



ORIENTEERING

Merit Badge Requirements

- 1) Explain what orienteering is.
- 2)
 - A) Point out and name five major terrain features on a map and in the field.
 - B) Point out and name 10 symbols often found on a topographic map.
- 3)
 - A) Explain how a compass works. Describe the features of an orienteering compass and their uses
 - B) In the field, show how to take a compass bearing and how to follow one.
- 4)
 - A) Explain the meaning of declination. Tell why declination must be taken into consideration when using a map and compass together.
 - B) Provide a topographic map of your area with magnetic north-south lines.
 - C) Show how to transfer a direction on a map to your compass.
- 5)
 - A) Show how to measure distances, using a scale on an orienteering compass.
 - B) Set up a 300m pace course. Figure out your running pace for 100 meters
- 6)
 - A) Explain a descriptive clue. Tell how it is used in orienteering.
 - B) Explain how to use an attack point. Describe the offset technique. Tell what is meant by collecting features.
- 7) Do the following:
 - A) Take part in three orienteering events. One of these must be a cross-country course.
 - B) After each course, write a report with:
 - 1) A copy of the master map and descriptive clues.
 - 2) A copy of the route you took on the course.
 - 3) A discussion of how you could improve your time between points, and
 - 4) List of your major weaknesses on this courseDescribe what you could do to improve.
- 8) Do ONE of the following:
 - A) Set up a cross-country course of at least 2,000 meters long with five control markers. Prepare the master map. Mark the descriptive clues.
 - B) Set up a score-orienteering course with 12 points and a time limit of 60 minutes. Prepare the master map. Set the descriptive clues and point value for each control on this course.
- 9) Act as an official during an orienteering event. (This may be during the running of the course you set up for requirement 8.)
- 10) Teach orienteering techniques to your patrol, troop or post.

Requirement 1

Explain what orienteering is: _____

Requirement 2

Point out and name five major terrain features on a map and in the field. Try to point out different features for both. List the features you pointed out:

On a Map:

In the Field:

Point out and name ten symbols often found on a topographic map. List them below:

Requirement 3

How does a compass work? _____

Use the area below to list the features found on an orienteering compass. Give a brief description or explanation of its use:

Feature: _____ Use: _____

Feature: _____ Use: _____

Feature: _____ Use: _____

Feature: _____ Use: _____

Feature: _____ Use: _____

Feature: _____ Use: _____

Feature: _____ Use: _____

Feature: _____ Use: _____

Feature: _____ Use: _____

In the field you are to show how to take a compass bearing and how to follow one. Demonstrate this to your counselor. Give a brief explanation below of how to take a compass bearing: _____

Requirement 4

What is declination? _____

Why must declination be taken into considerations when using a map and compass together? _____

_____ Provide a topographic map of your area. Make sure the map has magnetic north-south lines. Show it to your counselor then attach it to this worksheet for future reference.

Describe how to transfer a direction on a map to your compass: _____

_____ Demonstrate to your counselor how to transfer a direction on a map to your compass.

Requirement 5

Describe how to measure distances, using a scale on an orienteering compass: _____

_____ Demonstrate to your counselor how to measure distances, using a scale on an orienteering compass.

Set up a 300m pace course. Use the area below to draw a map of your course, or attach a copy of your map to the worksheet:

