



CadPat: a Mantracking analysis

A SHORT ESSAY BY KYT LYN WALKEN AND
CAMOPATTERN ADDICTED, 2023





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KYT LYN WALKEN

*"I love Kyt's passion for Mantracking.
This girl is on fire"*

Joel Lambert, 10 year Veteran of Navy SEAL Teams

Kyt Lyn Walken is an authentic enthusiast and trader of the Ancient Art of Human and Animal Tracking. This skill is still very effective nowadays from Search and Rescue, Tactical dimension, Forensic Science until Wildlife Conservation.

She has been entitled "Official Representative of Hull's Tracking School" in 2018.

Mike Hull is her Mentor.

In the same year she has become a Conservation Ranger after attending a two weeks course in Poland led by C.R.O.W. (Conservation Rangers Operations Worldwide).

Kyt Lyn has also studied "Forensic Photographs on Crime Scene", by UK Forensic Advisor and former Royal Marines Robert Kendall.

Currently she runs Man and Animal Tracking courses all over Europe, and she is regular writer for some US and UK webzines on Survival and Prepping.

She has been entitled "Directora de Dynamic Tracking - Spain". She is Guest Instructor for Veteranen Search Team (The Netherlands).

She is author of the Manuals "*The importance of being a Tracker*", "*The Urban Tracker*" and "*Tracking Compendium*" (with Andy Martin), "*Jungle Warriors - SAS in Malesia and Borneo*" and the essay "*Tracking, Anti-Tracking and Counter-Tracking during Colonialism*" (with Professor Timothy J. Stapleton).

www.thewayoftracking.com



CAMOPATTERN ADDICTED

Outdoor guy and camo enthusiast with more than 30 years of experience in patterns and gear.

IG: Camopattern addicted

INTRODUCTION

"[...] When choosing a personal camouflage system, the Tracker must be aware of the associations with the given pattern [...] On operations, I am likely to wear a mix of camouflage, including different patterns for the top and bottom.

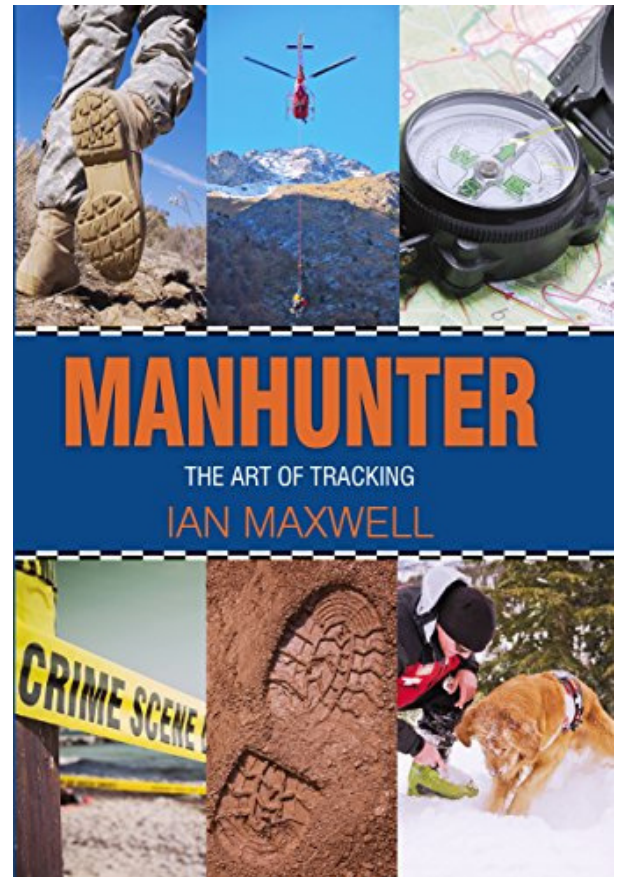
Because the legs move more than the upper body, I find a lighter pair of trousers works best, because it can pick up shadows, especially under trees.

To a certain extent they can match a tree trunk, while the top is slightly darker to match the foliage.

The Multicam pattern is very effective, but as a personal choice, I still favour the Canadian Disruptive Pattern (CADPAT) system.

I use CADPAT Arid trousers with either a Multicam or CADPAT Temperate pattern top [...]"

