

ILLUSTRATED STEPS / SAVE IT. FIND IT. BUILD IT.

# CONDOMS

The 1700s gut-skin method, kept matter-of-fact: what it takes, how to test each skin, and what it can never do.



READ FIRST / LIMITS:

FULL LIMITS / PAGE 03

**Pregnancy only, never STIs. Less reliable than latex. Water-test every skin; use once.**

Stockpiled latex or polyurethane condoms always come first.

## START HERE

01

GET READY

Tools + clickable build map

02

FOLLOW THE STEPS

One clearly numbered stage at a time

03

FIND IT AGAIN

Quick reference + PDF bookmarks

For adults with no store-bought condoms left. Gut skins can help prevent pregnancy only. They do NOT protect against sexually transmitted infections.

NUKE ON TIKTOK

MORE FREE BUILD GUIDES

SOURCES / Planned Parenthood: condoms (lambskin limits) · Wikipedia: History of condoms

BUILD MAP

NEXT

# YOUR BUILD MAP

Tap a step to jump there. The printed page numbers work offline too.

## HAVE THESE READY

- Natural hog casings or a sheep's blind gut
- Baking soda (or weak wood-ash lye)
- Clean water and a basin
- Spoon and a clean board
- Garden sulfur in a metal dish
- Lighter; string to hang it
- Ribbon or a strip of gut
- Gloves and eye protection
- Clean tin for storage

## READ IN ORDER

|      |                                 |    |
|------|---------------------------------|----|
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| 02   | Strip it thin                   | 05 |
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QUICK REFERENCE / PAGE 10

## BEFORE YOU START

**Pregnancy only: gut skins do NOT stop STIs and are less reliable than latex. Sulfur fumes outdoors only. Water-test every skin; use once.**

## KEEP THIS COPY

Save the PDF with its guide ID. Use the build map, bookmarks, or your PDF reader's search to find a step later. Video and source links need internet; the instructions do not.

SETUP

# Know the limits, stock up first

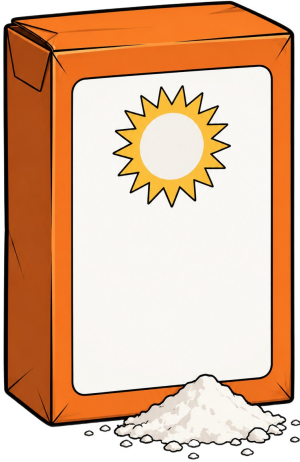
READ BEFORE STEP 01

## PREP

Read this before you make anything. A gut skin is a last resort, not an equal.



HOG OR SHEEP GUT



BAKING SODA



GARDEN SULFUR



RIBBON



PREGNANCY ONLY

### STOP / WHAT A GUT SKIN CANNOT DO

- **Natural membranes have pores small enough to block sperm but big enough to let viruses and bacteria through.**
- A gut skin does not protect against HIV, herpes, gonorrhea or any other STI.
- Homemade skins have no tested failure rate; expect them to be less reliable than latex.

### STOCK UP WHILE YOU CAN

- **Latex or polyurethane condoms lower the risk of both pregnancy and STIs.**
- Keep them away from heat, and check the date on the wrapper.
- Use water-based lubricant with latex; oil-based products weaken it.

