

Camping is a family tradition (for some)

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Camping is an activity that some people love— even live for. I'm not one of those people, but when I went camping in the Great Sand Dunes in Colorado, being organized helped. Here are the Office templates designed for country mouse and city mouse alike. (Don't leave home without a corkscrew.)

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I can't get too excited about camping because I just can't see burning up a few vacation days sleeping on the hard ground, wandering off to find a place to relieve myself, and waking up freezing in a bag that presents me as a pre-wrapped snack for the bears. (Thank you [Jim Gaffigan](#).)

However, this isn't about what I don't like. This is about the templates we've created for you outdoorsy types to make it easy to plan your trip. So, whether you grew up camping or are just learning how to stake a tent, these templates will help you organize your foray into the great outdoors.

Here are three samples:

1. First we have the [Camping checklist](#). This OneNote template is comprised of a group of separate lists with room to check off each item within that list:
 - Shelter and sleeping: Sleeping bags, tent, pillows)
 - Cooking stuff: stove, utensils, can opener, tongs (because no one goes camping without a good set of tongs; *multiple* uses, I can tell you that)
 - Personal items: Clothing, toiletries, sunglasses
2. Next is the [Camping trip planner](#). This is an Excel spreadsheet that gives you room to list possible campgrounds (names, location, distance, cost, reservations), details of the campgrounds (Fishing? Hunting? Hiking? Dogs allowed? Free-roaming jackals?), and a place for resources (guidebooks, stores, maps, Internet sites, GPS systems).
3. My final favorite is the [Kids Summer Camp or Vacation Journal](#). The pages in this Word template are for Monday through Friday, with spaces to write about what the kid did each day. It also includes pages for the name of their cabin, space for friends' names and addresses for keeping in touch (or forgetting about after two days at home), and for autographs of all their new friends.

Happy camper or not, check out these templates on Office Online. And oh: Don't forget your can of mace for those bears.

"Camping was a tradition in everyone's family 'til we came up with the house." — Jim Gaffigan

About the author

[Annik Stahl](#), the Crabby Office Lady columnist, takes all of your complaints, compliments, and knee-jerk reactions to heart. Therefore, she graciously asks that you let her know whether this column was useful to you — or not — by entering your feedback using the **Did this article help you?** feedback tool below. And remember: If you don't vote, you can't complain.

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