

Be Prepared

Never Give Up

Fight for the Living

Honor the Dead



Go Kits for Anti-Fascist Community Defense:

**Materials, Organization,
Deployment, and Uses**



Authorship has been omitted to protect the guilty.

DISCLAIMER

The following aims to help people be better prepared for and respond to threats in their community. The goal is for people to learn what items could be useful in protecting themselves and others. It does not promote violence or illegal activities. Research all relevant local, state, and federal laws. When implementing these steps it is important to weigh your needs, potential threats, personal/group capabilities, and potential risks or consequences.

Intro: No one is coming to save us. We cannot rely on the protection of the state or their so called justice system for we are engaged in a three-way fight. We also cannot expect quarter from fascist elements, nor should they expect it from us.

We keep us safe.

In order for us to keep each other safe we must be ready, willing, and able to defend our communities and bring the fight to them where ever they may be. This means learning the necessary skills and being physically and mentally capable of engaging effectively. Everyone should learn some combination of martial arts, medical/trauma aid, recon and surveillance, firearms/squad training, de-escalation, evasion/tactical driving, research/intel, and street/protest tactics. It is important not to pigeonhole ones self into purely “masculine” ideas of anti-fascism. Each crew and the community at large needs a variety of skills in order to engage in a diversity of tactics. We must also have the materials and gear necessary to utilize these skills readily available. In the following sections we will discuss what items you may need when confronting fascists, how to store them, and how to deploy them. Find what works for you and your crew. Take the appropriate precautions as well as the necessary risks. Be creative, become ungovernable, and dare to win.

Go Kits: A Go Kit is a collection of related and complimentary items organized in a manner that allows for quick deployment. Emergency mobilizations can be stressful and it is easy to forget key materials. By keeping relevant items together and on your person, near your front/back door, or in your vehicle you are able to cut down on the time it takes to gear up and are less likely to leave necessary items behind. Quick response times are vital to keeping each other safe and making sure malicious actors face consequences for their actions.

Misc...

- Doxcare: Prevention and Aftercare for Those Targeted by Doxxing and Political Harassment
- The Criminal Legal System for Radicals – Tilted Scales
- Recipes for Disaster: An Anarchist Cookbook - CrimeThinc
- An Activist’s Guide to Basic First Aid
- A Demonstrator’s Guide to Responding to Gunshot Wounds
- Basic Recon Skills

History:

- Antifa: The Anti-Fascist Handbook by Mark Bray
- And No Quarter: An Italian Partisan in World War II by Giovanni Pesce
- Nestor Makhno: Anarchy’s Cossack by Alexandre Skirida
- Black Against Empire: The History and Politics of the Black Panther Party by Joshua Bloom and Waldo E. Martin Jr.

Get Involved:

- Torch Network: <https://torchantifa.org/>
- Red and Anarchist Skinheads: <https://www.facebook.com/RASHUSA161/>
- One People’s Project: <https://onepeoplesproject.com/>

Stay Informed:

- IdaVox: <https://idavox.com/>
- It’s Going Down: <https://itsgoingdown.org/>
- LibCom: <https://libcom.org/>

Further Reading

(Available via *Sprout Distro*, *I312 Press*, *LibCom*, *It's Going Down*, etc...):

Anti-fascist Theory:

- Making Sense of Fascism
- Three-Way Fight: Revolutionary Anti-Fascism and Armed Self-Defense
- Claim No Easy Victories: A History and Analysis of Anti-Racist Action
- The Baldies & Anti-Racist Action: A History in Anti-Racist Skinhead Organizing

Organization/Tactics:

- Forming an Antifa Group
- Affinity Groups: Essential Building Blocks of Anarchist Organization
- What is Security Culture: A Guide to Staying Safe
- 40 Ways to Fight Fascists: Street Legal Tactics for Community Activists
- Antifascist Self-Defense: Reflections From Russia
- Blocs: Black and Otherwise
- Bodyhammer: Tactics and Self-Defense for the Modern Protestor

Political Theory:

- ABC's of Anarcho-Communism – Alexander Berkman
- Socialism: Utopian and Scientific - Friedrich Engels
- Blood in My Eye – George Jackson

Healthy Anti-Fascism:

- Anti-Fascism Against Machismo: Gender, Politics, and the Struggle Against Fascism
- Tough Mind, Soft Heart: Nurturing Solidarity in the Struggle Against Fascism

Every Day Carry (EDC)

EDC items should be kept on your person in an easily accessible way at all times and should be viewed as essentials that you carry every time you leave the house along with you wallet, phone, keys, purse, jacket, etc..

