

26. Fuses **by The Jolly Roger**

You would be surprised how many files are out there that use what falls under the category of a "fuse." They assume that you just have a few lying around, or know where to get them. Well, in some parts of the country, fuses are extremely hard to come by... so this file tells you how to make your own. Both fuses presented here are fairly simple to make, and are fairly reliable.

SLOW BURNING FUSE - 2 inches per minute

Materials needed:

- Cotton string or 3 shoelaces
- Potassium Nitrate or Potassium Chlorate
- Granulated sugar

Procedure:

1. Wash the cotton string or shoelaces in HOT soapy water, then rinse with fresh water
2. Mix the following together in a glass bowl:
 - 1 part potassium nitrate or potassium chlorate
 - 1 part granulated sugar
 - 2 parts hot water
3. Soak strings or shoelaces in this solution
4. Twist/braid 3 strands together and allow them to dry
5. Check the burn rate to see how long it actually takes!!

FAST BURNING FUSE - 40 inches per minute

Materials needed:

- Soft cotton string
- Fine black powder (empty a few shotgun shells!)
- Shallow dish or pan

Procedure:

1. Moisten powder to form a paste.
2. Twist/braid 3 strands of cotton together.
3. Rub paste into string and allow to dry.
4. Check the burn rate!!!

27. How to make Potassium Nitrate **by The Jolly Roger**

Potassium Nitrate is an ingredient in making fuses, among other things. Here is how you make it:

Materials needed:

- 3« gallons of nitrate bearing earth or other material
- « cup of wood ashes
- Bucket or other similar container about 4-5 gallons in volume
- 2 pieces of finely woven cloth, each a bit bigger than the bottom of the bucket
- Shallow dish or pan at least as large in diameter as the bucket
- Shallow, heat resistant container