SOURCES / Planned Parenthood: condoms (lambskin limits) · CDC: condom use

BUILD MAP

PREVIOUS

NEXT

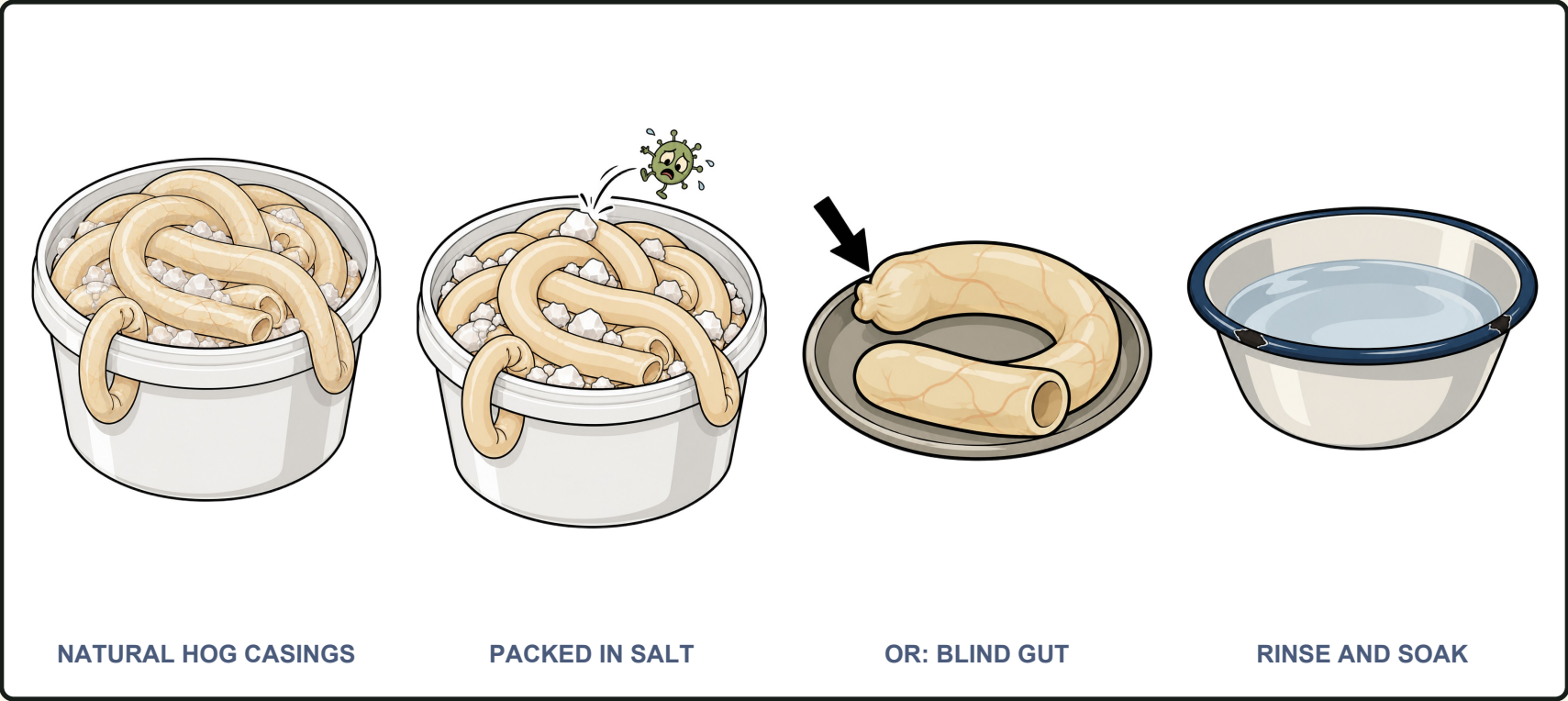
STEP

Get the gut

1 OF 4 / READ IN ORDER

01

Natural sausage casing is cleaned animal intestine, sold packed in salt.



CHOOSE AND RINSE

- **Buy natural hog casings from the sausage-making aisle and pick the widest, about 1.5 inches (38 mm) across, with no holes.**
- Or use a sheep's caecum, the blind gut: a pouch already closed at one end.
- Cut a piece about 8 inches long.
- Rinse off the salt and soak it in clean water for an hour.

WHY IT WORKS

- **Salt pulls water out of the gut, so bacteria cannot grow; that is why salted casings keep for months.**
- The blind gut is the pouch 1700s skins were made from.

SOURCES / Wikipedia: Sausage casing (natural, salted) · Wikipedia: History of condoms

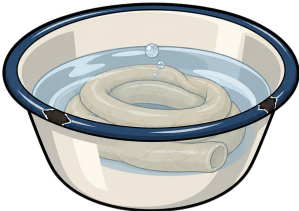
STEP

Strip it thin

2 OF 4 / READ IN ORDER

02

A mild alkali soak loosens the slimy lining so you can scrape it away.



