

You should be feeling confident in your prepping and have a good hold on shelter building and basic bug out bag gear. Hopefully, your family is on board and a part of the prepping with you. There is still time to get them involved. Having them take part in any of these steps is something. Every little bit helps.

What to Purchase

We are moving into the bigger items that will cost a bit more. These items are necessary, but they are being bought at this point because you have built up a good supply of the most critical items needed to survive in the immediate weeks following a disaster. The items from this point forward are going to make survival months after a major event possible.

Small Solar Charger

We talked about the rechargeable batteries earlier. A small solar charger could charge those batteries, a cell phone or tablet (assuming there is satellite), your car batter if needed and so on. These small chargers are lightweight and perfect for sitting on the hood of your car if you're on the road or simply putting outside of your shelter. I like the [Goal Zero Guide 10 Plus Solar Recharging Kit with Nomad 7 Plus Solar Panel](#) or the [Goal Zero Nomad 50, Foldable Monocrystalline 50 Watt Solar Panel](#)

[Ruger Takedown 10/22 Rifle](#)

Without grocery stores, you're going to need to hunt for food. Large game are not going to be easy to get close to. You need a rifle for hunting. It is also a better choice for defending your home or shelter in case someone comes along hoping to give you trouble. I would also think about getting one with a threaded barrel for a suppressor. You will need this [10/22 Picatinny Rail Mount](#) to mount a scope and some [25 round magazines](#).

Ammunition .22

You need ammunition for the rifle. Fortunately, .22 is plentiful right now and fairly inexpensive. Stockpiling a thousand rounds this period will give you a good starting point. That may seem like a lot, but you don't want to starve because you ran out of bullets six months into the apocalypse.

Freeze-Dried Food - [Legacy](#)

It is time to build upon what you bought in the last chapter. This is where you can start adding more variety to the shelves. You will want to buy **four months** worth of meals. This means enough food for the whole family. Go for the meals with the highest calorie when you can. Calories are energy and you are going to be expending a lot. I have the best prices for the best food.... Just saying. [Legacy](#)

Maps

Imagine life without GPS. Remember the days where you had to use a map to find your way around a new city? Any disaster scenario is likely going to end up leaving satellites and cell towers down. That means you have to rely on your map skills to get around as well as to get you to safety. Have maps of your city/town and the surrounding areas. You want maps that show terrain. This will help you when you are planning your journey. If it's all uphill and rocks, you want to know that before you set out.

Trauma Kit

Earlier we mentioned having things like suture kits included in your first aid kit. You also must be prepared to deal with a serious trauma. Traumas tend to bleed. Having some kind of hemostatic gauze or an Israeli bandage or five on hand is one way to prepare to deal with traumas. Chest wound patches are also an excellent idea to have on hand. The injury could be survivable if the immediate first aid is adequate. [Doom and Bloom](#)

Salt and Sugar

How much do we love sugar and salt? A little salt on anything can make it palatable, even a bowl of plain old beans. Sugar, we know our society is addicted to sugar. It is extremely cheap and we would all consider giving up a case of toilet paper to get our hands on the stuff when there is none to be had. Buy a hundred pounds of each. Seriously. Both sugar and salt are extremely valuable in a post-disaster world. And, it isn't always about the taste. You can use a little sugar and salt to make a glass of water into an electrolyte boost to save a person who is on the verge of heat stroke. [US Foods](#), Sam's or Costco.

AR-15 Rifle

The AR is the gun of choice for preppers when it comes to self-defense. It is a little controversial in today's world, but the gun is an excellent way to save your life if a group of people decides to attack. A single-shot rifle isn't going to do it and a handgun means it's too late, they're too close. **Buy at least five-hundred rounds** of .223 ammunition to go with the rifle. It is expensive and there are limits on how much you can buy, which is why you will need to break this up over time to build up your stockpile.

Train/Action

Fire Starting

In a perfect world, disaster would strike on a day when the weather is a perfect seventy-two degrees, with no wind or rain. That is pretty unlikely, which means when you are training for survival, you need to get uncomfortable. For your first training, try starting a fire in the rain. Try it using a couple of different fire-starting methods to really hone your skills. The more skills you have, the better off you will be.

Prepping your BOB

NRA Rifle Class

This is the same situation with the handgun class. Sign up online or check to see if there is a local instructor in your area. Live and in person is always preferable, but the information you gather is invaluable online or in person.

Basic Survival Class

These are absolutely the best choice in getting you some real hands-on training. There are plenty of survival schools all across the country. You can sign up for a weekend course or go all in and take a full week. You are going to get to learn how to do basic things with your own two hands with the guidance of an experienced instructor.

Baofeng Setup

Mindset

While watching someone do something on television is entertaining, it is important you do as you see. The list of shows to watch are great and they are very educational, but you need to try it at home as well.

- Read "[Patriots: Surviving the Coming Collapse](#)" by James Rawles
- Watch a few seasons of "[Doomsday Preppers](#)" on the National Geographic channel
- Attend some prepper meeting/conventions in your area. [Prepper Camp](#)
- Listen to the [The Privacy, Security, & OSINT Show](#)
- Read "[The Prepper's Blueprint: The Step by Step Guide to Help You Through any Disaster](#)" by Tess Pennington