100 TIPS EVERY GEOCACHER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT



PodCacher
GEOCACHING GOODNESS

FOREWORD

Greetings!

We're Sonny, Sandy and Sean, a Geocaching Team from San Diego, California. Over 10 years ago, we began producing a podcast all about Geocaching. You can find out more at http://www.podcacher.com. The show quickly grew and now has hundreds of episodes that have been heard by thousands of Geocachers all around the world.



Over the years, we've shared tips and tricks, interviews, covered caching events and stories from around the world. We've had the grand privilege of connecting with thousands of Geocachers who've shared great ideas and insights from their Geocaching adventures. What you'll find in this document are some of the tips that we've gathered along the way.

For more Geocaching Goodness and resources to feed your Geocaching Passion, head over to PodCacher (http://www.podcacher.com). There you'll find helpful articles, videos, downloadable resources AND the World Famous PodCacher Podcast, a weekly audio show all about Geocaching.

Stay Safe and Keep on Cachin'!

Sonny, Sandy and Sean

10 Tips for Geocaching with Kids





1. Look for traditional caches (or easy multi's) with low difficulty and terrain
2. Choose regular or large size geocaches for a better chance of finding swag
3. Help your kids find small toys and trinkets that they are willing to trade and teach them about the "trade even or up" ethic of cache treasures
4. Pack everything you need to be safe and comfortable – lots of drinks and snacks, sunscreen, hats, rain gear, clothing layers, first aid kit
5. Be flexible and know your kid's limits
6. Take the time to explore with them, don't just rush to the next cache
7. Engage the kids by having them learn to use the GPS and be involved in the cache hunt
8. Be patient with slow walkers and those who want to stop and look at flowers or bugs - enjoy the experience!
9. Let the kids find the cache, even if you need to "help" the finding process
10. Remember: preparation, patience, flexibility



5 Things Kids LOVE about Geocaching
Show 336 Family Caching

10 Tips for Geocaching with Dogs





1. Make sure the geocaches you plan to find have the “dogs allowed” attribute
2. Think about the length of the hike and the terrain - and how YOUR dog will do in that setting
3. Take the basics: doggie bags, a leash, water (with a collapsible bowl) and dog treats
4. Get your dog involved: Teach him to sniff out Tupperware or ammo cans
5. Remember your dog can be a great muggle decoy
6. Keep them safe: Watch for venomous snakes!
7. Carefully check for ticks at the end of your outing
8. Know YOUR dog and your dog’s limits. Not all dogs make good Geodogs.
9. Consider special gear: Pooch booties, doggie backpacks, lighted collar for night caching
10. Make your dog “trackable” so others can discover him/her at geocaching events or on the trail



Geocaching With Dogs

10 Steps for Hiding a Cache



1. Get prepared - find a bunch of geocaches first
2. Get prepared - understand the responsibility involved in hiding a cache
3. Plan your location - pick a great spot
4. Get permission and use common sense
5. Choose a great container - waterproof, durable, the right size for the location
6. Stock the cache with logbook, pen or pencil and some good swag if there is room
7. Obtain good coordinates for the location
8. Write a clear, interesting description for the cache listing
9. Seek out a local geocaching mentor to help you with your first hide(s)
10. Each time you hide a new cache, try something different and try to make it better!

[How to Hide a Geocache]
[Hiding a Tribute Geocache]



10 Tips for Finding a Cache



1. Touch and examine everything - even if you are SURE that's not the cache. [Be sure to ignore this advice if you are hunting near electrical wires or porcupines!]
2. Come from a different angle - walk away and come back - change your angle of attack - you might see things you missed last time.
3. Change your perspective – lower – higher – look up – look down
4. Think about the easiest location not the hardest (unless of course it's a high difficulty cache). Sometimes we make it harder than it is.
5. Expand your search radius - remember that GPS receivers and smart phones are only accurate to 20-30 feet. Throw your backpack down near ground zero and then work outwards, searching in ever-widening circles.
6. Think about where YOU would hide the geocache. Try to think like a hider approaching the area.
7. Look NEAR things - base of tree, rock, log. It's NORMALLY not going to be just thrown into a random bush.
8. Check the difficulty and terrain ratings. If the terrain is 3 or 4, it's not going to be on nice level ground.
9. Re-read the title and description for hidden clues.
10. Reading other finder's logs can often help.



10 Tips to Introduce Friends to Geocaching



1. Take them to geocaches that you have found.
2. Check logs to ensure caches have been found recently.
3. Choose the appropriate size. Regular or large are great for kids.
4. Make sure there are several geocaches to find at the location you have chosen to avoid having to get everyone back in the car to drive to another geocache.
5. Choose a cool or unique location in your neighborhood to show how finding unexpected places in the midst of familiar areas is part of the fun of caching.
6. Start with a trip to the dollar store and explain to the kids how trading works.
7. Display the map of geocaches around their home to amaze and intrigue them with all the “hidden boxes” they didn’t know were there.
8. Get them actively involved in the hunt. Assign the job of “following the arrow” on the GPSr or smartphone along with simple instructions about the screen.
9. Don’t overwhelm your friends with too many geocaches.
10. Bring a camera to document their first geocache find.

