

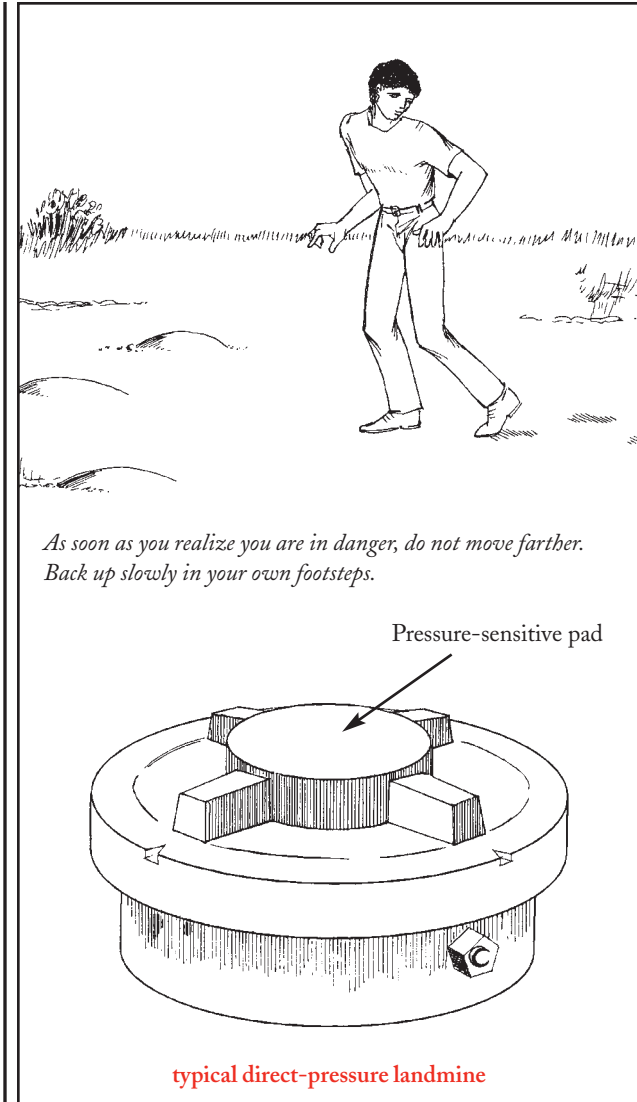
HOW TO NAVIGATE A MINEFIELD

- 1 Keep your eyes on your feet.
- 2 Freeze—do not move any farther.
- 3 Look for spikes, detonators, wires, bumps, or discoloration in the ground around you.
- 4 Avoid spikes, detonators, wires, bumps, or discoloration in the ground, and back up slowly in your own footsteps.
Do not turn around. Walk backward.
- 5 Stop when you are certain you are safe.

HOW TO IDENTIFY AND AVOID MINEFIELDS

The simplest way of avoiding mines is to avoid regions where you suspect they may be, such as post-war countries. If you are in such a region, follow these tips.

- Ask locals.
Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) technicians, local women, and children are the best sources of information (in that order) for where danger zones are located.



- Observe animals.
Field animals are considered de facto mine-sweepers. Fields with large quantities of mutilated animals, untouched by people, may indicate a minefield.
- Watch the movements of locals.
Locals who avoid perfectly good trails are probably avoiding a mined area. Observe which routes they will not travel on and avoid them. Never travel alone in a suspected mined area.
- Look for dirt that has been disturbed.
Transference of dirt or discoloration of fields may indicate hasty placement of mines.
- Look for wires across trails.
Trip wires strung across trails indicate mines or other explosives.
- Look for newly destroyed vehicles on or just off the road.
Evidence of recent mine detonations includes burning or smoking vehicles and craters. Never assume that because a mine has already detonated the path is clear.
- Avoid brush and overgrown fields and trails.
These will not be clearly marked with mine clearance signs, and are more difficult to navigate on your own.

Be Aware

- Many mines stay active indefinitely. Be sure to ask for guidance in an area known for mines.

- There are four basic mine types:

TRIP-WIRE MINES. Stepping across a wire attached to the detonator will cause the mine to explode.

DIRECT-PRESSURE MINES. Stepping down on a pressure-sensitive pad will activate the detonator.

TIMER MINES. A timer can be an electrical clock, an electronic digital clock, a dripping/mixing chemical, or a simple mechanical timer that will detonate the mine.

REMOTE MINES. A remote mine can be detonated via an electrical charge across a wire (a “clacker”), via a radio signal, or from a heat or sound sensor.