

Complete Beekeeping Short Course
Part 3
Essential Beekeeping Tools

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beekeeping tools & equipment

- the essentials...




- bee hive, smoker, hive tool, protective clothing

smoker

- honey bees communicate using a complex language of *pheromones*
 - chemical odors convey specific messages
 - smoke interferes with that language
 - especially *alarm pheromone*
 - given off when bee feels threatened or upset
 - released with sting – to mark a specific intruder
 - quickly alerts other bees to danger
 - alarmed bees release more alarm pheromone
 - makes colony very defensive (ready to sting)

ISOPENTYL ACETATE



GRRRRR!







Learning to correctly light and use your smoker is an important skill!

smoker fuel

- use any natural, organic, plant-based materials
- avoid cardboard, paper, cloth with chemicals or dyes












beekeeping tools & equipment

- the hive tool
 - for scraping & prying
 - bee's stick their hives together from the inside
 - burr comb
 - propolis




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- bee brush



beekeeping tools & equipment

- frame grips



beekeeping tools & equipment

- frame perch



protective clothing

- hat/veil
- jackets
- full coveralls



beekeeping tools & equipment

- protective clothing
- gloves



gloves



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protective clothing



beekeeping tools & equipment

- working with your bare hands is effective, and actually easier
- you will gain confidence and comfort as you gain experience



beekeeping tools & equipment

- most suppliers offer a bee-ginner's kit
 - contents and quality vary
 - read the fine print and compare

