

# EQUIPMENT GUIDE - PACKING LIST

	ITEM	WEEKEND CAMPOUT		SUMMER CAMP	NOTES
		WARM WEATHER	COLD WEATHER		
CLOTHING	CLASS A SHIRT	1	1	1	
	CLASS B SHIRT	3	3	8	Class B t-shirts or scout appropriate t-shirts with sleeves.
	LONG SLEEVE SHIRT	1	1-2	1	
	HOODIE	1	1-2	1	Light coat or hoodie for the warm weather.
	SHORTS	2-3		6-8	
	PANTS	1	2-3	1	
	SOCKS	4	4	8-10	
	UNDERWEAR	2-3	2-3	6-8	
	BASE LAYER		1		
	SLEEPWEAR	1	1	1	Scouts should have a separate set of clothes that they only sleep in. Shorts/t-shirt for warm weather. Pants/LS tshirt for cold weather. A regular set of clothes can double as an extra outfit on the final day if needed.
	SWIMSUIT			1	
	TOWEL/WASH CLOTH	1	1	2	Summer Camp: one towel for bathing, one for swimming.
	COAT	1	1	1	Light coat or hoodie for the warm weather; heavy coat for cold weather.
	HAT	1		1	Baseball or floppy hat for summer.
	CAP		1-2		Wearing a stocking cap to sleep in cold weather helps maintain body heat.
	GLOVES		1-2		
	SHOES	2	2	2	Comfortable boots/shoes and athletic shoes depending on warm/cold. Always have a backup. Crocks or flip-flops/sandals for summer camp to wear in the shower.
GEAR	SLEEPING BAG	1	1	1	Rated between 15 and 30 degrees.
	SLEEPING PAD	1	1	1	
	BLANKET	1	1	1	Light sheet/blanket in summer months; heavier blanket in cold weather for extra warmth.
	PILLOW	1	1	1	Small travel pillows work well.
	DAY PACK	1	1	1	Small pack to carry scout essentials in when away from camp.
	WATER BOTTLE	1	1	1	Refillable plastic water bottle.
	MESS KIT	1	1		Plate, bowl, cup, knife, fork, spoon.
	FLASHLIGHT	1	1	1	Flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries.
	FIRST AID KIT	1	1	1	Personel first aid kit to be carried in day pack.
	POCKET KNIFE	1	1	1	Can only be carried after Scout earns Totin Chip. Totin Chip must be carried with knife to use.
	RAIN GEAR	1	1	1	Poncho or jacket/pants. Avoid the .99 ponchos.
	TOILETRY BAG	1	1	1	Soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, body powder.
	SUN SCREEN	1	1	1	Small bottle in ziplock bag.
	BUG REPELANT	1		1	Small bottle in ziplock bag.
OPTIONAL ITEMS: Chair, hiking sticks/treking poles, small rug for tent (summer camp), hammock, fishing gear, paper/envelopes/stamps, sunglasses, watch, bible.					
SCOUT ESSENTIAL					

In addition to their clothing, Scouts will need to provide their own personal gear for camping. I have tried to briefly describe each item and what you should keep in mind when making your purchase. Overall, you don't need to max out the credit card at REI for weekend camping. There are many budget friendly ways to experience the outdoors. Watch the sales! REI, for example, has great sales during the year.

For weekend camping, Scouts will tent with one or two other scouts in their patrol. The troop provides tents and all patrol cooking equipment. Ideally, they will only be in their tents to sleep, and space there is limited. At summer camp, the scouts are in larger wall tents with wood platform floors that are supplied with cots. Again, two scouts per tent.

It is important that **ALL GEAR AND CLOTHING IS MARKED WITH THE SCOUTS NAME AND TROOP NUMBER ON IT.** Items such as mess kits and water bottles don't hold markers for long periods of time. Finger nail polish and/or etching names in some cases work better. Your scout will come home with missing gear and with gear that doesn't belong to them. It helps us find the owner when the gear is marked. All of it!

There are several places to get camping gear. A general list of providers includes:

WAL MART

DICKS SPORTING GOODS/PUBLIC LANDS

CABELLAS/BASS PRO SHOPS

REI

TOOTH OF TIME TRADERS

NORTHERN TIER TRADING POST

SERRA TRADING

AMAZON

**SLEEPING BAG:** Next to good boots/shoes, the sleeping bag might be the most important camping gear investment. There is much to consider when choosing a sleeping bag, but I will try to keep it simple. Look for a bag that is rated between 15 and 30 degrees. Synthetic insulation bags are affordable, continue to insulate when wet and dry fast. Down insulation offers lightweight and compression ease for small packing. However, down insulation loses insulation capabilities when wet, takes longer to dry, is more expensive and might upset certain allergies. If you think your scout might choose to complete a high adventure someday, look for a backpacking bag that is semi rectangular or mummy in shape. Don't forget a stuff sack for your bag. A compression stuff sack is ideal as it allows you to really compress your bag down when packing and protect it from wet weather.

