How to Preserve Stock & Meat for Long-term Food Storage

In a survival situation, ensuring you get enough protein will make a big difference. But you can't always depend on electricity to be there.

What's more, where I live, we hunt a lot of game. So, our freezer fills up fast. Which is a big reason we preserve our food. To save on space, and to avoid waste. So, without delay, let's get to it!



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Step 1 - How to Prepare Your Stock



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Once it's ready, after filtering the bits out, add your stock to some pre-warmed jars (this'll stop them from shattering).

Leave about an inch of headspace as you do this.

When you're done, wipe off the surface and the rims of your jars and lids to ensure a clean point of contact. Then secure

your lids tightly.

Step 2 - Adding Your Meat



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As a sidebar, if you're preserving store-bought meat that's OK, but in the video above I've used cuts from a buck I caught. Just know that, if you buy your meat, high quality chilled meat is best. But the rest is a matter of preference. For example, anything from beef, to lamb, to pork, sausage, veal or even bear meat will do fine.

Ideally your meat would also be freshly cooked, but I have never found that to be practical. One way to avoid this issue is to slowly raise the temperature of the jar as you can it.

Once your meat is really packed in, top up your cans with either water or stock. Again, while leaving a little headspace. Press your mixture down to remove any bubbles before wiping your lids and secure them tightly.

The next step is to put your jars into a pressure canner. They should be also be fully submerged.

Before you close the lid of your pressure canner add some olive oil to your canner's rim so it's easier to remove later. Now you're ready to heat your canner.

Step 3 — How to Can Your Meat



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Weight Pointers:

For weighted-gauge canners:

- At up to 1,000 feet above sea level, use 10 pounds of pressure.
- At above 1,000 feet above sea level, use 15 pounds of pressure.

For dial-gauge canners:

- At up to 2,000 feet above sea level, use 11 pounds of pressure.
- At 2,001 to 4,000 feet above sea level, use 12 pounds of pressure.
- At 4,001 to 6,000 feet above sea level, use 13 pounds of pressure.
- At 6,001 to 8,000 feet above sea level, use 14 pounds of pressure.
- At 8,001 to 10,000 feet above sea level, use 15 pounds of pressure.

Once your weight starts to rattle, leave it for 20 minutes. That's all you need when it's stock only (for pints). When it's meat you'll need to leave it for 75 minutes.

For quart jars you'll need to leave them for 25 and 90 minutes, respectively.



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Step 4 - Removing Your Jars

Then transfer your jars (with tongs) to an appropriate surface to cool off on. Here, they'll continue to bubble for a few hours.

If your jar lids pop up, this indicates that they did not seal properly. But don't worry, you can always reprocess them. Once your jars have cooled, simply store them in a cool-dark place until they're ready to eat. These should safely store for 2 to 5 years. Or even longer.



Final words

I hope you enjoyed this tutorial.

Remember, this is just one of the many lessons you'll find inside 'The Lost Frontier Handbook'. So, why not check it out? I've found it's the best way to get inspired and to discover shortcuts you'd otherwise miss.