

GET READY FOR THE HUNTING MICRO-SEASON!

Hunting is a Canadian tradition and a favourite outdoor sport for thousands of residents across the country. It's an opportunity to gather food, experience nature and spend time with friends and family.

The hunting micro-season begins in late August as hunters begin to prepare for fall hunting. During this time you can expect to be busy assisting customers with choosing the right apparel and equipment they will need for their upcoming hunting trip.

CHOOSING HUNTING APPAREL

Clothing is one of the most important aspects of a hunter's gear. Whether it's a bib, jacket, pants or vest, hunters should consider:

A. COMFORT AND SURVIVAL

B. CONCEALMENT FROM PREY





A. COMFORT AND SURVIVAL

Hunters need protection from the elements, so the more comfortable the clothing is, the longer they will be able to hunt, which will translate into more success. In extreme conditions, quality clothing can make the difference between a safe and an unsafe hunt. For comfort and survival, hunters should consider the following: layering, footwear and safety (hunter blaze orange) clothing.

LAYERING

Layers typically consist of a base layer, a mid-layer and an outer layer. Canadian Tire offers a variety of options to keep hunters warm and dry including different layering options.

Base layer

Usually relatively thin and designed to hold warm air close to the body (e.g., Merino Wool or Polypropylene material).



87-1904

Mid-layer

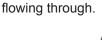
Usually thicker than base layer and provides a greater degree of insulation.



75-3605

Outer layer

Usually waterproof-designed to keep moisture from soaking the mid and base layers and windproof (fabric is more tightly weaved) to keep air from flowing through





75-3626







Is cotton a good material to wear under hunting clothing?



No. Cotton should be avoided. It tends to hold water next to the skin when it gets wet. As long as it's not cotton, most any fabric designed for hunting or the outdoors in general will work.

HUNTING FOOTWEAR

Selecting the right footwear is also an important part of staying comfortable out in the field. It should provide the right amount of ankle support as well as protection from brush, branches and shallow creeks or puddles. Some features to consider when selecting the boots are: boot height, insulation and waterproofing.

Boot Height

Hunting boots come in a range of heights from ankle high to almost knee high. Taller boots provide more support, but they also weigh more and generally cost more. For example, hunters walking in rough terrain, where steep climbs or descents are expected, should wear boots at least 8 inches high.



Rocky Insulated Boot 87-3481

Insulation

Insulation helps to trap hot air in the boot and to retain body heat. Boot insulation is offered in three main forms:

- 1. Micro-fiber (i.e., Thinsulate or Thermolite), BEST
- 2. Felt, BETTER
- 3. Foam, GOOD

Waterproof

Boots that are waterproof are important when hunting in wet conditions. This may be achieved by using: waterproof leather (silicone treatment), membrane bootie or moulding boots from rubber.

Do I need a lot of insulation if I rarely have a problem with cold feet?

If the hunter often gets cold feet, recommend a boot with 600 to 800 grams of micro-fibre insulation. If they rarely have problems with cold feet, you could recommend a boot with 200 to 400 grams of micro-fibre insulation.









How are waterproof leather boots maintained?

Waterproof leather boots can be maintained by:

- 1. Washing off mud and dirt at the end of the day.
- 2. Ensuring soap or oil-based treatments are not used in them.
- 3. Cleaning them with a soft bristle brush.
- 4. Allowing them to dry at room temperature (not by the fire!).
- 5. Treating them periodically with a silicone spray designed for leather footwear.

HUNTER (BLAZE) ORANGE APPAREL

Hunting regulations require that hunters wear hunter orange at different times of the year and for different types of hunting. Hunters are usually required to wear a minimum amount of hunter orange clothing during the firearm seasons. The purpose of the hunter orange regulations is to maximize hunter safety without negatively impacting hunting success. Always refer to the regulations for the location and type of animal being hunted to determine if hunter orange apparel is required.



75-3614

B. CONCEALMENT FROM PREY

When it comes to clothing that helps hunters stay concealed from prey, the following three factors should be considered: camouflage, scent masking and noise reduction.

CAMOUFLAGE

Camouflage patterns are designed to break-up the outline of the hunter's body and help them to blend into the surrounding landscape. Hunters can outfit themselves in a variety of clothing including jacket, bib/pants, hat, mask and gloves for various surroundings and weather conditions. Canadian Tire carries an All Purpose pattern that is suitable for different species in a variety of locations as well as a variety of patterns designed for specific terrain.

This is an example of an all purpose camouflage pattern that is neutral, open, contrasting and realistic, making it ideal for various landscapes and game.

Rocky Synergy Real Tree All Purpose 75-3626



This is an example of a waterfow camouflage pattern that has cattails, mullet, cornstalks, etc., and provides maximum effectiveness for waterfowl in any open terrain.

Rocky Waterfowl 175-0729









SCENT MASKING

Scent IQ scent masking technology masks or reduces human scent, making it harder to be detected by game with an acute sense of smell (e.g., deer, bear and moose).

NOISE REDUCTION

Materials such as fleece or micro-suede tend to be quieter which is ideal for hunters when brushing up against trees or bushes.



