



FIRE SAFETY

MERIT BADGE FOR SCOUTS BSA

MERIT BADGE TRACKING



The tracking tool below is simply for your own tracking of completion of requirements.

Scouts are encouraged to find a local merit badge counselor to meet, discuss, and sign off on completion of the merit badge, however the HomeScouting Adventure Club will offer limited counseling sessions for Scouts needing a counselor.

Requirement	Completed?
1. Do the following: <input type="checkbox"/> a. Demonstrate the technique of stop, drop, cover, roll, cover your face, and cool. Explain how burn injuries can be prevented. <input type="checkbox"/> b. List the most frequent causes of burn injuries. <input type="checkbox"/> c. Explain how to safely discard and store flammable liquids.	
2. Explain the chemistry and physics of fire. Name the parts of the fire tetrahedron. Explain why vapors are important to the burning process. Name the products of combustion. Give an example of how fire grows and what happens.	
3. Name the most frequent causes of fire in the home, and give examples of ways they can be prevented. Include a discussion about fires caused by smoking in the home, cooking, candles, fireplaces, and electrical appliances.	
4. Explain the role of human behavior in the arson problem in this country.	
5. List the actions and common circumstances that cause seasonal and holiday-related fires. Explain how these fires can be prevented.	
6. Conduct a home safety survey with the help of an adult. Then do the following: <input type="checkbox"/> a. Draw a home fire-escape plan, create a home fire-drill schedule, and conduct a home fire drill. <input type="checkbox"/> b. Test a smoke alarm and demonstrate regular maintenance of a smoke alarm. <input type="checkbox"/> c. Explain what to do when you smell gas and when you smell smoke. <input type="checkbox"/> d. Explain how you would report a fire alarm. <input type="checkbox"/> e. Explain what fire safety equipment can be found in public buildings. <input type="checkbox"/> f. Explain who should use fire extinguishers and when these devices can be used. <input type="checkbox"/> g. Explain how to extinguish a grease pan fire. <input type="checkbox"/> h. Explain what fire safety precautions you should take when you are in a public building.	
7. Do the following: <input type="checkbox"/> a. Demonstrate lighting a match safely. <input type="checkbox"/> b. Demonstrate the safe way to start a charcoal fire. <input type="checkbox"/> c. Demonstrate how to safely light a candle. Discuss how to safely use candles.	
8. Explain the difference between combustible and noncombustible liquids and between combustible and noncombustible fabrics.	

FIRE SAFETY TRACKING

Requirement	Completed?
9. Do the following: <input type="checkbox"/> a. Describe the safe way to refuel a liquid fuel engine, such as a lawn mower, weed eater, an outboard motor, farm machine, or an automobile with gas from an approved gas can. <input type="checkbox"/> b. Demonstrate the safety factors, such as proper ventilation, for auxiliary heating devices and the proper way to fuel those devices.	
10. Do the following: <input type="checkbox"/> a. Explain the cost of outdoor and wildland fires and how to prevent them. <input type="checkbox"/> b. Demonstrate setting up and putting out a cooking fire. <input type="checkbox"/> c. Demonstrate using a camp stove and lantern. <input type="checkbox"/> d. Explain how to set up a campsite safe from fire.	
11. Visit a fire station. Identify the types of fire trucks. Find out about the fire prevention activities in your community.	
12. Determine if smoke detectors are required in all dwellings within your municipality. If so, explain which specific types are required. Tell your counselor what type of smoke detectors your house has or needs.	
13. Choose a fire safety-related career that interests you and describe the level of education required and responsibilities of a person in that position. Tell why this position interests you.	



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MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET



Through exploring The Trail inside the ClubHouse for the HomeScouting Adventure Club, complete this worksheet to demonstrate your knowledge of fire safety. This worksheet will not be turned in and for your own use to demonstrate knowledge.

Demonstrate the technique of stop, drop, cover, roll, cover your face, and cool. *You can demonstrate this to a parent, guardian, or other adult in your troop.*

Date Demonstrated: _____

Approved by: _____

(this is who you demonstrated it to)

Explain how burn injuries can be prevented.

List the most frequent causes of burn injuries.

Explain how to safely discard and store flammable liquids.

Explain the chemistry and physics of fire.

FIRE SAFETY MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET

Name the parts of the fire tetrahedron.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Explain why vapors are important to the burning process.

Name the products of combustion.

Give an example of how fire grows and what happens.

On the next page, name the most frequent causes of fire in the home and give examples of ways they can be prevented. Include details about fires caused by smoking in the home, cooking, candles, fireplaces, and electrical appliances.

FIRE SAFETY MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET

Cause of Fire	How to Prevent

Explain the role of human behavior in the arson problem in this country.

List the actions and common circumstances that cause seasonal and holiday related fires. How can these fires be prevented?

FIRE SAFETY MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET

Conduct a home safety survey (see last 2 pages of this worksheet) **with the help of an adult.**

Date Completed: _____

Approved by: _____

signed by adult who helped

Use the space below or another piece of paper to draw a home fire escape plan. Then conduct a schedule and home fire drill.