BAKING SODA WATER      OR: WEAK ASH LYE      SOAK OVERNIGHT      SCRAPE WITH A SPOON      THIN, SEE-THROUGH

SOAK AND SCRAPE

- **Stir about a spoonful of baking soda into a quart of clean water.**
- Soak the gut in it overnight.
- Lay it on a clean board and scrape the inner lining and any fat off with the back of a spoon.
- Stop when it is thin and see-through, with no holes.

STOP / ASH LYE STAYS WEAK

- **Wood-ash lye burns skin and eyes, and strong lye dissolves the gut.**
- If you use it, keep it weak, wear gloves and eye protection, and rinse the gut well in clean water afterwards.

WHY IT WORKS

- **The alkali loosens the mucous lining so it scrapes off, leaving the thin, tough collagen layer.**

SOURCES / Wikipedia: History of condoms · Wikipedia: Sausage casing (natural, salted)

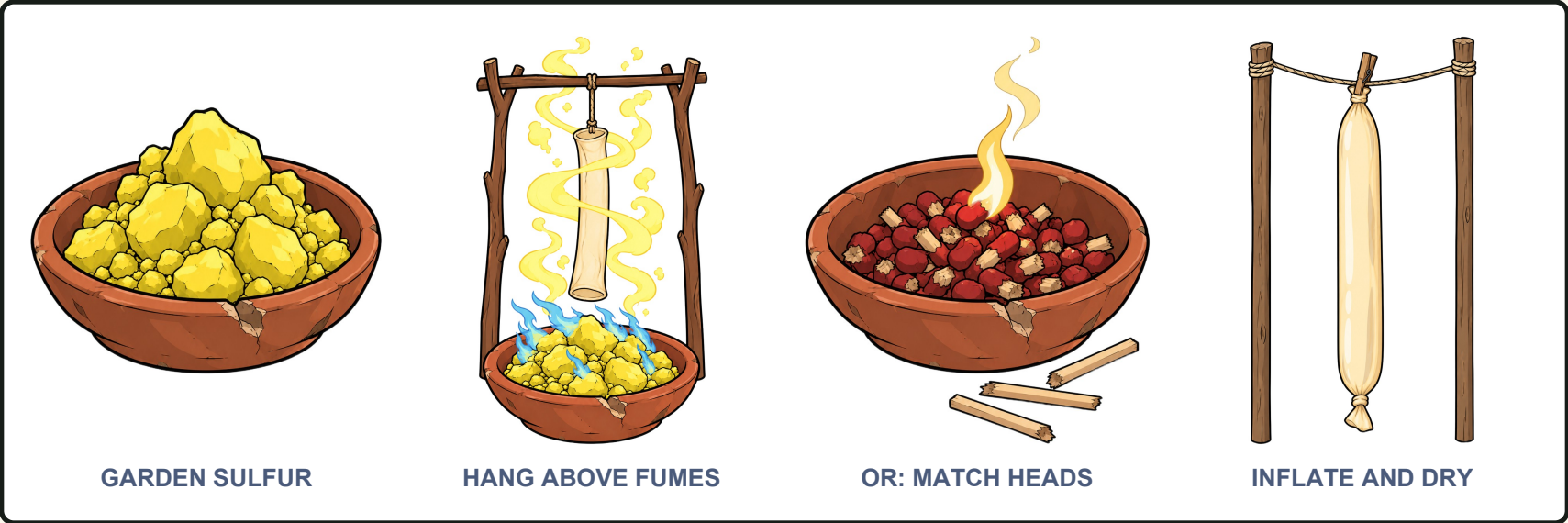
STEP

Smoke it, then dry it

3 OF 4 / READ IN ORDER

03

Sulfur fumes sanitize the skin. Then it dries in shape.



FUME AND DRY

- **Outside, upwind, away from people and pets: light a small metal dish of garden sulfur.**
- Hang the wet gut above the fumes, never in the flame, for a few minutes.
- Then inflate it like a balloon (a clean pump beats your mouth), tie it off and hang it to dry.

STOP / SULFUR FUMES

- **Burning sulfur makes sulfur dioxide, which burns the eyes, nose and throat and causes choking.**
- Never do this indoors or in a shelter.
- If you start coughing, move to fresh air.