Ian Maxwell, "*Manhunter - The Art of Tracking*", 2016



CHRONICLE OF CADPAT

November 1988: Canada begins to develop a new soldier system, emulating other NATO countries.

1995: Integrated Protective Clothing and Equipment (IPCE) Technology Demonstration is initiated but the project is discarded some time later due to massive costs and "failure to meet the majority of the requirements".

Mid-1990s: Cloth the Soldier (CTS) Project is created. It matches the NATO soldier system requirements in terms of survivability and sustainability. At the same time the Canadian Disruptive Pattern happens to be an ongoing phase of this research.

1995: Tests on CADPAT temperate woodland begin.

1997: The CADPAT is adopted by the Canadian Army in 1997.

2001: The CADPAT is trademarked.

September 2001: Canadian Soldiers who serve in Bosnia and Herzegovina for Palladium Rotation use the CADPAT in the first operational use.

Later on, during the conflict in Afghanistan, the CADPAT arid regions variant is used by armed Canadian commandos to escort Taliban prisoners.

2019: additional tests are brought on in order to supply the temperate and arid regions patterns in service.

2021: the new multi-terrain CADPAT is designed to be replaced.

2027: the new camouflage pattern should be adopted.



"Generated by computer, CADPAT (TW) is a four-colour design consisting of olive green, light green, reddish brown and black rectangular 'pixellated' shapes; the darker green shade is the primary and the lighter green the secondary with the black, which creates the illusion of depth, and brown being lesser in area. From more than a few metres away, the square edges of the pattern are undetectable by the human eye and the general effect is not dissimilar to German Flecktarn, though the green shades are less pastel. The CADPAT (AR) desert or arid theatre variant is three-colour, with reddish sand and red ochre on a stone background." (Source: joint-forces.com)

ON CADPAT

[...] New rifles and other personal weapons are being acquired under a separate program, but the Army used the SOCEM trials to gather data on the detectability of various shades of paint colour on weapons by airborne and ground sensors. That attention to environmental changes wasn't always apparent to the November Company soldiers asked to lie in the bright green grass near a barracks or walk around a building while a drone captured imagery. But if the Army wants a single pattern, it needs as much data as possible about the strengths and weaknesses. The aim is to "print the best camouflage that technology allows us to do," said Dumas, who was involved in the original CADPAT testing over 20 years ago. "We think we are pretty close with the colours—they blend well in the environments—but there is still some room for improvement," said Knapp. The final recommendation to the Army will include survey data from 3 RCR, but the "general feedback has been relatively positive so far," said Lieutenant Stephane Prior, the November Company platoon commander for the trial. "When you compare this directly next to CADPAT, it is more of a subtle difference than I think we all expected. Once we get the rain jackets and all that in the proper pattern, it will be good." [...] (Source: Canadian Army Today, 31st October 2019)



""The addition of more brown in the pattern "reflects the desire to bring it more into the middle of the spectrum and not necessarily tied to a specific operating environment." (Lt. Col. Ray Corby to National Post, September, 5th, 2019)

"With the proliferation of unmanned aerial devices, I wanted that aspect looked at. With different types of ground underneath, what's the effect on the signature of the group while they are moving? And we can't ignore urban operations in the selection of camouflage. That is a very tricky environment in which to blend, so we need to thoroughly measure our existing CADPAT and the prototype." (Lt. Col. Ray Corby to Canadian Army Today, October, 31st, 2019)

VARIATIONS

Four operational variations of CADPAT have been developed so far:

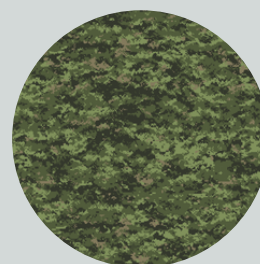
1. temperate woodland (TW)
2. winter operations (WO)
3. arid regions (AR)
4. multi-terrain (MT)

2002: The variation TW becomes the standard pattern for the Canadian Forces Land Force Command.

2021: A new CADPAT variant, multi-terrain pattern, is designed to substitute the TW and AR patterns.
Later on it becomes the "daily wear" uniform.

