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Pepsi Can and Other Alcohol Fueled Stoves

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- Skills and guides - DIY, Making things. -



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Description :

Introduction to making your own alcohol burning stove.

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Making your own equipment can be a nice hobby or a way to save weight and money. This short article will show you a couple of the alcohol stove concepts and give you some links to read if you are interested in more information.

The smell of a campfire or the roar of a petrol stove is a favorite childhood memory for many in our happy crowd. But what if you wanted to go very light weight, smokeless and almost silent. Given these criteria many are having fun making their own stoves out of aluminum cans. More design information than anyone could likely use can be found at [zenstoves](#) and [wings](#) . The stoves for this article were designed after reading information from these sights but are not any one of the designs listed.

The first stove was made out of two cans and is the single wall design.



Single Wall Stove

The second is made out of three cans and is a double wall design. My inner wall on this second stove is made out of a Red Bull can, which is smaller in diameter and with a little crimping to get the size just right seems to make a nice inner wall.



Single Wall Stove Burner



Double Wall Stove

The fuel for these stoves is denatured alcohol that I got at a local paint store. Fuel in the form of alcohol is readily available in many types of paint, auto, super mart and Wally-world type stores.

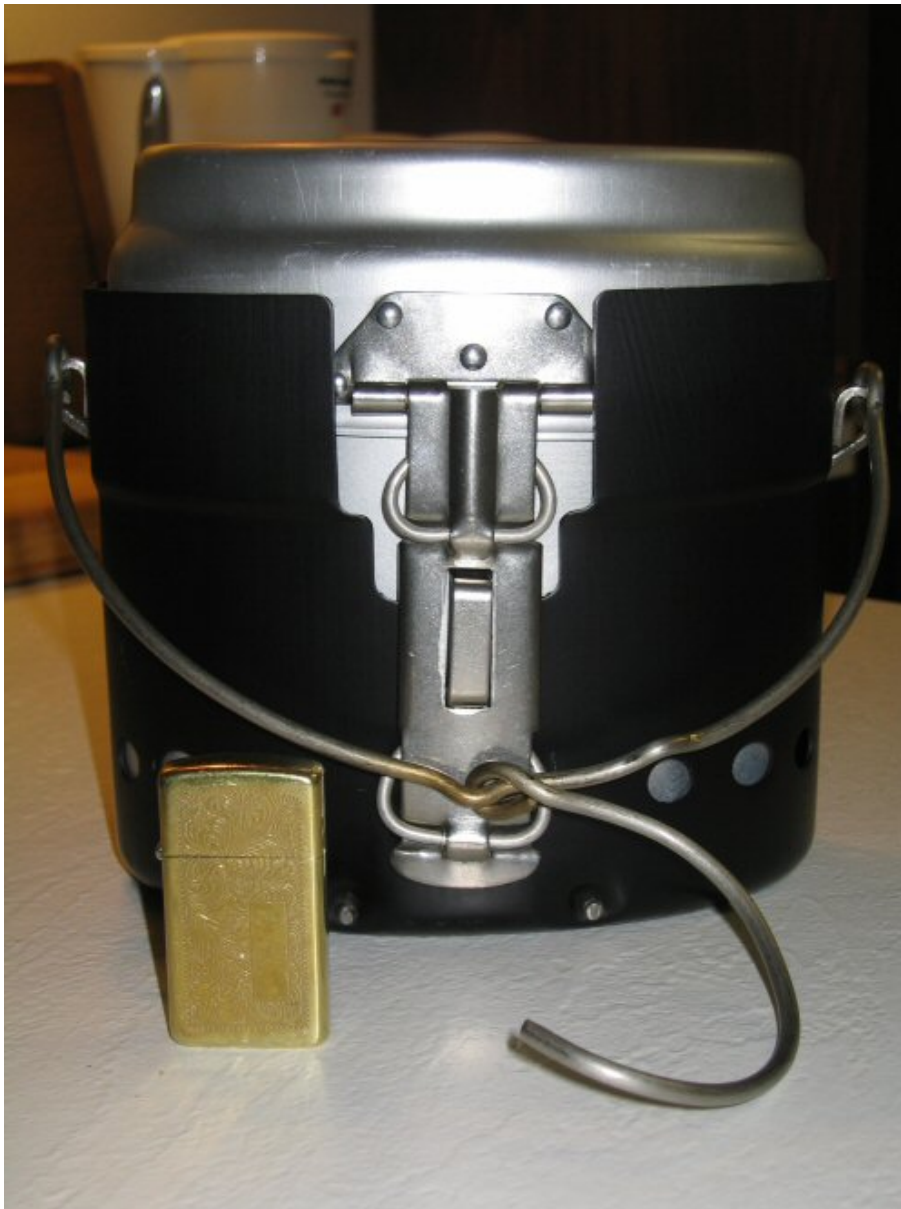


Double Wall Stove Fuel Burn

Even though it should not be necessary to tell you to only use alcohol in an alcohol fueled stove I will go ahead and mention it. Other fuels are not acceptable substitutes.

The stoves for this article were not weighed but most information I have read leads me to believe they are right at one ounce each. The double walled stove is more complex to make but easier to fill with fuel and get started.

For those that want to just buy an alcohol stove the Trangia company makes a much heavier but very sturdy stove that has been used by the Swedish military for many years.



Surplus Svea Packed for Travel



Svea Stove Unpacked



Svea Stove Ready to Cook

The Svea Company made the surplus stove I have had a chance to examine and test but it looks like the same stove as Trangia just a different contractor. The stove comes with a fuel bottle, windscreen, large pot and a lid that can also be a small pot. The brass burner unit has a lid to seal it for travel and will not leak out the stored fuel unless you bun the seal by putting it on the burner unit while it is hot. Even though these surplus stoves are over weight for the ultra lightweight camping group they appear to be very durable as well as extremely low maintenance. There are no moving parts to break, no seals to leak (except for the lid which isn't used during the operation of stove) or pumps malfunction. For the very low price they are available for on the surplus market right now they are very likely about the best stove deal price wise going right now.

MSR has been the traditional dealer for Trangia in the United States, but never pushed them very hard as a brand or had many of their models available. Fortunately for us that pattern seems to be changing, with a second company making them available to our market.

Whether you go with the do it your self stove or a ready make one these alcohol stoves might be an addition you to will find useful to your style of outdoor pursuits.

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Post-scriptum :Version 1.5 3/28/2005 Images Edited for Size