[Introducing Friends to Geocaching]



10 Items to keep in your Caching Bag



1. Extra batteries
2. First aid kit
3. Insect repellant and sunscreen
4. Cache repair kit (logs, pens, baggies)
5. Multi-tool
6. Telescoping mirror / magnet / grabber tool
7. Flashlight or headlamp
8. Water and snacks
9. Bandana
10. Gloves

OKAY, we can't just stop at 10. How about compass, digital camera, signature Items, swag, CITO bags, safety glasses, whistle, travel size wipes, travel tissues, change of socks and t-shirt, jacket, tweezers and toilet paper to name just a few more!

Blog Post: What's in Your Go-Bag?

10 Steps to Hosting a Geocaching Event



1. Pick a convenient location with plenty of room
2. Choose a date between 2 weeks and 3 months in advance
3. Recruit some geocaching friends to help you
4. Select a fun, creative theme
5. Do some legwork (visit the location, arrange a food discount, check on permits or reservations, make a list of supplies)
6. Write a helpful description with information on food, parking, things to bring, planned activities, etc.
7. Bring name tags and pens
8. Plan for at least twice as many people as “will attends”
9. Decide on giveaways, door prizes, games
10. Don’t forget to HAVE FUN! Relax and enjoy your event

How to Host a Geocaching Event



podcacher.com

10 Fun Ideas for a Geocaching Flash Mob



1. Bring paper to make paper airplanes, then fly them for fun or prizes
2. Form a kazoo band, practice a short song, then perform it at a busy public place
3. Have a water gun / water balloon fight on a hot summer day
4. Blow bubbles off a bridge
5. Have a dress-up theme: Star Wars, Beach Day, Sports Team, the color PURPLE
6. Show up in a public place and do something strange: sing a song, talk on banana phones, do a phoon pose, play with silly string
7. Bring newspapers and have everyone construct a hat for fun or prizes
8. Have everyone show up in reflector vests with clipboards and walk around examining or measuring everything
9. Walk around a city area with umbrellas up on a sunny day
10. Show up at a popular tourist spot and give away free cookies or candy

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10 Geocaching Challenges to Attempt



1. Jasmer - find a cache that was hidden in each month from May 2000 to the present date
2. Fizzy (Well Rounded Cacher) - find a cache for each of the 81 difficulty/terrain combinations
3. Calendar (365/366 Day) - find and log a cache on every day of the calendar year
4. Lonely Cache - find a cache that has not been found for X number of years
5. Iconic Day - find a certain number of icons (cache types) in one day
6. Caching Streak - find a cache every day for a certain period of time
7. Delorme (US only) - find a cache located on each page of a state's Delorme Atlas
8. County - find a cache located in every county in your state / province / country
9. Favorites - find the top 10 most favorited caches in a certain geographic area
10. Alphanumeric challenge - find caches with names that begin with the letters A–Z and the digits 0–9
    (or based on the owner's name instead)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Jan	23	2	3	14	9	3	6	3	1	2	3	9	2	1	6	6	4	2	4	6	6	10	5	5	4	6	1	7	14	4	1	172
Feb	11	1	2	3	4	2	1	4	10	8	7	1	2	14	2	6	9	11	5	3	1	2	2	1	2	12	3	2	4	X	X	135
Mar	12	7	3	1	1	9	4	12	2	11	6	2	1	5	8	3	2	2	3	8	10	2	5	1	10	2	13	8	1	5	4	157
Apr	1	4	6	1	6	7	9	2	6	6	1	4	16	1	1	1	6	9	3	2	1	9	5	1	2	3	3	23	2	4	X	145
May	3	3	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	6	1	1	1	1	4	1	12	7	8	20	5	13	7	16	22	10	20	4	1	9	3	196
Jun	1	1	22	4	4	7	2	3	3	1	2	5	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	6	3	4	3	4	5	1	7	7	14	X	120
Jul	2	11	7	6	5	2	4	1	4	3	1	2	3	7	6	8	12	17	5	11	8	1	2	8	1	5	1	1	4	2	1	151
Aug	4	6	6	2	2	12	10	17	16	19	15	9	15	10	16	12	4	3	3	2	10	2	3	2	8	6	2	6	2	2	3	229
Sep	3	11	1	1	1	4	4	1	1	3	1	11	3	1	4	5	7	3	7	2	5	5	2	1	4	2	2	1	3	6	X	105
Oct	1	1	1	1	1	4	2	3	4	1	25	10	4	7	5	11	9	9	6	7	15	9	6	9	7	8	9	1	2	2	1	194
Nov	2	5	2	5	4	3	3	7	3	13	16	4	5	11	6	13	5	5	1	6	5	3	4	10	4	10	11	9	3	1	X	179
Dec	6	1	1	6	2	1	5	1	1	2	1	4	1	3	2	1	1	2	1	5	5	1	9	12	3	14	1	3	3	13	15	126
	69	53	55	46	41	56	52	57	54	75	79	71	54	63	61	70	72	71	47	70	81	60	54	72	71	83	67	69	46	62	28	1909

10 Ideas for geocaching signature items







1. poker chips
2. wooden nickels
3. pathtags

4. geocoins
5. business cards





6. personalized pencils
7. trading cards
8. carabiner

9. pin or button
10. magnets







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A whole world to explore …

This is just the “tip of the iceberg”. There’s SO much more to learn and love about Geocaching.

Come visit us at http://www.podcacher.com and join the growing community of Geocachers who also share the spirit of this sport / hobby / activity / obsession that we all know and love.



Sonny, Sandy and Sean
Team PodCacher

P.S. If you know any other geocachers who would like these 100 tips, please send them to http://podcacher.com/100tips so they can get their own copy. Thanks!!