**SLEEPING PAD:** The sleeping pad is there for much more than just comfort. It also serves as a barrier between your body and the cold/wet ground, and this will help increase the temperature rating of your bag. For scouts, the lightweight closed cell foam sleeping pads work great. They come rolled up or folded like an accordion. They are inexpensive and can be obtained at any place that sells outdoor goods. They can be easily strapped to a backpack if you are looking to do high-adventure someday. I would avoid air pads for young scouts, either backpacking styles or glamping mattresses. The backpacking pads can easily develop leaks with young people's gentleness... it's a costly replacement. The large "glamping" mattresses take up a lot of space in a limited tent and draw heat from your body, making you cold. Plus, 99.9% of the campsites we are in have no power, and no one likes to hear a battery powered air pump kick in at 3:00am. Cots are prohibited in troop tents.

**BLANKET/PILLOW:** Try to find a small, lightweight travel pillow that becomes your camping pillow. There are also many inflatable backpacking pillows on the market but are not really required for weekend camping. A lightweight fleece blanket augments your sleeping bag's rating in the cold months. There are also several sleeping bag liners available from various gear companies. Surplus Army poncho liners, AKA: "Woobies" also work great and compress down for packing. For warm weather camping, a simple bed sheet can be packed in case it is too warm to climb inside your bag.

**DAY PACK:** Scouts should always have a daypack or backpack of some sort for campouts. This is the perfect thing for their scout essentials and can be used to transport gear during the day. It can be something as simple as a school backpack or you can purchase a bag this is marketed as a daypack. Avoid the drawstring bags you get free stuff in. They are not very durable, and the strings will dig in the scout's shoulders on long hikes or when they need to be worn for extended periods.

**WATER BOTTLE:** Each scout needs a refillable water bottle. The basic 32oz/1l Nalgene water bottles are recommended. Avoid big heavy metal bottles. Nalgene style bottles are lightweight and will withstand being dropped one million times by your scout.

**MESS KIT:** Plate, bowl, cup, fork, spoon. Nothing fancy. A spork also works well over a separate fork and spoon. I've seen many scouts just go with a Tupperware bowl with lid and a spork. The lid can turn into a plate if needed. The plastic cups with handles that you get at summer camps are ideal for mess kits. The collapsable cups and bowls on the market are not very durable for young people on weekend campouts.

**FLASHLIGHT:** Any battery powered headlamp on the market gets the jump done. Avoid rechargeable lamps, as power sources for charging are rare. A small lantern or other light that clips into a tent loop can be used inside the tent but is not required.

**RAIN GEAR:** First, the \$3 poncho at Wal Mart is to be avoided. They are just not durable and will fall apart within minutes of your scout putting them on. Frogg Toggs are probably the most affordable on the market and will hold up well when worn.

**STUFF SACKS/DITTY BAGS:** Keeping your gear organized is essential to a successful campout. You can use various sized stuff sacks/ditty bags to aid in this. Various gear suppliers make these, and they range in sizes, colors and style. The small draw-string styles are great for gear such as flashlights, batteries, toiletries, etc. The large 10-14L size bags that roll down and clip are perfect for clothing. The most cost-effective method is various size Ziploc bags. When you pack them up, get all the air out so they pack down and save space.

**TOILETRIES:** Put together a small toiletry kit for camping that includes a small bottle of body wash/soap, travel size deodorant, toothbrush and travel size toothpaste. A small washcloth or hand towel will suffice for a weekend campout. Small backpacking or camping towels can also be purchased but are not required until you look at high adventure opportunities. We generally don't have shower facilities on the weekends to need a full towel. Use a Ziploc bag or small stuff sack to hold your things.

**BACKPACKS/FOOT LOCKERS:** What do you transport your gear in? For most weekend campouts, Scouts will use a large duffle bag or a plastic tote/footlocker. The tote is great for summer camp. The Sterilite plastic footlocker you can get at Wal Mart is the ideal size and is affordable. Do not get anything much larger than that. If you want to purchase a backpack for camping or future high adventure, it needs to be on the larger size, at least a 75L internal frame is the recommended size for Philmont treks. If you commit to making a backpack purchase, I strongly recommend going to a store like REI and having your scout measured and fitted for the pack.