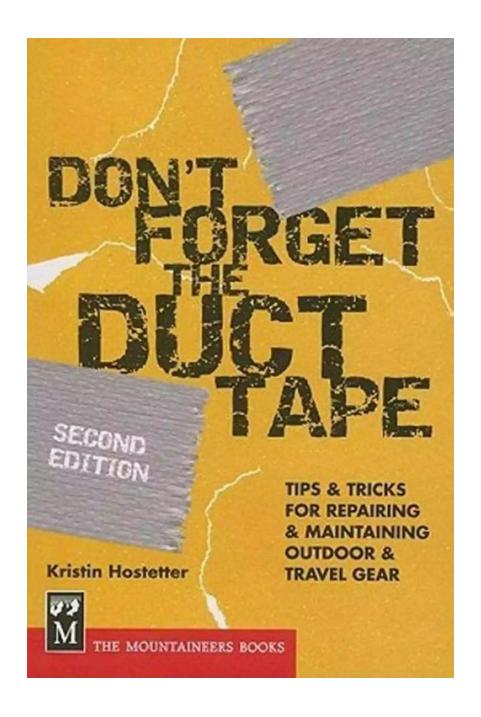
# Tips & Tricks For Repairing & Maintaining Outdoor Travel Gear Don Series

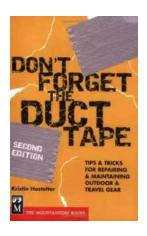


Welcome to the Don Series, your ultimate guide to mastering the art of repairing and maintaining your outdoor travel gear. Whether you're an avid adventurer or a casual hiker, properly caring for your equipment is essential to ensure its

longevity and optimal performance. In this article, we will share some valuable tips and tricks that will help you keep your outdoor gear in top shape.

#### 1. Inspect and Clean Your Gear Regularly

Before embarking on any outdoor adventure, take the time to inspect your gear for any signs of wear and tear. Check for loose seams, damaged zippers, and any other potential issues. Clean your gear using appropriate cleaning agents and follow the manufacturer's instructions. Removing dirt, grime, and sweat will not only keep your gear looking fresh but also prevent the buildup of odors.



Don't Forget the Duct Tape: Tips & Tricks for Repairing & Maintaining Outdoor & Travel Gear (Don't Series) by Kristin Hostetter(Kindle Edition)

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

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Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 96 pages

Lending : Enabled



#### 2. Fixing Small Tears and Rips

Small tears and rips are common in outdoor gear, especially for items like tents, sleeping bags, and backpacks. To fix these issues, use specialized repair tape or adhesive designed for the specific material. Apply the tape or adhesive to both sides of the tear, ensuring a strong and durable bond. This simple fix can save you from having to replace expensive gear.

#### 3. Replacing Damaged Zippers

Zipper malfunctions can be incredibly frustrating, but they can often be fixed without the need for professional help. If your zipper is stuck or not closing properly, try lubricating it with a graphite powder or silicone spray. If the zipper is damaged or has missing teeth, you may need to replace it. Look for zipper repair kits online or visit a local outdoor gear store for assistance.

#### 4. Waterproofing Your Gear

Ensuring your outdoor gear remains waterproof is crucial, especially during wet or snowy adventures. Over time, the waterproof coating on your gear may wear off. To restore its water-resistant properties, use a waterproofing spray or wash-in treatment specifically designed for your gear's material. Follow the instructions carefully to achieve the best results.

#### 5. Properly Storing Your Gear

After each trip, it's important to store your outdoor gear correctly to avoid unnecessary damage. Make sure your gear is clean and dry before storing it in a cool, dry place. Keep sleeping bags and clothing items loosely packed to maintain their insulation properties. For tents and backpacks, store them loosely in a breathable bag to prevent mildew or mold growth.

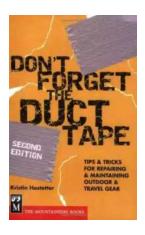
#### 6. Seek Professional Assistance

If you come across more complex repair issues or are unsure about fixing something yourself, don't hesitate to seek professional help. Many outdoor gear stores provide repair services, and their knowledgeable staff can offer guidance and expertise. It's better to invest in a proper repair than risk causing further damage to your prized equipment.

Remember, by taking proper care of your outdoor travel gear, you can extend its lifespan and get the most out of your adventures. Utilize the tips and tricks shared in this article to ensure your gear remains in top condition. Happy exploring!

#### **Related Articles:**

- Outdoor Gear Maintenance Guide
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- \* What to include in your hiking or travel repair kits
- \* Duct tape dos and don'ts
- \* New sections on caring for technical wool garments and repairing softshell fabrics, single-wall tents, hydration systems, and more

Whether you need to remedy a leak in your tent, repair flapping boot soles, nurse a cranky stove back to life, unclog a water filter, or revive gunked-up Velcro, you'll

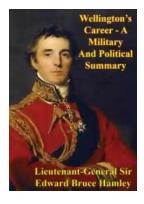
find the solution here. And it can all be done with an inexpensive 12-item repair kit that, once assembled, won't weigh more than a pound or two-worth its weight in gorp!

As you'd guess, this pack-it-with-you pocket guide includes many ingenious uses for that most versatile of tools: duct tape! Here's just a few of many tips:

Tip: Make a sturdy zipper pull by threading a thin strip of duct tape through the slider, then wrapping the tails with more duct tape.

Tip: For a more stable stove, cut a square of old closed-cell foam pad sized to fit the base of your backpacking stove. Wrap the foam generously with duct tape for insulation and you have a stable cooking platform that works great in the snow.

Tip: When re-gluing a boot or shoe sole, a few turns of duct tape can keep the toe area secure while the glue dries.



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