WHY IT WORKS

- **Sulfur dioxide kills many microbes on surfaces; it is why wine and dried fruit are sulfured.**
- It sanitizes; it does not sterilize.

SOURCES / CDC NIOSH Pocket Guide: Sulfur dioxide · Wikipedia: History of condoms

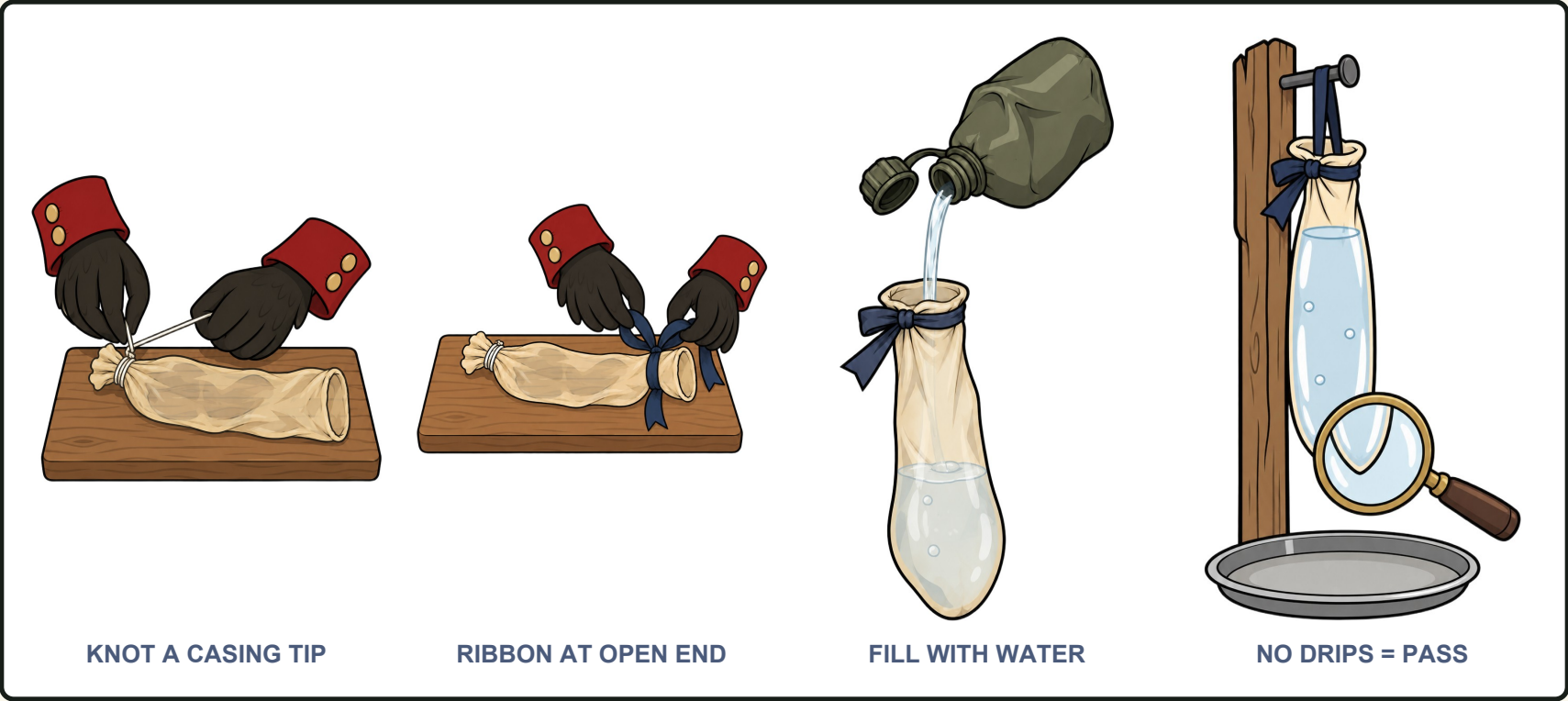
STEP

Tie and test

4 OF 4 / READ IN ORDER

04

Every finished skin gets a water test. No exceptions.



