



Emergency Preparedness

Merit Badge Workbook



This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.
This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.
You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed, and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.

If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show", "tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Scouts BSA Requirements (Pub.# 33216) and/or on Scouting.org.

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2023 • This workbook was updated in November 2023.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit _____ Date Started _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Phone No.: _____ Email: _____

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org
Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org

- 1. Earn the First Aid merit badge.
- 2. Do the following:
 - a. Discuss with your counselor the aspects of emergency preparedness:

1. Prevention

2. Protection

3. Mitigation

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4. Response

5. Recovery

Include in your discussion the kinds of questions that are important to ask yourself as you consider each of these.

- b. Using a chart, graph, spreadsheet, or another method approved by your counselor, demonstrate your understanding of each aspect of emergency preparedness listed in requirement 2a (prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery) for 10 emergency situations from the list below. You must use the first five situations listed below in boldface, plus any other five of your choice. Discuss your findings with your counselor.

	Situation	Prevention	Protection	Mitigation	Response	Recovery
c	1. Home kitchen fire					
c	2. Home basement / storage room / garage fire					
c	3. Explosion in the home					
c	4. Automobile accident					
c	5. Food-borne disease (food poisoning)					
c	6. Fire or explosion in a public place					
c	7. Vehicle stalled in the desert					
c	8. Vehicle trapped in a blizzard					

3. Show how you could save a person from the following dangerous situations without putting yourself in danger:

a. Touching a live household electric wire

b. A structure filled with carbon monoxide

c. Clothes on fire

d. Drowning using nonswimming rescues (including accidents on ice)

4. Show three ways of attracting and communicating with rescue planes/aircraft.

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5. With another person, show a good way to move an injured person out of a remote and/or rugged area, conserving the energy of rescuers while ensuring the well-being and protection of the injured person.

6. Do the following:

- c a. Describe the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS).

- b. Identify the local government or community agencies that normally handle and prepare for emergency services similar to those of the NIMS or ICS. Explain to your counselor ONE of the following:

- 1. How the NIMS/ICS can assist a Boy Scout troop when responding in a disaster

- 2. How a group of Scouts could volunteer to help in the event of these types of emergencies'

- c. Find out who is your community's emergency management director and learn what this person does **to prevent, protect, mitigate, respond to, and recover from** emergency situations in your community.

c 8. Do the following:

c a. Tell the things a group of Scouts should be prepared to do, the training they need, and the safety precautions they should take for the following emergency services:

1. Crowd and traffic control

Be prepared to do:

Training they need:

Safety Precautions:

2. Messenger service and communication

Be prepared to do:

Training they need:

Safety Precautions:

3. Collection and distribution services

Be prepared to do:

Training they need:

Safety Precautions:

4. Group feeding, shelter, and sanitation

Be prepared to do:

Training they need:

Safety Precautions:

Check safety steps that are being taking 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. See the Merit Badge pamphlet and your counselor for more information. Ask your parent or guardian before making any changes.

<u>Stairways, Halls, and Outdoor Steps</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>Living Room and Dining Room</u>	<u>N/A</u>
c Stairways with three or more steps have a strong handrail and slip resistant finish.	C	c Furniture is placed to allow easy passage in an emergency.	C
c Stairways & halls are kept free from boxes, toys, shoes, brooms, tools, and other tripping hazards.	C	c Before bedtime, furniture placement is checked for orderliness.	C
c Gates at top and bottom of stairs prevent children from falling.	C	c Furniture and woodwork solid, in good repair, and free from splinters and rough spots.	C
c The head and foot of stairs have no small or loose rugs.	C	c Fireplace screen fits snugly.	C
c Stair carpeting or covering is fastened securely.	C	c Rugs are fastened or laid on non-slip pads.	C
c Stairways & halls have good lighting, controllable at each end.	C	c Rugs are kept from curling at their edges.	C
		c Wax on floors is thoroughly buffed.	C
		c Fire in fireplace is extinguished at bedtime.	C
		c Candles are in stable holders and fully extinguished after use, before bedtime, or before leaving home	C
<u>Kitchen</u>		<u>Bathroom</u>	
c Matches are kept where children cannot get them.	C	c Tub and shower are equipped with strong handholds.	C
c Emergency numbers are posted next to the telephone, including 911 and poison control.	C	c Tub floor has non-slip surface.	C
c Knives & sharp instruments are kept in knife drawers or holder.	C	c Poisons and dangerous chemicals are marked, sealed shut in original containers, and out of reach of children.	C
c Can openers don't leave sharp edges on cans.	C	c Medicines are out of reach of children in childproof containers.	C
c Disinfectants & cleaning products are out of reach of children.	C	c No one takes medicine in the dark.	C
c Pan handles are turned away from stove edges.	C	<u>Bedroom</u>	
c Spilled grease, water, or bits of food are wiped up immediately.	C	c Smoke alarm has fresh battery or secure electrical connection & is tested regularly.	C
c Pot holders are located near the stove, within easy reach.	C	c Carbon monoxide detector has fresh battery or secure electrical connection and is tested regularly.	C
c A dry chemical fire extinguisher is mounted near the stove.	C	c Furniture placement for clear passage between bed and door.	C
<u>Attic and Basement</u>		c Light switch or lamp is within easy reach from bed.	C
c Ladder is strong, solid, and sturdily constructed.	C	c A night-light illuminates bedroom or hall.	C
c Stairway is sturdy and well lighted.	C	c Bureau and dresser drawers are closed when not in use.	C
c Children keep skates and play gear in a specific place.	C	c Bar across upper bunk beds helps prevent falls.	C
c Walls and beams are free from protruding nails.	C	c Children are taught not to lean against windows or screens.	C
c Fuses or circuit breakers are the proper size.	C	c Low sill windows have sturdy screens to prevent children from falling out.	C
c Rubbish & flammable materials are in covered metal cans.	C	c Smoking in bed is prohibited.	C
c Wastepaper is kept away from furnace and stairs.	C	c Gas and electric heating devices are turned off at bedtime.	C