Date Completed: _____

Approved by: _____

signed by adult who did drill with you

FIRE SAFETY MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET

Test a smoke alarm and demonstrate regular maintenance of a smoke alarm.

Date Completed: _____

Approved by: _____

signed by adult who helped

Explain what to do when you smell gas and when you smell smoke.

Gas

Smoke

Explain how you would report a fire alarm.

Explain what fire safety equipment can be found in public buildings.

Explain who should use fire extinguishers and when these devices can be used.

FIRE SAFETY MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET

Explain how to extinguish a grease pan fire.

Explain what fire safety precautions you should take when you are in a public building.

Do the following:

- ☐ a. Demonstrate lighting a match safely.
- ☐ b. Demonstrate the safe way to start a charcoal fire.
- ☐ c. Demonstrate how to safely light a candle.

How should you safely use a candle?

Explain the difference between combustible and noncombustible liquids and between combustible and noncombustible fabrics.

Fabrics

Liquids

FIRE SAFETY MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET

Describe the safe way to refuel a liquid fuel engine, such as a lawn mower, weed eater, an outboard motor, farm machine, or an automobile with gas from an approved gas can.

Demonstrate the safety factors, such as proper ventilation, for auxiliary heating devices and the proper way to fuel those devices.

Date Completed: _____ Approved by: _____
signed by adult who helped

Explain the cost of outdoor and wildland fires and how to prevent them.

Demonstrate setting up and putting out a cooking fire.

Date Completed: _____ Approved by: _____
signed by adult who witnessed

Demonstrate using a camp stove and lantern.

Date Completed: _____ Approved by: _____
signed by adult who witnessed

Explain how to set up a campsite safe from fire.

FIRE SAFETY MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET

Visit a fire station. What types of trucks did they have? Find out about fire prevention activities in your community. What are they?

Date Visited: _____

Approved by: _____

signed by adult who attended with you

Determine if smoke detectors are required in all dwellings within your municipality. If so, explain which specific types are required. What type of smoke detectors does your house have or need?

Choose a career in fire safety. Find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession.

Education

Training

Experience

Why does this career interest you?

FIRE SAFETY MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

Check safety steps that are being taken in your home. Write N/A if the item is not applicable. Items left blank may present a safety hazard. This list provides some sample safety steps you might take. Ask your parent or guardian before making any changes.

Stairways, Halls, and Outdoor Steps

- Stairways with three or more steps have a strong handrail and slip resistant finish.
- Stairways & halls are kept free from boxes, toys, shoes, brooms, tools, and other tripping hazards.
- Gates at top and bottom of stairs prevent children from falling.
- The head & foot of stairs have no small or loose rugs.
- Stair carpeting or covering is fastened securely.
- Stairways & halls have good lighting, controllable at each end.

Kitchen

- Matches are kept where children cannot get them.
- Emergency numbers are posted next to the telephone, including 911 and poison control.
- Knives & sharp instruments are kept in knife drawers or holder.
- Can openers don't leave sharp edges on cans.
- Disinfectants & cleaning products are out of reach of children.
- Pan handles are turned away from stove edges.
- Spilled grease, water, or bits of food are wiped up immediately.
- Pot holders are located near the stove, within easy reach.
- A dry chemical fire extinguisher is mounted near the stove.

Attic and Basement

- Ladder is strong, solid, and sturdily constructed.
- Stairway is sturdy and well lighted.
- Children keep skates and play gear in a specific place.
- Walls and beams are free from protruding nails.
- Fuses or circuit breakers are the proper size.
- Rubbish & flammable materials are in covered metal cans.
- Wastepaper is kept away from furnace and stairs.

Living Room and Dining Room

- Furniture is placed to allow easy passage in an emergency.
- Before bedtime, furniture placement is checked for orderliness.
- Furniture and woodwork solid, in good repair, and free from splinters and rough spots.
- Fireplace screen fits snugly.
- Rugs are fastened or laid on non-slip pads.
- Rugs are kept from curling at their edges.
- Wax on floors is thoroughly buffed.
- Fire in fireplace is extinguished at bedtime.
- Candles are in stable holders and fully extinguished after use, before bedtime, or before leaving home.

Bathroom

- Tub and shower are equipped with strong handholds.
- Tub floor has non-slip surface.
- Poisons and dangerous chemicals are marked, sealed shut in original containers, and out of reach of children.
- Medicines are out of reach of children in childproof containers.
- No one takes medicine in the dark.

Bedroom

- Smoke alarm has fresh battery or secure electrical connection & is tested regularly.
- Carbon monoxide detector has fresh battery or secure electrical connection and is tested regularly.
- Furniture placement for clear passage between bed and door.
- Light switch or lamp is within easy reach from bed.
- A night-light illuminates bedroom or hall.
- Bureau and dresser drawers are closed when not in use.
- Bar across upper bunk beds helps prevent falls.
- Children are taught not to lean against windows or screens.
- Low sill windows have sturdy screens to prevent children from falling out.
- Smoking in bed is prohibited.
- Gas and electric heating devices are turned off at bedtime.

