



The CIA Bugout Bag

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Intelligence operatives call a bugout bag an “operations bag.” It has to blend in with the environment.

- It must be of high quality. It may look cheap, but it must hold up better than the cheaper bags it looks like.
- It must match your “cover.”
- Intelligence operatives have an operations bag, a Return To Base bag, and an evac bag.
- Each carries a different level of supplies and equipment to match the scenario for which it is intended. The ops bag has the least, the RTB bag has more, and the evac bag has the most.

Food For Your Bugout Bag

The food you carry will match the “mission” you face.

- An ops bag would contain a day’s worth of food. The RTB bag would contain more.
- The ops bag contains a variety of things, from freeze dried food to Ziploc bags of food from Number 10 cans and so on.
- There will also be protein/meal replacement bars like weight-lifters use.
- The food stores must be rotated out.
- Your mission is always changing, so don’t just build your ops bag and then throw it in the basement and ignore it. We change, times change, and missions change. Look over the contents, rotate them, and keep the bag updated.
- You may not be in the CIA, but you can’t count on FEMA in an emergency. You never know what resources you might need in an emergency and it’s best to be prepared.

Water For Your Bugout Bag

Water is vital to survival, but heavy, so you can’t carry much with you.

- Have three different ways to filter water in your bag. It’s too important not to have these. Modern water filters are tiny, so this isn’t a problem.
- Pack a straw filter, chemical purifier, and your primary large-quantity filter.
- A large syringe for sucking water out of hard-to-reach areas, in order to filter it, is also a good idea.

Escape And Evasion Gear

You must avoid confrontations whenever possible. Escape and evade pursuers.

- You need a gun whenever possible.
- Handcuff keys, lock picks, bobby pins and barrettes, paracord, razor blades, and backups of these are all good ideas.
- Handcuffs are very common overseas (hence the handcuff key). Being able to cut through duct tape and zip ties is also critical.

CIA Approved Bugout Weaponry

We mentioned that you have to have a gun to defend yourself. While this isn’t possible for everyone, it’s critical whenever you can manage it.

- The weapons you carry depend on the scenario. Take it case by case.
- You may need to blend, or you may need to make a statement.
- If things get truly crazy, you may need to walk with your weapon openly visible.

Prepare. Train. Survive.