

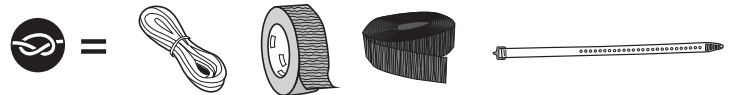
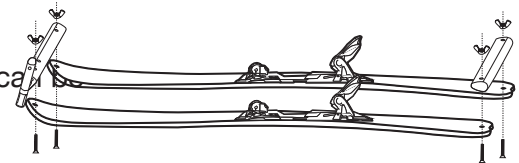


How to build an emergency rescue sled

BCA Shaxe avalanche shovels themselves supply the critical parts to build a sled for backcountry evacuation. But because available fastening material, bindings, poles and ski lengths all vary greatly, it's impossible to specify exactly how the sled should be built. As such, it's designed so that it's easy to improvise. Most importantly, practice building it at home with material you normally have with you on a ski tour.

Materials

- Shaxe Speed or Shaxe Tech avalanche shovel.
- Attachment Kit (supplied). Four bolts and wing nuts. Cord caps are used, but is not as strong.
- Fastening material (not supplied). We recommend two cordalettes (5 m x 5 or 6 mm perlon cord), but webbing, straps from your pack, duct tape, ski straps, etc. will all work.



Sled construction

- 1) Attach shovel shafts to tips and tails of skis (handle section goes at tips to avoid dragging).
- 2) Add cross bracing. Attach poles to tips and to binding toe or heel pieces. Make sure to secure at pole intersection to provide shear strength.
- 3) Secure ski brakes to avoid dragging.
- 4) Suspend shovel blade between bindings.
- 5) Place pack or other padding on tails and use any other available material to pad the remainder of the sled and isolate victim from snow.
- 6) Secure victim securely to sled with fastening material.

