



Tool Kits and Maintaining Your Equipment

So, after spending all your money on the bow, plus arrows, plus some personal gear, you are ready to shoot.

If you are only shooting socially at MPB then you may be able to get away with just that. If, however, you intend to venture further afield (and even if you don't) it would be wise to invest in a few more bits of gear. When something goes wrong and you can't fix it yourself, the chances are you have reached the end of that day's shooting.

So, at the least, we suggest you invest in a small tool kit that goes with you everywhere. A fishing tackle box is good for that. It is also good if you know how to fix things and practice doing it at home rather than trying to do it for the first time in the middle of a shoot. Here are some suggestions for what to put in your kit –

Archer's Tool Kit

General

- set(s) of Allen Keys, metric and imperial
- small adjustable spanner
- a portable set of small screwdrivers - for keeping your screws nice and tight
- pliers, or a multi-tool
- roll of general tape, eg, gaffer tape is good
- band-aids, antiseptic cream, insect repellent
- small bottle of nail polish (chose your own colour) - use as a form of Loctite to stop screws vibrating loose
- Stanley knife or small scissors
- cigarette lighter – for singeing the ends of nocking points made from dental floss
- string wax and bit of leather for rubbing the wax into the string

For Your Bow

- spare arrow rest – just an inexpensive stick-on for recurve
- double sided tape to affix the arrow rest, if required
- dental floss for tying a nocking point in an emergency

For Your Arrows

- spare fletches
- spare points
- spare nocks and pins, if required
- adhesive - fletching glue, double sided tape
- if you use hot melt for the points, then a small blow torch is advised
- keep the torch full or have gas to refill it
- paint pen for naming your arrows

Compound Bows

- spare release aid, same as your normal one

Recurve Bows/Longbows

- back-up finger tab - already worn in
- back-up bow string - already 'shot-in'
- spare finger sling

Now, if you do regular maintenance on your equipment, you should never need to use your kit 'in the field'.