



Figure Four Trap

The figure four trap is a machine like trap that is made with three interconnecting lengths of stick. It works off the idea that an animal will be attracted by some bait, and will cause the deadfall to drop on them.



The support or vertical stick is the strong piece which must support the weight of the trap. It should be high enough to ensure the deadfall (a rock or a log etc.) will drop with sufficient force. Cut a 45° angle at the top and a square notch about a third of the way up.





The bait stick should be the longest piece. One end is sharpened into a point, a square notch is cut about half-way down and another at the other end of the stick, which is at 90° from the other notch.



The weight stick, or diagonal stick, supports the deadfall. Cut one end at a 45° angle and cut a square notch near the other end.





Stand the vertical stick and interlock the horizontal stick with it using the notches. The bait is placed at the end of this stick to ensure that it is located directly under the weight.



The diagonal stick rests on top of the support stick and interlocks with the bait stick by securing its pointy end in the second notch. .





The deadfall is then rested against the diagonal stick. Bait can be added to the pointed end. When the animal goes for it the trap will be disrupted and the deadfall will drop. This trigger trap looks roughly like the number "4", hence the name.

When setting traps remember:

- Ensure any animals will be killed in a humane manner.
- Record the location of all trap accurately.
- Check traps regularly and remove traps after use.
- Have a reasons for setting a trap
- Eat and/or use any animals killed.
- Dispose of animal carcasses properly.
- Consult relevant regulations and laws.