- **Bandanna:** It is easy to keep folded in one of your pockets. In addition to protecting your identity, it can also be used as a rag, handkerchief, or tourniquet.
- **Pepper Spray:** Pepper spray allows you to easily incapacitate attackers. It is a great force multiplier, has a low learning curve, and allows for an escalation of tactics/responses. Be mindful of blowback due to wind direction or enclosed spaces.
- **Flashlight:** A compact, high powered flashlight can be used when other light sources aren't available and can be used to signal vehicles or people in emergency situations. Since many self-defense situations occur at night, it can also be used to blind attackers. Choose a flashlight that has multiple brightness settings and a strobe mode.
- **Key Chain accessory:** Your keys are usually easily accessible or already in your hands in many self-defense situations. This accessory should be a tool that is used when you need more than empty hands, but your knife is not appropriate. Options include a cat's paw, monkey ball, or kubotan. One handed options allow you to duel weild it with your pepper spray or flashlight.
- **Knife:** A good knife is an invaluable tool. It can be used as a make shift screwdriver, pry bar, scissors, etc.. Choose a knife that is sturdy and sharp with a non-slip handle that contours to your hand. It should be kept in an accessible place on your person such as a front pocket on the side of your dominant hand. Consider either a fixed blade knife or

a spring assisted folder which you are able to quickly open with one hand. Check local and state laws pertaining to the blade length, the opening/locking device, and carrying method to help choose a knife right for you. For self-defense it is important to remember that a knife should only be used as a last resort in life or death situations.

- **Extras:** During high risk periods consider carrying additional items such as an impact tool, tactical gloves, or a handgun.

Primary Go Kit

Your Primary Go Kit is made of items that are impractical to carry on your person at all times, but are essential for rapid response scenarios. They should be kept together, preferably in a backpack, in a manner that are easily accessible. The preferred method is to keep these out of sight in your vehicle so that you can respond directly to the threat. You can also store them at your home next to the door that you are likely to leave from if you don't have a vehicle. If you don't have a vehicle consider carrying the backpack with you during high alert periods.



Conclusion

We hope these lists give people an idea of how they can build and expand their Go Kits. We also hope that there are enough options and possibilities with these lists that people can pick the gear, style, and tactics that fit their unique situation. Although this zine focuses on directly confronting fascists, we believe that this is only one tactic among many. Furthermore, we believe that these Go Kits can be a starting point for individuals or crews who specialize in intel gathering, recon, or responsible documenting/journalism to make their own unique kits. No matter what you specialize in, your gear and organization will be most effective if you are principled, of sound theory, willing to reflect and self-crit, disciplined, and compassionate to your comrades and ruthless to your enemies.

Your firearms should be able to engage threats at close, medium, and long ranges. If possible, you should have handguns, shotguns, and rifles which will allow you to defend your home, yourself when out of the house, or respond to a variety of threats in your community. There are many factors when purchasing a firearm including state and local laws. If you are unfamiliar with firearms consult knowledgeable comrades and consider ones that are in common calibers and models. This way it will be easier to find ammo or replacement parts in emergency scenarios. Remember that this purchase is an investment in the safety of yourself and others. If you can, purchase something of quality. However, if price is the only thing preventing you from obtaining one then a budget firearm is better than none at all.

It is important that you get a concealed carry permit for your state and as many other states as possible (with ones bordering yours as a priority). Some permits, such as Utah or Arizona, are reciprocated by multiple other states allowing you to legally carry in majority of the U.S. This will allow you to transport your firearms for target practice more conveniently and respond to threats with them on your person if necessary. Concealed carrying should also be done at all times if you have an active and credible threat against you. Firearm storage should be taken very seriously if children or persons in crisis could potentially have access to them. With that said, if you have an active and credible threat against you you should keep your tools accessible at all times. Places to keep firearms and other tools during these times include your bedroom, rooms where you spend most of your time, out of view near entrances, and near vantage points that overlook your neighborhood/street/ access to your property.

- **Extra Clothes:** Extra Clothes are useful in case you get dirty, your everyday clothes are not functional for conflicts, or your style is easily identifiable. The most essential are normie bloc clothes. Choose clothes that will help you blend in with the average person/crowd in your area in a way that will allow you to scout or engage a threat while also protecting your identity. Avoid tight fitting outfits, anything that could be confused for black bloc, bright colors or attention grabbing styles, or easily identifiable logos/labels. Your normie bloc styles should be different than any of your personal styles, not be anything you would wear for any other reason, and not be associated with any subcultures.

Hats, hoods, and sunglasses can be used to further protect your identity. Your outfit should allow you to fully mask up quickly and easily if need-be. Options include pants, long sleeve t-shirts, hoodies, balaclavas, bandannas, jackets, button up shirts, insulated base layers (for colder weather), etc... Business casual is useful when trying to avoid suspicion and can give you increased privilege or benefit of the doubt. If your everyday footwear is not functional or is easily identifiable include a pair of plain, comfortable shoes (preferably with a lightweight safety toe), that you are able to run in. It is also useful to have additional sets of clothes and bandannas of different colors and styles. These can be given out to comrades who need them or you can switch clothes after an action to further protect your identity.

