



How to set a Rabbit Snare

The winter is an ideal time to snare hares.

Rabbits leave tracks, and best of all, they are creatures of habit. If you find reasonably fresh tracks, then there is a pretty high probability that the same path (run) will get re-used.

One element to consider is where the snare is set with respect to the location of the tracks. I set my snares from 4" to 6" above the "ground".

There is lots of debate as to how high to set the snare.

Rabbits are taller than you think! If the snow is deep, then one might set the snare a bit lower since the hare's feet will be sinking an inch or so into the snow.*



*<http://www.wildwoodsurvival.com/survival/snares/rabbitsnareb.html>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLRG6I8GIV0>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hf-NhiHVMjc>



Rabbit Trails

Rabbits have four front and four back toes with the back feet measuring two times larger than the front.

A typical "rabbit track" has 4 paw prints, all from one hop. The two larger prints, at the top and right of the picture are from the hind feet, while the smaller two are the front feet. Notice how the hind feet are placed side-by-side, perpendicular to the direction of movement. The front feet are placed in-line, parallel to the direction of motion. Rabbits almost always hop, or bound, when they move, no matter what speed they are moving. They push off with their hind feet and land first on their front feet. The front feet



pull the body forward slightly so that the hind feet come to rest ahead of the front feet imprints, ready to make another large bound. Squirrels also travel mainly by hopping, but they display one major difference that makes their tracks distinguishable from rabbits. They place their front feet side-by-side rather than in-line.



One day two boys were walking in the woods. They saw some rabbit scat. One boy said "what is that?" the other boy said, "Smart pills. Eat them. You'll get smarter." The other boy ate them and said, "These taste like poop." The other boy said, "See you are smarter already."

<http://www.funnypart.com/funny/smart-pills.shtml>
<http://www.funnypart.com/funny/smart-pills.shtml>

Identifying Animal Tracks in the Snow | eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/how-does_5008020_identifying-animal-tracks-snow.html#ixzz2Lkz5AA9K

<http://www.naturenorth.com/winter/tracks/track2.html>



Slingshot

For much of their early history, slingshots were a "do it yourself" item, typically made from a forked branch to form the "Y" shaped handle, with rubber strips sliced from items as inner tubes or other sources of good vulcanized rubber and firing suitably sized stones.

While early slingshots were most associated with young vandals, they were also capable hunting arms in the hands of a skilled user. Firing metallic projectiles, such as lead musket balls or buckshot, or steel ball bearings, the slingshot was capable of taking game such as quail, pheasant, rabbit, and dove. Placing multiple balls in the pouch produces a shotgun effect, such as firing a dozen BBs at a time for hunting small birds. With the addition



A Slingshot for Shooting Arrows

of a suitable rest, the slingshot can also be used to fire arrows, allowing the hunting of medium sized game at short ranges.

While commercially made slingshots date back to at least 1918, with the introduction of the Zip-Zip, a cast iron model, it was not until the post-World years saw a surge in the popularity, and legitimacy, of slingshots. They were still primarily a home-built proposition; a 1946 Popular Science article details a slingshot builder and hunter using home-built slingshots made from forked dogwood sticks to take small game at ranges of up to 30' with No. 0 lead buckshot (.32 in., 8 mm diameter).

The Wham-O company, founded in 1948, was named after their first product, the Wham-O slingshot. It was made of ash wood and used flat rubber bands. The Wham-O was suitable for hunting with a draw weight of up to 45 pounds force (200 newtons), and was available with an arrow rest.

The 1940s also saw the creation of the National Slingshot Association, headquartered in San Marino, California, which organized slingshot clubs and competitions nationwide. Despite the slingshot's reputation as a tool of juvenile delinquents, the NSA reported that 80% of slingshot sales were to men over 30 years old, many of them professionals. John Milligan, a part-time manufacturer of the aluminum-framed John Milligan Special, a hunting slingshot, reported that about a third of his customers were physicians.

The middle 1950s saw two major innovations in slingshot manufacture, typified by the Wrist-Rocket Company of Columbus, Nebraska, later renamed Trumark. The Wrist-Rocket was made from bent steel rods that formed not only the handle and fork, but also a brace that extended backwards over the wrist, and provided support on the forearm to counter the torque of the bands. The Wrist-Rocket also used rubber tubing rather than flat bands, which was attached to the backwards-facing fork ends by sliding over the tips of the forks, where it was held by friction.

By 2001, the flat band slingshot had disappeared from commercial production in favor of the tubular band. Flat bands are preferred by custom makers and shooters in national competition, however, as they provide more efficiency and accuracy.