

HOW TO SURVIVE AN ELEPHANT STAMPEDE

★ Take available cover.

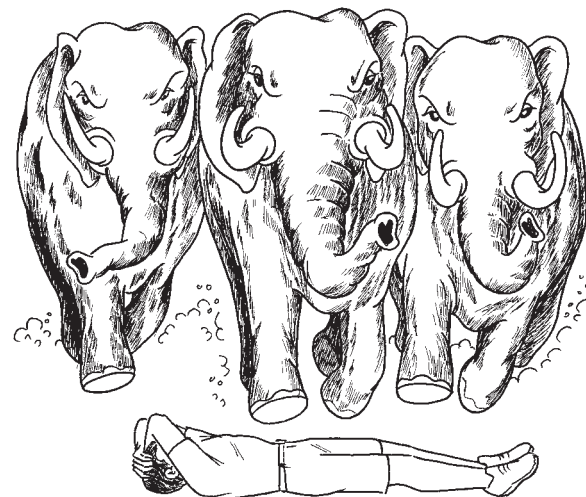
Elephants stampede when they are startled by a loud noise or to escape a perceived threat. If the elephants are running away from a threat but toward you, do not try to outrun them. Elephants can run at a speed in excess of 25 mph. Even while charging, they can make sharp turns and are able to climb steep slopes. Seek a sturdy structure close by and take cover.

★ Climb a tree.

The elephants are likely to avoid trees when running. Grab a branch at its base and use your legs to power yourself up the tree, keeping three of your limbs in contact with the tree at all times as you climb. If you cannot climb the tree, stand behind it. Elephants will avoid large obstacles when running.

★ Lie down.

Unless the elephant is intent on trampling you, because you are hunting or the elephant thinks you are hunting, elephants typically avoid stepping on a prone human being, even while charging.



If you cannot find cover, lie down. Elephants typically avoid stepping on a prone human being, even while charging.

★ Protect your face.

Do not get up immediately. After the threat has passed, an elephant may show great interest in the apparently dead bodies of humans and may attempt to “bury” you under tree branches, leaves, and dirt. If you sense an elephant moving above you, lie still and cover your face with your hands. The rough skin on the elephant’s trunk may cause severe abrasions if it rubs against you.

Be Aware

- An angry elephant will tuck its ears back and curl its trunk up, away from danger.
- If the elephants are angry at you, they may attempt to spear you with their tusks and then fling your body.
- If the last human the elephant met was a hunter/poacher, it will be more likely to treat you as a threat and attempt an attack.

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