



## How to Make a Soot Tray

### Materials

T-shirt or cotton rag – tear a strip 2” x 5” long

Small saucepan or metal dish about 2” high

Turkey aluminum cooking pan

Gasoline/oil mixture – 2 parts oil to 1 part gas – **You only need 1 tablespoon!**

3 pieces of aluminum about 10x12 (sheet metal), large enough to fit over the pan’s width.

Pliers

### Directions

Pour 1 tablespoon of the gas mixture into pan

Dip cotton into the gas mixture

Put the pan into the cooking pan

Light the gas mixture

Put the aluminum over the pan

Leave the aluminum on until most of the piece is coated. (You can get 3 sheets “sooted” before the fire dies out.)

Use pliers to lift the aluminum from the fire.

Put the soot tray out in areas that small mammals or birds may come by. Place a small amount of bird seed, trail mix, meat, nuts or whatever will attract the of interest animal in the middle of the tray. Don’t put too much food down because the animal will sit there and smear the tracks leaving nothing identifiable.

Optional: Take wide, clear wrapping tape and lift the track off the aluminum and place onto white paper.