

CARBONISATION STEP BY STEP

1 Lighting

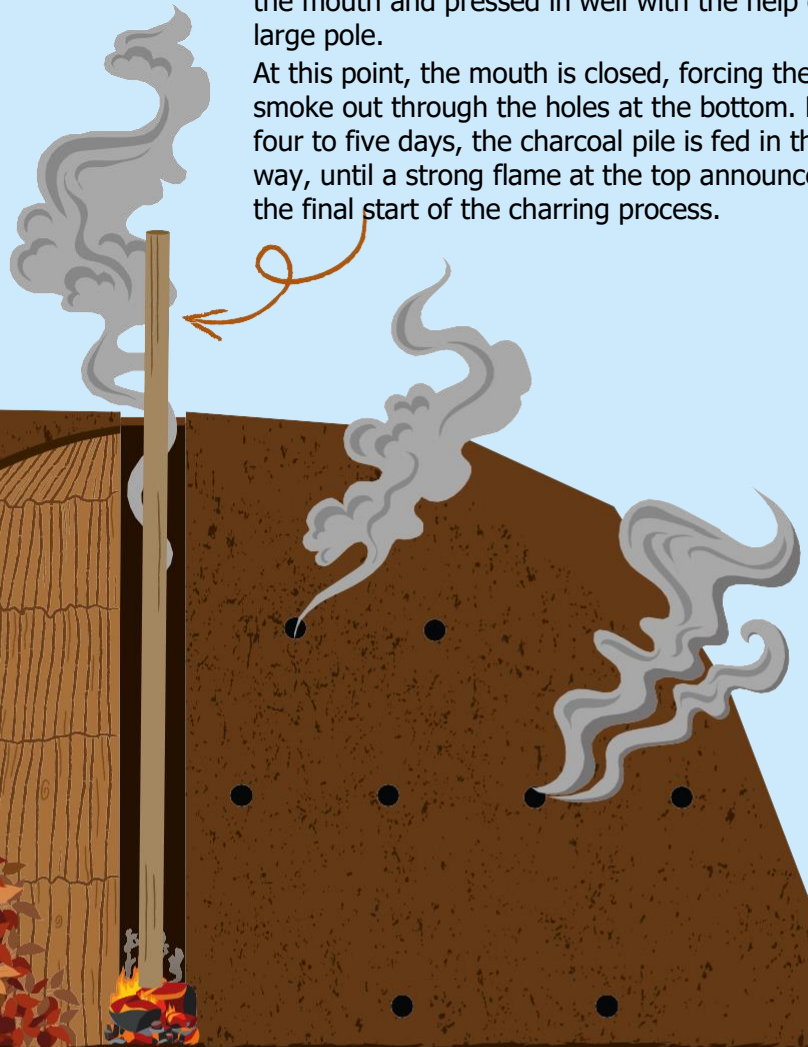
From the mouth, first small pieces of wood and then glowing embers are inserted into the charcoal pile. At the base of the charcoal pile, four breathing holes are created with a thin stick, which remain open throughout the entire charring period.



2 Feeding and start

A few hours after lighting, when the smoke comes out copiously, new wood is added from the mouth and pressed in well with the help of a large pole.

At this point, the mouth is closed, forcing the smoke out through the holes at the bottom. For four to five days, the charcoal pile is fed in this way, until a strong flame at the top announces the final start of the charring process.



3 Cooking

Firing begins at the highest part of the pyre, where charcoal burners drill holes to regulate the heat. These holes are then closed and reopened further down to move the cooking zone. To prevent the creation of air pockets that could suck oxygen into the interior and cause the charcoal pile to burn, it is beaten at regular intervals with a stick. At this stage, the fire must be stoked every 5-6 hours. After about ten days, the topsoil has turned black and the size of the pyre has shrunk considerably.

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4 End of cooking

The charcoal burner assesses the progress of combustion based on the colour of the smoke coming out of the side holes: only when the smoke turns turquoise and transparent is the charcoal ready.

5 Scarbonisation

When the firing is complete, scarbonisation begins, which takes 1-2 days. The coal is cooled with several shovelfuls of earth, then it begins to be extracted, extinguishing any burning embers with water.



6 Storage

When the coal is cold, it is bagged and transported to nearby warehouses, waiting to be used or sold.