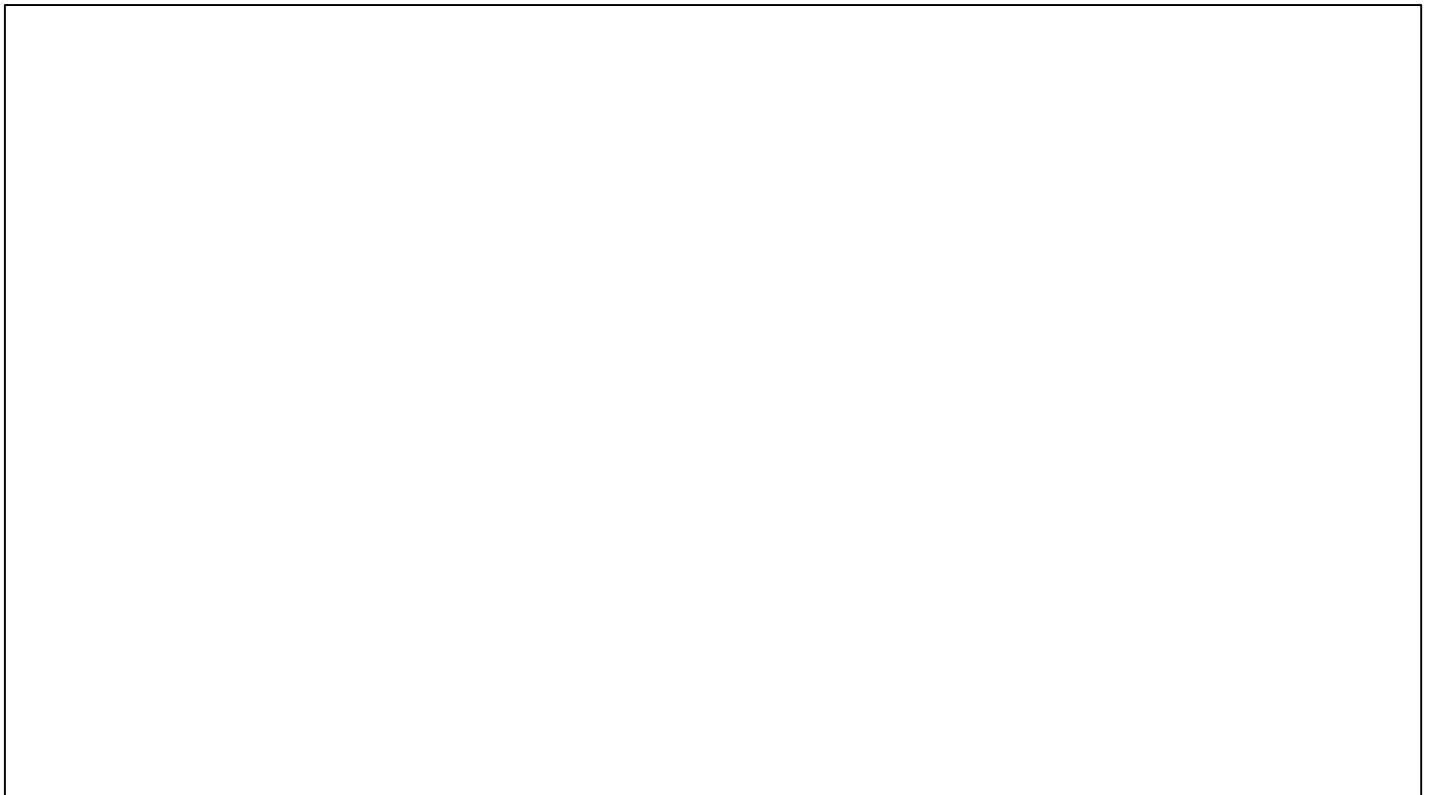


Figure out your running pace for 100 meters and enter it here: _____

Requirement 6

What is a descriptive clue? _____

How is a descriptive clue used in orienteering? _____

What is an attack point? _____

Explain how to use an attack point: _____

Describe the offset technique: _____

What is meant by collecting features? _____

Requirement 7

Take part in three orienteering events. One of these events must be a cross-country course.

After taking part in the three orienteering events, use the forms below to write a report of each experience.

COURSE 1

Attach a copy of the master map and descriptive clues for this course.

What were some of the descriptive clues used? _____

On the attached master map of the course, highlight the route you took on the course.

How do you think you could improve your time between points? _____

What were some of your major weaknesses on this course? _____

Describe what you could do to improve on this specific course: _____

Where was this course set up (Scout camp, Scout unit activity, etc.): _____

What was your time on this course? _____

What was the distance of the course? _____

COURSE 2

Attach a copy of the master map and descriptive clues for this course.

What were some of the descriptive clues used? _____

On the attached master map of the course, highlight the route you took on the course.

How do you think you could improve your time between points? _____

What were some of your major weaknesses on this course? _____

Describe what you could do to improve on this specific course: _____

Where was this course set up (Scout camp, Scout unit activity, etc.): _____

What was your time on this course? _____

What was the distance of the course? _____

COURSE 3

Attach a copy of the master map and descriptive clues for this course.

What were some of the descriptive clues used? _____

On the attached master map of the course, highlight the route you took on the course.

How do you think you could improve your time between points? _____

What were some of your major weaknesses on this course? _____

Describe what you could do to improve on this specific course: _____

Where was this course set up (Scout camp, Scout unit activity, etc.): _____

What was your time on this course? _____

What was the distance of the course? _____

Did you see an improvement in your skills and times after all three courses were finished? _____

Describe what you could do to improve your orienteering skills: _____

Requirement 8

Do Option A **OR** Option B.

**Extra Mile (not required for merit badge) If possible, plan ahead and get help setting up your course for use at the summer camp your Scout unit will attend.*

If you chose **Option A**:

Set up a cross-country course of at least 2,000 meters long with five control markers. Give a description of your course: _____

Describe the whereabouts of the control markers on your course: _____

Mark the descriptive clues. List the descriptive clues you used here: _____

Prepare the master map for your cross-country course. Attach your map to this worksheet. Make sure your map shows the five control markers and also the descriptive clues.

If you chose **Option B**:

Set up a score-orienteeing course with 12 points and a time limit of 60 minutes. Give a description of your course: _____

Describe the whereabouts of the 12 points on your course: _____

Mark the descriptive clues on your map. List the descriptive clues and their point values: _____

Prepare the master map for your cross-country course. Attach your map to this worksheet. Make sure your map shows twelve points and the descriptive clues.

