushcraft*, and *The Bushcraft Guide to Trapping, Gathering, and Cooking in the Wild*.

Let me begin by saying that I know there is a *Bushcraft 101* basic skills book that precedes this one. Let me follow that by saying I did not read it. I'm not a professional survivalist, but I can identify enough edibles and clouds to get by, and I have the basic survival skills under my belt. I consider bow drill and flint/steel firecrafting a basic skill, so I was surprised to find it repeated in this advanced guide. I also have some tech writing skills under my belt, and this guide needs help. My humble opinion: If *Bushcraft 101* suffers from the same lack of proper illustration, lack of process, and has the excess fluff that this book has, then neither book will help you as much as other survival books might. Before everyone goes nuts, I admit there is some useful information that can be gleaned - provided you already have the basics in the bag and are ready to use your imagination to figure out how to perform the advanced skills Dave tries to describe here. This book was a roller coaster ride, a real back-and-forth between getting useful information and then getting left hanging with only half the information (or illustration) needed to make it useful... and then sifting through the proverbial fluff to reach the next useful (or useless) chapter. Sorry fans. I really wanted this to be a great advanced bushcraft reference book, but it did not meet expectations. Why? I was highly disappointed by the low value illustrations inserted while more useful illustrations were omitted. For example: the pine needles illustration on page 31. I think we all know what pine needles look like, or at least we can imagine a needle-like shape based on the name 'pine needles,' but we may not know what elderberry leaves look like when seeking non-poisonous berries. Berry bush illustrations were not included. May be they can be found in the preceding *Bushcraft 101* basics book? If so, then why is he even mentioning berry bushes again in the advanced book? See what I mean? The chapters either lack proper illustration and process, or the chapters are fluff carried over from *Bushcraft 101*. Another example of useless information: Dave includes a full page illustration of axe heads he does NOT discuss. You get to have fun trying to find the couple of axe heads he actually does discuss. Why? Another example of omitted information: Dave offers some good interpretations of what clouds can tell you; then he doesn't provide any illustration of the clouds, not even the important ones. Not everyone can tell the difference between a cumulonimbus and an altostratus, only one of which he suggests will bring lightning. Wouldn't it be nice to know what that particular

cloud looks like? Also omitted: you won't find any illustrations of parts of the hunting bow he tells you how to make. You won't find illustration of testing the bow tiller, which is an important part of the process that you really need to see. We get to see pine needles, but not tiller testing. Why? After leaving so much out, Dave took the time and space to provide a lengthy reclaimed metal chart with number/letter designations, but he fails to offer explanation for non-metal workers as to what the numbers mean, why these numbers were important, or even what hardness or carbon content the numbers represent. Without explanation it is not advanced information; it's useless fluff to most non-metal workers. Dave also discussed blacksmithing a knife and axe. I got excited about learning the skill, but then he didn't offer a step by step process to blacksmith these items. He did a great job providing valuable definitions for heating processes and a list of forging colors, but he didn't use this valuable information to lay out the step by step process for hammering out a cool knife or axe. This is the rollercoaster I'm talking about... good information followed by a lack of information, or vice versa. This is the prevalent writing style throughout the entire guide. I expected an advanced guide building off basic skills. Dave shouldn't have to tell us how to build a fire in this advanced guide, unless he forgot to cover it in Bushcraft 101. But he does. This 'advanced' book has Chapter 4: Advanced Firecraft... and it starts out with 'primitive' skills like using the bow drill (kudos for good bow drill illustration here) and using flint and steel. Why? Weren't basic primitive skills covered in Bushcraft 101? Or is this just fluff? Did I learn anything from reading Advanced Bushcraft? Yes, I learned a little. Does Bushcraft 101 provide a solid base for understanding the advanced information provided in Advanced Bushcraft? I didn't read it, but I would guess the answer is NO. When basic skills came into play, Dave provides them in Advanced Bushcraft (in various levels of detail) while leaving you guessing how to perform some of the advanced tasks, which were supposed to be the purpose of this book. Very little step by step here, folks. It's an interesting book, and you may even glean some good tidbits from it, but you won't find enough information to perform all the advanced skills the guide claims to offer. Per the introduction, this guide does not "...take these skills to the next level and prepare you for a lengthy stay in the wilderness."

Dave Canterbury's book is like the Boy Scout Manual for adults. It's fun reading, clear and instructive, with safety at the forefront of each project. Not everyone will be capable of mastering all the skills presented in this book. Health and general condition must be a factor. But practicing the skills one can accomplish will always give the outdoors person a certain panache others will never have.

An excellent follow up to Canterbury's Basic Bush Craft and a must have in any outdoorsman's library. Whether you are an experienced woodsman or a novice, you will find tips and insights that are useful for all. Big Sarge Tupelo Ordnance Works

Exactly as described. Useful information, especially for outdoorsmen. Section on trapping and information on tarps was especially well done. Rafts and watercraft were interesting

This is a just in case good to have around if you are or are planning to do things in the wild. Hike or camping. Never hurts to be prepared.

Excellent read. Gives a good variety of skills to work on and perfect. Dave Canterbury is an old school woodsman.

Very informative and well written. This is something you can keep in the backpack.

Dave Can explain difficult, ideas and concepts in an understand way. In enjoyed this very much. I want go to the woods to practice.

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