<u>Nursery</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>Porch, Yard, and Garage</u>	<u>N/A</u>
c Bars on cribs are closely spaced – no more than 2 3/8" apart so baby's head cannot slip between them.	C	c Railings and banisters are sound and inspected periodically.	C
c Crib is approved by Consumer Products or similar.	C	c Steps and walks are kept free from ice and snow.	C
c Crib is free from sharp edges or corners.	C	c Yard/play space are free from holes, stones, glass, etc.	C
c Crib does not have a "drop" side.	C	c Tools and dangerous articles are out of reach of children.	C
c Sleeping garments and covers keep baby warm without danger of smothering.	C	c Dangerous products & chemicals are kept in original containers in locked storage areas.	C
c Pillows are kept out of bassinet or crib.	C	c Wires and low fences are brightly painted or clearly marked.	C
c No thin, plastic material is in or near the crib.	C	c Wells, cisterns, and pits are kept securely covered.	C
c 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.	C	c Disposable materials are not burned outside.	C
c No toys or objects have small parts that can be removed.	C	c An area is marked off in the garage for bicycles, wagons, etc.	C
c Children are taught not to give marbles, etc. to younger children.	C	c Lawn mower is equipped with proper safeguards.	C
c Toys are sturdy, do not come apart easily, & have no sharp edges or points.	C		
c Nontoxic paint is used on baby furniture and toys.	C	<u>Workshop</u>	
c All houseplants are nonpoisonous.	C	c Good ventilation exists, especially when sanding or painting.	C
		c Safety goggles or face mask, and hearing protection are worn when working with or around power tools, and an appropriate eyewash is available.	C
<u>Stoves, Furnaces, and Heaters</u>		c Baking soda is kept handy to neutralize acid burns.	C
c Stoves are away from curtains.	C	c All electrical tools are either grounded with three-wire plugs or are double-insulated.	C
c Stoves & furnace pipes and flues are inspected & cleaned annually.	C	c Work area is well lit & free of clutter, scraps, rags.	C
c Gas burners are properly adjusted and free from leaks.	C	c All tools have a place & are in their place.	C
c Gas water and space heaters are equipped with vents or flues.	C	c Guards are in place on all power tools.	C
c Water heater or boiler has a safety valve & is checked yearly.	C	c A push stick is available for use with power saws.	C
c Water heater temperature is set below 120 degrees Fahrenheit to reduce the risk of serious burns.	C	c Tools are unplugged when not in use and before changing blades, servicing or repairing.	C
c Flames of gas burners are protected from drafts.	C		
c Insulating shield protects woodwork within 18" of furnace, etc.	C		
c Keep flammable materials away from stoves, furnaces, etc.	C		
c A wrench is stored near the shut-off valve of outside gas line.	C		
c The flue is opened before using the fireplace.	C		

<u>Electrical Devices and Fixtures</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>N/A</u>
c 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.	C	c Home has smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors, with at least one smoke detector in each bedroom, near the kitchen, and in the basement & garage.	C
c Do not touch electrical fixtures or appliances with wet hands.	C	c Everything has a place and is in its place.	C
c Disconnect seldom-used appliances when not in use.	C	c Stepladders are in good repair and stored out of the way.	C
c Household appliances are disconnected before repairs.	C	c Window screens and storm windows are securely fastened.	C
c Light bulbs are installed in all lamp sockets.	C	c Guns are stored unloaded and in locked cases.	C
c All pull-type sockets have an insulating link.	C	c Guns and ammunition are stored separately.	C
c Frayed or worn electric cords are promptly replaced.	C	c Children are permitted to use only blunt-end scissors.	C
c Long trailing cords are not in evidence.	C	c Housework clothing has no drooping sleeves, sashes, or frills.	C
c Cords are kept out from under rugs, doors, and furniture.	C	c Shoes worn for housework have low heels.	C
c UA-approved extension cords are the proper size.	C	c All shoes are in good repair.	C
c Children are taught never to touch electric sockets or fixtures.	C	c Kerosene, gasoline, paint thinners, and other volatile materials are stored outside in special, clearly marked metal containers.	C
c Fuses are adequate for the load and are not bypassed.	C	c Oil mops, dust rags, painting equipment, and other oily materials are stored outside in open metal containers.	C
c Circuit breakers are labeled and not overloaded.	C	c Everyone turns on a light before entering a dark room.	C
<u>For Emergency</u>		c Matches are extinguished before they're thrown away.	C
c Know how to get emergency help (911, poison control, etc.).	C	c Children are never permitted to play with matches.	C
c Be able to find water, gas, & electric shutoffs. Check annually.	C	c Fire extinguishers are readily available and in good working order.	C
c First aid kit approved by your doctor/American Red Cross.	C		
c Know basic first aid procedures.	C		
c Have a fire escape plan from your home.	C		
c Emergency water supply.	C		
c Handheld flashlights readily available.	C		
c In earthquake-prone areas, make sure that the water heater and bookcases are bolted to the walls.	C		