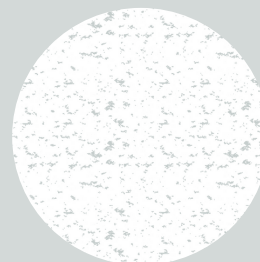
TEMPERATE WOODLAND

"[...] The temperate woodland pattern (TW) is designed for use in forest and grassland environments, with its mix of light green, dark green, brown, and black. The pattern was first introduced in 1996 on the helmet cover for the new CG634 helmet then coming into service. At the same time, the pattern was also introduced on a new soldier's individual camouflage net. The TW pattern provides protection from observation by the naked eye and night vision devices, with the pattern incorporating near-infrared technology at the ink level to help conceal the wearer against near-infrared optical devices. The pattern is optimized for a gate rate of 30 to 350 metres against a 3-power optical sight [...]" (www-consoltex.com, July, 28th, 2017)



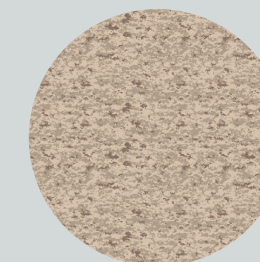
WINTER OPERATIONS

"[...] The winter operations (WO) pattern was created for snow-covered or mixed woodland and snowy terrain.[5] The snow camouflage pattern was introduced as an upgrade to the monochrome winter whites to further enhance the Canadian soldier's camouflage capability by day and night. It also includes Near Infra-Red technology [...]" (www-consoltex.com, July, 28th, 2017)



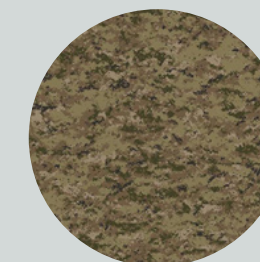
ARID REGIONS

"[...] The arid regions pattern (AR) is designed for use in desert, near desert, and savannah conditions, incorporating three shades of brown. The AR pattern also features two additional arm pockets and Velcro on the arms compared to the TW uniform. The AR pattern was developed concurrently with the trials of TW pattern. However, after Canadian Forces were deployed to Afghanistan, the AR pattern was expedited with the intent that it would be issued to soldiers in summer 2002. The AR pattern also incorporates Infra-Red technology for night operation [...]" (Fouchard Steven, March, 20th, 2020)



MULTI TERRAIN

"[...] Beginning in 2019, as part of the Soldier Operational Clothing and Equipment Modernization (SOCEM) programme, a 'transitional' pattern began to be tested by the Canadian Armed Forces. The pattern was accepted after some mild alterations to its coloration. The pattern is overall less vibrant than the TW pattern, but darker than the AR pattern, using varying shades of green, brown, tan, and black. In 2021, the new CADPAT pattern, called "multi-terrain pattern" was officially announced as the replacement the TW and AR patterns, although the process will occur over the following decade. The pattern is designed to blend into the widest possible range of environments, and is planned to serve as the day-to-day working uniform of the Canadian Armed Forces [...]" (Thorne, Stephan J., April, 26th, 2019)



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QUESTIONS

Kyt: *According to the great Tracker from UK Ian Maxwell, the CadPat is the most effective camouflage in the northern hemisphere. Do you agree?*

CPA: I do partially agree, there is no most effective or lack of all trades camouflage pattern in my opinion, as it always depends on the actual environment you're moving in.

Kyt: *In which geographical and morphological scenario did you employ it?*

CPA: Cadpat (TW) is a great choice for thick forest up to more open Green dominant areas. Especially in combination with direct sunlight and shadows Cadpat performs extremely well.

Kyt: *Which features of it do you appreciate the most?*

CPA: I love green camouflage patterns so obviously Cadpat (TW) is a pattern I adore. Despite its age it's still a reliable pattern that will work even 22 years after introduction. And of course being the prototype that starts a wave of digital camouflage patterns makes Cadpat a great collectors pattern.

Kyt: *Which other camo can be comparable to CadPat when it comes to effectiveness and functionality?*

CPA: The development of camouflage systems in the last 20 years brought us some great choices for woodland camouflage. There are a lot of patterns that are on par with Cadpat or even work better. Pencott Greenzone as example is a great choice for forest areas with an outstanding performance.

Personally im a big fan of Concamo patterns especially Concamo Green Gen2. These patterns are designed to trick the human subconscious and working truly on another level as "classic" patterns. At the end it's probably not only the effectiveness rather than personal preference which camo you use.