FINISH AND TEST

- **Hog casing: tie a tight knot at one end; a blind gut is already closed.**
- Thread a ribbon, or a strip of leftover gut, around the open end as a drawstring.
- Fill it with clean water and hang it for a few minutes.
- Any drip, seep or thin spot: throw it away.

BEFORE USE

- **Soak it in clean water until soft, because a dry skin cracks.**
- Use each skin once, then throw it away.

SOURCES / Wikipedia: History of condoms · Planned Parenthood: condoms (lambskin limits)

NOTE

# Storage and backup plans

KEEP THESE LIMITS WITH THE STEPS

REF

Dry, clean and closed until the day you need it.



STORE DRY IN A CLEAN TIN



GLOVES FOR HANDLING

## STORE

- **Keep dry skins in a clean, closed tin away from heat, insects and mice.**
- Water-test each one again before use.

## IF ONE BREAKS OR SLIPS

- **Emergency contraception, if you can get it, works best taken as soon as possible.**
- When care is available, get tested for STIs.

SOURCES / Planned Parenthood: emergency contraception · CDC: condom use

BUILD MAP

PREVIOUS

NEXT

NOTE

# Sources and limits

KEEP THESE LIMITS WITH THE STEPS

REF

Checked October 3, 2026. Tap a source in the box to open it.

SOURCES / TAP A TITLE TO OPEN IT

**Planned Parenthood: condoms (lambskin limits)**

<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/birth-control/condom>

**CDC: condom use**

<https://www.cdc.gov/condom-use/index.html>

**Wikipedia: History of condoms**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_condoms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_condoms)

**Wikipedia: Sausage casing (natural, salted)**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sausage\\_casing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sausage_casing)

**CDC NIOSH Pocket Guide: Sulfur dioxide**

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npg/npgd0575.html>

**Planned Parenthood: emergency contraception**

<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/morning-after-pill-emergency-contraception>

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

- **This is an editorial source review of a historical method, not a tested medical device.**
- No failure rate exists for homemade skins.
- Times and amounts stay approximate: an overnight soak, a few minutes of fumes.

STOP / WHERE THIS GUIDE ENDS

- **Gut skins never protect against STIs.**
- For both pregnancy and STI protection, use latex or polyurethane condoms.
- Get medical advice whenever care is available.

SOURCES / Planned Parenthood: condoms (lambskin limits) · CDC: condom use · Wikipedia: History of condoms · Wikipedia: Sausage casing (natural, salted) · CDC NIOSH Pocket Guide: Sulfur dioxide · Planned Parenthood: emergency contraception

BUILD MAP

PREVIOUS

NEXT

# QUICK REFERENCE

Read the full steps first. Tap any row to return to its instructions.

BEFORE STEP 01

**Pregnancy only: gut skins do NOT stop STIs and are less reliable than latex. Sulfur fumes outdoors only. Water-test every skin; use once.**

- 01

**Get the gut**  
Salted hog casing about 1.5 in wide, or a sheep's blind gut. Rinse off the salt; soak an hour in clean water.

P04
- 02

**Strip it thin**  
Overnight in baking soda water. Scrape lining and fat off with a spoon until thin and see-through.

P05
- 03

**Smoke it, dry it**  
Outside, upwind: hang above burning sulfur a few minutes. Inflate, tie and hang to dry.

P06
- 04

**Tie and test**  
Knot the tip, ribbon at the open end. Fill with water: any drip, throw it away. Soften first; use once.

P07

NUKE SAYS

Blocks babies, not diseases. Stock the real ones while the shelves have them.

STOP / LIMITS OF A GUT SKIN

FULL LIMITS / PAGE 03

- Blocks pregnancy only
  - No protection from STIs
  - Less reliable than latex
  - No tested failure rate
- Drip or thin spot: discard
  - Soften in water first
  - One use, then discard
  - Sulfur fumes outdoors only

Store-bought latex or polyurethane condoms lower the risk of both pregnancy and STIs. Stock them, keep them away from heat, and use them first.

SOURCES / Planned Parenthood: condoms (lambskin limits) · CDC: condom use · Wikipedia: History of condoms · Wikipedia: Sausage casing (natural, salted) · CDC NIOSH Pocket Guide: Sulfur dioxide · Planned Parenthood: emergency contraception