

Backpacking Stoves

Fuel Comparison

Type	Advantages	Disadvantages
White Gas	Spilled fuel evaporates easily Stove fuel used for priming Highest heat output Best fuel for cold weather use	Priming sometimes required Spilled fuel very flammable Self-pressurizing stoves must be insulated from cold
Kerosene	Spilled fuel won't ignite readily Fuel sold throughout the world High heat output	Priming required Spilled fuel does not evaporate readily Noticeable odor
Butane/Propane	No-spill fuel container No priming required Immediate maximum heat output	Higher fuel cost Cartridge disposal is a problem Fuel must be kept above freezing Lower heat output than white gas or kerosene
Unleaded Auto Gas	Most readily available fuel in the U.S. Stove fuel used for priming	Same disadvantages as white gas Certain additives can lead to clogging of stove parts
Alternative Fuels	Zip Stove: burns wood Esbit Stove: Uses fuel cubes Pack easily Won't spill Leave no smoke or ash	Lower performance Zip Stove: not useable in no fire areas Esbit Stove: not good in variable conditions