Rocky Scent IQ Parka 75-3576

HUNTING ACCESSORIES

In addition to comfortable clothing, it's important to have the necessary accessories that make the trip more comfortable and improve the likelihood of the hunter's success.

ATTRACTANTS

Attractants are used to attract or lure game into shooting range. They include scents or food attractants, calls or decoys.



Moose Juice Scent 75-3313

Scents

Scents are often used for big game (deer, moose and elk) to mimic the actual scent of the animal to draw the animal to a specific location. Some scents can be applied to the hunter's clothing or equipment to attract game while others mask human scent.

Food Attractants

Food attractants may be in the form of a mineral salt lick or seed that can be spread out to attract game such as deer to the location where the hunter plans to hunt. They are made with the food the animal prefers to feed on. The grain attractants can be placed in a feeding station which they will feed from. Check with your local regulations for usage restrictions.



Fixation Grain Bait 75-3316



Grain Feede 175-1038







Calls

Calls are designed to mimic the sound of the game/species being hunted. Some calls will mimic a wounded animal that predators hunt. Here are some examples of calls that can be used for turkey, geese, moose and deer.



Turkey Slate Call 75-3389



Goose Call 75-1387



Moose Call 75-0144



Deer Call 75-4075

Decoys

A decoy is a wooden or plastic object that resembles the game or bird being hunted. Decoys are used when hunting waterfowl, turkey, predators (coyotes) and deer.



Full Body Deer Decoy 75-5575



Jake Decoy 75-4639



Coyote Decoy 75-1386





Duck Decoy 75-0124

OTHER ACCESSORIES

STANDS

A tree stand is a seat or platform for hunting deer or other game animals from an elevated position and to remain out of view. Safety is very important when using a tree stand so it's recommended that hunters wear a climbing vest harness, which comes with handy pockets for carrying calls. Rope can be used to haul gear up to the platform.



75-0762



75-4060





BLINDS

A blind is a covered area which is used to remain hidden from prey while lying in wait. There are several types of blinds available depending on what you are hunting.



Pack 'n Go Blind 175-0541

Designed for geese and duck hunting which the hunter can lie in and then open the top portion to take a shot.



Blind Camo Tarp 75-0768

Blind tarps can be used to provide additional cover when building a blind from cornstalks or other materials for hunting different types of game.



Ground Blind 75-4190

The ground blind is most often used to hunt deer, antelope and turkey.

GAME PROCESSING/FIELD DRESSING

Game processing/field dressing is about taking steps towards preserving the quality of the meat by ensuring that your game is properly field dressed. The following equipment is important to the process:

Lift Hoist: Hang and dry out game.

Game Bags: Used to cover carcass and protect meat.

Bone Saw: Used to cut through tough bone and fat.

Knife and Sharpener: Choose from a variety of knives to skin game. Make sure you have a sharpener handy to

sharpen blades if they get dull.

Gloves: Protect the hunter's hands against diseases (e.g., Ticks) when field dressing game animals.



Knife Combo Set 75-5609



Knife Sharpener 175-0788



Game Processing Kit 75-5572







SHOOTING ACCESSORIES

SHOTGUN BELT

Shotgun belts allow hunter's to carry extra ammunition in an easily accessible way—great for duck hunting.



GUN SLING

Gun slings can help take the strain off the hunter's neck when carrying a firearm when walking long distances.



75-0796

GUN CASE/GUN SOCK

Gun socks are a light and easy way to meet hunting regulations requiring firearms to be cased between sunset and sunrise. Choose from hard or soft-sided gun cases. It is sometimes preferable to use a soft-sided case as it tends to make less noise and is stored more easily while hunting.



75-0791

SPECIALTY EQUIPMENT

RANGE FINDER

A range finder is a device used to measure distance. Knowing the distance to a target makes it easier to accurately hit the target from a long distance.

TWO-WAY RADIOS

Two-way radios help stay in touch with others in the hunting party. Communicate back and forth when necessary to identify the hunter's location, sighting of game and use of game tags.





69-8025







GAME CAMERAS

A game camera or trail camera is a rugged and weatherproof camera designed for extended and unattended use in the outdoors to record images, either as still photographs or videos which can be used for game surveillance by hunters. These cameras are often used to learn where there is game travelling and to determine the best location to set up a stand. Each image is stamped with the date and time it was recorded. The game camera will usually function day and night and automatically detects game from 45 feet to 70 feet.



75-7191

RESOURCES

There are a number of resources available that contain additional hunting information.

CANADIAN TIRE UNIVERSITY:

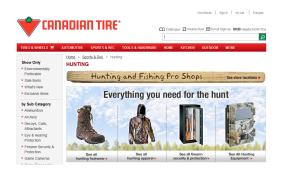
Check out the eLearning lessons for more information on Firearms, Ammunition, Hunting Equipment and Safety.

WEBSITES:

Check Government websites for the most current local and municipal hunting regulations.

CANADIAN TIRE WEBSITE:

Watch videos about popular hunting products.



HUNTING LICENCES:

For licencing requirements and regulations contact the appropriate provincial, territorial or municipal authority. Then find the nearest Canadian Tire store that sells Hunting licences by going to canadiantire.ca.