Immediately discard any items or outfits that become identifiable or were used during a high risk scenario. You can donate them or throw them out in a random dumpster away from your home if the potential consequences are low. If the potential consequences are high the items need to be destroyed (preferably burned completely) off your property. Try to avoid doing this on the property of your partner/nuclear family/best friend, someone who was at the same action, or is apart of the same group as you. Never wear

anything that you are not prepared to part with.

- **Medical Kit:** Med kit essentials include bandages, gauges, disinfectant wipes/liquid, OTC medicine (aspirin, Ibuprofen, antacids, allergy/cold meds, etc.), water bottle for treating mace exposure, etc... Extras include wound sealer and tourniquets. Even if you are not a trained medic, keeping a med kit in your car will allow you make it available to someone who is.
- **Backpack:** A small, plain, neutral colored, lightweight backpack will allow you to carry extra gear. Make sure it does not impede your range of motion or have handles that could be grabbed.
- **Hard Knuckle/Tactical Gloves:** During self-defense scenarios, your hands are one of the most important parts of your body to protect. Hard knuckled Tactical gloves lessen the chances of you breaking your hands or leaving fingerprints.
- **Impact Tool:** Options include an extendable baton, a short, lightweight bat, or brass knuckles. Check local and state laws to pertaining to if and how to carry these items. If laws in your area are strict consider keeping a glove and baseball along with the bat or keeping a toolbox in your trunk complete with hammers, wrenches, and screwdrivers (this also has practical applications for helping yourself or others).
- **Bear Mace/OC Spray:** Bear mace is incredibly useful when dealing with multiple attackers. It has greater potency, range, and volume than standard pepper spray and can incapacitate multiple attackers within seconds. If you carry bear mace also carry goggles so that you are not affected by any blow back. If carrying it in a car, check the storing instructions of your product. Most mace should

motocross equipment at second hand sport stores are a good resource for this.

Extras

- **Ballistic Vest:** Fascists are likely to be carrying and using weapons. In addition to impact weapons, knives and firearms pose the greatest threat. Ballistic vests are a big investment, but still cost less than hospital or funeral bills. If you can, purchase something of quality. However, if price is the only thing preventing you from obtaining one then budget ballistic or stab resistant armor is better than none at all. Soft, concealable vests are the most practical ones for most situations. They allow you to wear it underneath baggy clothing without drawing attention to yourself and retain near full range of motion. Many bullet resistant vests do not account for knives, so it is important that it is both knife and bullet resistant. Choose a vest that has a rating of IIIa or higher. This will stop most non-rifle rounds. It may also be wise to invest in a carrier with IV ceramic plates which can stop rifle rounds. These carriers oftentimes allow for additional gear and tools to be attached to it for extreme scenarios.
- **Firearms:** Most situations do not warrant firearms. They should not be taken lightly and only used as a last resort. Furthermore, one in the hands of someone who is not properly trained, inebriated, not of sound judgment or mind, or operating under false information may be more dangerous to themselves, others, and the movement than the fascists that we face. With that said, the stakes lately have never been higher, the threats we face continue to grow, and firearms are a necessary tool for self-defense. There are many options and you should conduct research to find the best matches for your needs and budget. Laws vary not just from state-to-state, but also locally. Research the laws that apply to you.

or is apart of the same group as you. Never wear anything that you are not prepared to part with.

- **Protective Gear:** It is important to protect yourself from state and fascist violence. Essentials include a helmet, goggles, and mask. Your head is the most vulnerable part of your body and any helmet is better than no helmet. Options include plain, black motorcycle, hockey, football, and bike/skate helmets. Motorcycle helmets offer the most protection, but are harder to conceal and restrict vision, sound, and range of motion. The other options' benefits and drawbacks are vice-versa. Have multiple options available that will fit specific needs. Consider one with a clear, untinted face shield that can be easily lifted or removed. This will protect you from strikes to the face and can be lifted if the shield gets dirty or you need to speak more clearly. Avoid caged face masks that could be grabbed. If using it during black bloc actions you should carry it to and from the action in a bag.

Your goggles should be black, protect you from both mace and tear gas by making a complete seal and not fog up during prolonged use (saliva or anti-fog solutions for scuba diving are an option). Tinted goggles help protect your identity while untinted goggles help you see better at night. Try to have one of each.

