

In the following pages I will endeavour to show how a whip snare is set up using snare triggers.

Once you have discovered a rat run in a suitable location, look for obvious signs of 'pads' or 'beats' these are where the rats hop from one point to another along the rat run. These can sometimes be really obvious and at other times a little more difficult to spot. If there is short grass along the run, look for places where the grass has been worn down, these will often be 4 – 6 inches apart, this is where to place the snare. You will need to cut some willow or hazel whips from a thicket or hedgerow; these should be between 3 and 5 feet long.



The snare peg which will hold the trigger, notice the wire pin half an inch from the left hand end of the peg. Push this into the ground beside the rat run with the pin uppermost and facing the run.



Lay out the whip directly opposite the rat run with the snaring end beside the trigger peg.





Move the whip across the run by the amount you will insert into the ground. Here I have decided to push the whip into the ground by about 12 inches as the soil is soft, therefore I move the whip past the trigger peg by the same distance.



Now push the whip into the ground at around 45 degrees or so, if the whip is too upright there is a chance you may break it when bending it to set the trigger, too low an angle and it may not lift the rat off the ground.



Now assemble the trigger components, first tie string to the top of the trigger, this will attach to the whip. Then attach the snare to the bottom of the trigger to create a loop about 2 – 2 ½ inches wide.



Attach the string from the trigger to the whips end.

**CAUTION! The next part can be dangerous. DO NOT** lean over the whip when setting the trigger, if the whip springs up it can be at the least very painful to be hit in the face, at the worst you may cause serious damage to your eyes.



Bend the whip down and place the middle loop of the trigger on the pin, you can set this as sensitive as you like, but remember to keep your face away.



Set the snare carefully over the run at a height of about 1 ½ - 2 inches, or two fingers high.



Ensure that when the whip snare is set, that the string is directly above the trigger and not at an angle, you can slide the string along the whip either way to make small adjustments, or you may push the whip further into the ground after removing the trigger from the peg.

Good luck with you endeavours and if you have any questions or difficulties please send an email to

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**A word of caution!** Vermin transmit diseases. Do not handle any vermin alive or dead without protective gloves. Do not reuse the rat snares once a catch has been made, use a fresh one by cutting off the old one with snips, that way you do not have to handle the dead rat.

*If scratched or bitten seek medical attention immediately! Weils disease can be fatal!*