



WILDERNESS SURVIVAL

Merit Badge Requirements

- 1) Show that you know first aid for injuries or illnesses likely to occur in backcountry outings, including hypothermia, hypothermia, heatstroke, heat exhaustion, frostbite, dehydration, sunburn, stings, tick bites, snakebite, blisters, and hyperventilation.
- 2) From memory, describe the priorities for survival in a backcountry or wilderness location.
- 3) Describe ways to (a) avoid panic and (b) maintain a high level of morale when lost.
- 4) Tell what you would do to survive in the following environments:
 - A) Cold and Snowy
 - B) Wet (forest)
 - C) Hot and Dry (desert)
 - D) Windy (mountains or plains)
 - E) Water (ocean or lake)
- 5) Make up a small survival kit and be able to explain how each item in it is useful.
- 6) Show that you can start fires using three methods other than matches.
- 7) Do the following:
 - A) Tell five different ways of attracting attention when lost.
 - B) Show how to use a signal mirror to attract attention when lost.
 - C) From memory, describe five international ground-to-air signals and tell what they mean.
- 8) Show that you can find and improvise a natural shelter minimizing the damage to the environment.
- 9) Spend a night in your shelter.
- 10) Explain how to protect yourself against insects, reptiles, rodents, and bears.
- 11) Show three ways to purify water.
- 12) Show that you know the proper clothing to be worn in your area on an overnight in extremely hot weather and extremely cold weather.
- 13) Explain why it usually is not wise to eat edible wild plants or wildlife in a wilderness survival situation.

Requirement 1

Show that you know first aid for injuries or illnesses likely to occur in backcountry outings. Include the following:

Hypothermia: _____

Hyperthermia: _____

Heatstroke: _____

Heat Exhaustion: _____

Frostbite: _____

Dehydration: _____

Sunburn: _____

Insect Stings: _____

Tick Bites: _____

Snake Bites: _____

Blisters: _____

Hyperventilation: _____

Requirement 4

Tell what you would do to survive in the following environments:

Cold & Snowy: _____

Wet (Forest): _____

Hot & Dry (Desert): _____

Windy (Mountains or Plains): _____

Water (Ocean or Lake): _____

Requirement 5

Make up a small survival kit. Be able to explain how *each* item in it is useful. List some of the items below with a description of its usefulness.

Item: _____ Use: _____

Item: _____ Use: _____

Item: _____ Use: _____

Item: _____ Use: _____

Item: _____ Use: _____

Item: _____ Use: _____

Item: _____ Use: _____

Item: _____ Use: _____

Item: _____ Use: _____

Item: _____ Use: _____

Requirement 6

Describe the three methods you used, other than matches, to start fires with:

Method 1: _____

Method 2: _____

Method 3: _____

Requirement 7

Tell five different ways of attracting attention when lost:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

Show your merit badge counselor how to use a signal mirror to attract attention when lost: _____

From memory, you need to describe 5 international ground-to-air signals and tell what they mean. To help you learn, use this area to draw them and list the meaning.

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Requirement 8

Show that you can find and improvise a natural shelter minimizing the damage to the environment. If possible, do this while on a campout with your troop, or this can be done in a back yard.

Show this shelter to your leader or your merit badge counselor and explain how and why you built it the way you did. _____

Requirement 9

Spend a night in your shelter. Briefly explain the weather conditions and your experience in your shelter.

Requirement 10

How would you protect yourself from:

Insects: _____

Reptiles: _____

Rodents: _____

Bears: _____

Requirement 11

List 3 effective ways that you can purify water while in the outdoors:

1) _____

2) _____
