

FOSSICKING STARTER KIT

THINGS TO TAKE

Everything a beginner needs - most of it under \$100, half of it already in your shed.

1 DIG & SIEVE

- ☐ Small shovel or trowel
- ☐ Two sieves - coarse and fine, stacked
hardware-store ones work fine
- ☐ Bucket
- ☐ Geological or brick hammer
NEVER a claw hammer - they chip dangerously
- ☐ Small pick, gold pan - both optional
a pan is about \$20

2 SORT & CARRY

- ☐ Jars and zip-lock bags for finds
- ☐ Egg carton for delicate crystals
- ☐ Spray bottle or water dish
wet stones show their colour - doubles your finds
- ☐ Old toothbrush, loupe (optional)
- ☐ Notepad - your find diary
where, how deep, what gravel - luck becomes skill

3 WEAR

- ☐ Sturdy enclosed boots
rocky, uneven, snake-adjacent ground all day
- ☐ Gloves
- ☐ Safety glasses whenever a hammer swings
- ☐ Hat, long sleeves, sunscreen
gemfields are shadeless

4 DAY SUPPLIES

- ☐ Water - 1 L per 2 hours per person, minimum
more in heat, plus extra for washing stones
- ☐ Food and snacks in the esky, in the shade
- ☐ Shade you can carry - shelter or tarp
transforms a gemfield day
- ☐ First aid kit with snake bandages
and the Snake Bite Emergency card in it
- ☐ Phone, offline maps, power bank
reception is a rumour out there
- ☐ Rubbish bag - everything comes home

5 PAPERWORK

- ☐ Licence or Miner's Right, if your state needs one
- ☐ Written permission, if on private land
- ☐ Cash - fee digs, camping honesty boxes

6 LEAVE AT HOME

- ☐ Anything powered
powered equipment legally makes it mining
- ☐ The claw hammer
- ☐ Expectations of getting rich
a jar of small stones is a good day - and it's addictive

BEFORE ANY OF THIS MATTERS

Licence sorted, site confirmed open, someone knows where you are - the Before You Fossick checklist covers it.