If you are only expecting mace or small amounts of tear gas then a dust mask underneath a wet bandanna should work fine. If you are expected prolonged exposure to large amounts of tear gas consider getting a high quality respirator or military surplus gas mask.

All labels/logos/and identifying marks on your gear should be removed or covered by black paint/permanent marker or black tape. Extras could include impact armor for your torso, forearms, and groin. Hockey, football, baseball, and

not be stored in temperatures below freezing or above 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

- **Rubbing Alcohol and Rags:** Rubbing Alcohol (Isopropyl) can be used as the disinfectant liquid in your med kit. It also breaks down grease and oils. Keep it and some rags with your med kit and use it to wipe down tools and gear before and after actions to remove DNA and fingerprints.

Reserve Go Kit

Reserve items should be kept at home since they are not appropriate for most situations. However, they should still be kept together in an organized and accessible manner that allows them to be assembled quickly.

Essentials

- **Disguises:** Disguises are useful for protecting your identity while scouting, surveilling, or going to/coming from an action especially if there is increased risk or you're highly recognizable. Options include wigs, fake facial hair, and false teeth/noses/ears, high end/exercise/trades/business person/construction worker/houseless/drug user clothing, etc... Props (canes, high-end store shopping bags, shopping cart filled with cans/trash, briefcase, baby stroller, etc...) can be used to complete the look. The better quality the disguise the closer you can get to your target without it looking fake. Some angles could be changing your age, gender, socioeconomic level, reason for being in the area, etc.. There are many ways to use them, but as a general rule it is easier to increase your age than decrease it and easier for women/AFAB persons to appear to be men/AMAB than the other way around.

- **Black Bloc clothes:** The black bloc tactic should be used sparingly and in a coordinated way. Showing up in bloc when others do not puts you at greater risk by setting you

apart from the rest of the crowd and can create divisions if blocing up goes against the organizers' tactics/optics. However, when done correctly and in mass it has significant tactical and symbolic potential.

Black bloc clothes should be true black, loose fitting, plain/generic, free of any symbols/labels/designs/wear and tear/different colors, and cover your entire body. It is important to remember that this is not the time to make a fashion statement so anything that may draw attention to you, make you memorable, or set you apart from the rest of the bloc should be avoided.

The clothes need to loose fitting so that your body shape isn't recognizable. In addition to this, any identifying features need to be hidden. Eyes hidden, eyebrows covered, head and facial hair pulled back and covered so that the color and texture can't be seen, no visible tattoos/piercings/scars/birthmarks/freckles/acne, and nose/lips/ears covered and their size and shape hidden. Proper bloc should be able to hide your race, gender, hair/eye color, build, age, etc... If done correctly no one outside of your affinity group, even close family and friends, should be able to recognize you. Options include pants, long sleeved t-shirts, hoodies, rain jackets/windbreakers, balaclavas, etc... Any labels, non-true black parts, or identifiable marks should be removed or covered up with black paint/permanent marker, or black tape. Never pay for black bloc clothes with a credit/debit card, check, app, or any other method that could tie you to the purchase. Always use cash. If it is within a week of an action leave your phone or any other GPS/WIFI/DATA devices at home when purchasing your gear. Make sure to remove all tags/stickers and labels and shred/burn them along with any receipts.

A plain black backpack that does not impede your range of motion or have handles that could be grabbed and pair of

comfortable black shoes you're able to run in (preferably with lightweight safety toes) should also be part of your kit along with at least one but preferably two changes of non-black bloc normie clothes. Changing your appearance both before and after being in black bloc is essential for protecting your identity. Different color and style shirts, jackets, hats, bandannas, and sunglasses should be used. Dressing in layers will help make this quick and easy. Pants are hard to change into/out of so you will only need one pair (an extra pair of pants at your group after-action meet up point is useful), just make sure your normie clothes pair well with black pants and don't look out of place. Professional, trade, or business attire could also help you avoid police attention going to and from an action.

Footwear is the hardest to conceal and are often the focus of state surveillance. Never use your everyday footwear. Buy a cheap pair from a big box or thrift store. Consider bringing an extra pair to change into before/after a action or in a pinch putting black socks over your shoes. Backpacks can also be used to identify you. Consider carrying it in a shopping bag or have a second, larger but highly compactable backpack to put it in before and after blocing up. You can also wear your backpack under your shirt or jacket once bloc'd up. This also has the added advantage of distorting your body shape and preventing it from being grabbed. Store items in your backpack in the priority or order you will need them for fast deployment.

ALL black bloc gear should be cleaned and discarded after every high risk/surveilled action. You can donate them or throw them out in a random dumpster away from your home if the potential consequences are low. If the potential consequences are high the items need to be destroyed (preferably burned completely) off your property. Try to avoid doing this on the property of your partner/nuclear family/best friend, someone who was at the same action,