Nursery

- Bars on cribs are closely spaced – no more than 2 3/8" apart so baby's head cannot slip between them.
- Crib is approved by Consumer Products or similar.
- Crib is free from sharp edges or corners.
- Crib does not have a "drop" side.
- Sleeping garments and covers keep baby warm without danger of smothering.
- Pillows are kept out of bassinet or crib.
- No thin, plastic material is in or near the crib.
- No toys or objects in or near the crib or within reach of any child under 3 are less than 1 inch in diameter and 2 inches long.
- No toys or objects have small parts that can be removed.
- Children are taught not to give marbles, etc. to younger children.
- Toys are sturdy, do not come apart easily, & have no sharp edges or points.
- Nontoxic paint is used on baby furniture and toys.
- All houseplants are nonpoisonous.

FIRE SAFETY MERIT BADGE WORKSHEET

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST (continued)

Check safety steps that are being taken in your home. Write N/A if the item is not applicable. Items left blank may present a safety hazard. This list provides some sample safety steps you might take. Ask your parent or guardian before making any changes.

Stoves, Furnaces, and Heaters

- Stoves are away from curtains.
- Stoves & furnace pipes and flues are inspected & cleaned annually.
- Gas burners are properly adjusted and free from leaks.
- Gas water and space heaters are equipped with vents or flues.
- Water heater or boiler has a safety valve & is checked yearly.
- Water heater temperature is set below 120 degrees Fahrenheit to reduce the risk of serious burns.
- Flames of gas burners are protected from drafts.
- Insulating shield protects woodwork within 18" of furnace.
- Keep flammable materials away from stoves, furnaces.
- A wrench is stored near the shut-off valve of outside gas line.
- The flue is opened before using the fireplace.

Porch, Yard, and Garage

- Railings and banisters are sound and inspected periodically.
- Steps and walks are kept free from ice and snow.
- Yard/play space are free from holes, stones, glass, etc.
- Tools and dangerous articles are out of reach of children.
- Dangerous products & chemicals are kept in original containers in locked storage areas.
- Wires and low fences are brightly painted or clearly marked.
- Wells, cisterns, and pits are kept securely covered.
- Disposable materials are not burned outside.
- An area is marked off in the garage for bicycles, wagons, etc.
- Lawn mower is equipped with proper safeguards.

Workshop

- Good ventilation exists, especially when sanding or painting.
- Safety goggles or face mask, and hearing protection are worn when working with or around power tools, and an appropriate eyewash is available.
- Baking soda is kept handy to neutralize acid burns.
- All electrical tools are either grounded with three-wire plugs or are double-insulated.
- Work area is well lit & free of clutter, scraps, rags.
- All tools have a place & are in their place.
- Guards are in place on all power tools.
- A push stick is available for use with power saws.
- Tools are unplugged when not in use and before changing blades, servicing or repairing.

Electrical Devices and Fixtures

- Electrical fixtures and appliances are located & used beyond arm's length of the sink, stove, tub, shower, or other grounded metal unless outlet is protected by a ground-fault interrupter.
- Do not touch electrical fixtures or appliances with wet hands.

Electrical Devices and Fixtures (continued)

- Disconnect seldom-used appliances when not in use.
- Household appliances are disconnected before repairs.
- Light bulbs are installed in all lamp sockets.
- All pull-type sockets have an insulating link.
- Frayed or worn electric cords are promptly replaced.
- Long trailing cords are not in evidence.
- Cords are kept out from under rugs, doors, and furniture.
- UA-approved extension cords are the proper size.
- Children are taught never to touch electric sockets or fixtures.
- Fuses are adequate for the load and are not bypassed.
- Circuit breakers are labeled and not overloaded.

General

- Home has smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors, with at least one smoke detector in each bedroom, near the kitchen, and in the basement & garage.
- Everything has a place and is in its place.
- Stepladders are in good repair and stored out of the way.
- Window screens and storm windows are securely fastened.
- Guns are stored unloaded and in locked cases.
- Guns and ammunition are stored separately.
- Children are permitted to use only blunt-end scissors.
- Housework clothing has no drooping sleeves, sashes, or frills.
- Shoes worn for housework have low heels.
- All shoes are in good repair.
- Kerosene, gasoline, paint thinners, and other volatile materials are stored outside in special, clearly marked metal containers.
- Oil mops, dust rags, painting equipment, and other oily materials are stored outside in open metal containers.
- Everyone turns on a light before entering a dark room.
- Matches are extinguished before they're thrown away.
- Children are never permitted to play with matches.
- Fire extinguishers are readily available and in good working order.

For Emergency

- Know how to get emergency help (911, poison control, etc.).
- Be able to find water, gas, & electric shutoffs. Check annually.
- First aid kit approved by your doctor/American Red Cross.
- Know basic first aid procedures.
- Have a fire escape plan from your home.
- Emergency water supply.
- Handheld flashlights readily available.
- In earthquake-prone areas, make sure that the water heater and bookcases are bolted to the walls.