

Trail to First Class Instructor Guide

Basic Knife, Ax and Saw Care

Requirements

Second Class: 3c. Demonstrate proper care, sharpening, and use of the knife, saw, and ax and describe when they should be used (pages 402-409).

EDGE Method of Teaching

Explain how it is done

Demonstrate the steps

Guide the learners as they practice

Enable learners to succeed on their own



Totin' Chip

To earn this certification, the Scout must show his Scout leader or designated adult that he understands his responsibility to do the following:

1. Read and understand woods tools use and safety rules from the Boy Scout Handbook.
2. Demonstrate proper handling, care and use of pocket knife, ax, and saw.
3. Use the knife, ax and saw as tools, not as playthings.
4. Respect all safety rules to protect others.
5. Respect property. Cut living and dead trees only with permission and good reason.
6. Subscribe to the outdoor code.

The Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to –

- Be clean in my outdoor manners.
 - ✓ I will treat the outdoors as a heritage.
 - ✓ I will take care of it for myself and others.
 - ✓ I will keep my trash and garbage out of lakes, streams, fields, woods, and roadways.
- Be careful with fire.
 - ✓ I will prevent wildfires.
 - ✓ I will build my fires only where they are appropriate.
 - ✓ When I have finished using a fire, I will make sure it is cold out.
 - ✓ I will leave a clean fire ring, or remove all evidence of my fire.
- Be considerate in the outdoors.
 - ✓ I will treat public and private property with respect.
 - ✓ I will use low-impact methods of hiking and camping.
- Be conservation minded.
 - ✓ I will learn how to practice good conservation of soil, waters, forests, minerals, grasslands, wildlife, and energy.
 - ✓ I will urge others to do the same.

Acceptable Troop 728 Knives

Folding, non-serrated, single locking blade, no longer than 4 inch blade, with belt sheath or clip may be carried or packed by a scout. Knives not meeting this criteria can only be kept in a Partol box for cooking preparation.

***NO EXCEPTIONS**



DEMONSTRATE HOW TO CARE FOR KNIFE, AX, SAW (Instructor Outline)

Requirements

Second Class: 3c. Demonstrate proper care, sharpening, and use of the knife, saw, and ax and describe when they should be used (pages 402-409).

Learning Objective: At the end of this period of instruction, the scout will earn their Totin' Chip and be able to demonstrate how to properly use a Saw, Ax and Knife.

Enabling Learning Objectives:

1. Explain what will be taught, and the purpose of the Totin' Chip card.
 - Using a knife, ax or saw is a privilege as a scout.
 - The Totin' chip card grants the scout the ability to use a knife, ax and saw.
 - If a scout is caught not properly using the tools, a corner will be taken from the card.
 - Once four corners are removed, the card is no longer valid and the scout loses the privilege until he can demonstrate the ability to obey the rules and re-earn the card. The card can be fully removed if the scout's behavior warrants all four corners at one time.
2. Explain the safe use of each tool.
3. Explain how to safely carry and pass each tool.
4. Using the EDGE method teach how to sharpen a knife.
5. Using the EDGE method teach how to sharpen an ax.
6. Explain the requirements and rules of the Ax yard.
7. Using the EDGE method teach how to safely use an ax and Saw.

Equipment Needed to Teach:

Folding knife
Fixed blade knife from a patrol box
Ax and sheath
Saw and cover
Sharpening stone and file
Caution tape or rope
Gloves
Eye protection

Explain how it is done
Demonstrate the steps
Guide the learners as they practice
Enable learners to succeed on their own



DEMONSTRATE HOW TO CARE FOR KNIFE, AX, SAW Totin' Chip Requirements (Instructor Outline)

The following are the details for the Totin' chip requirements.

Requirement 1: "Read and understand woods tools use and safety rules from the Boy Scout Handbook."

Safe Knife Use Rules

- Do keep the blades closed except when you are using them.
- Do cut away from yourself.
- Do close the blades before you pass a knife to some one else.
- Do keep your knife sharp and clean. A sharp blade is easier to control than a dull one.
- Do obey any school [or other government] regulations that prohibit carrying knives... .
- Don't carry a [folding] knife with the blade open.
- Don't throw a knife.
- Don't cut towards yourself. If the blade slips, you could be injured.
- Don't strike a knife with another tool or pry with [it]... . The knife could bend or break.

Safe Saw Use

- Do sheathe a saw whenever it is not in use.
- Do carry a saw with the blade turned away from your body.
- Do replace blades when they become dull. Sharp saws are easier to use and to control.
- Do use care when passing a saw to another person.
- Do wear gloves and protective eyewear.
- Don't cut any trees, alive or dead without permission.
- Don't allow the saw's blade to cut into the ground. Soil and rocks will quickly dull the teeth
- Don't leave a saw lying around... .

Safe Axe Use [Extrapolated from Handbook material and omissions covered]

- Sheath the axe until ready to use properly.
- Use a safe axe. (head tight; handle sound; blade sharp)
- Wear safe shoes, preferably sturdy leather boots with a tread that will allow you to keep your footing.
- Is the area safe? [clear around and above you to whatever distance chips will fly and you can reach with the axe - at least ten feet]
- Use safe technique [limbing; bucking; splitting; contact method]
- Carry the axe safely. [head of axe near hand and sharp edge away from you]
- Pass the axe safely. [hold at mid handle with sharp edge away from both of you. "Thank you." "You're welcome."]
- Store the axe safely. [sheathed; dry; out of the way]

Follow woods tools use and safety rules from the Boy Scout Handbook and as established by the Troop.

- Do establish an "axe yard" when making camp.

Understand how to safely carry and pass a fixed-blade knife.

- Do pass in the sheath if there is a sheath.
- Do hold with handle towards other person.
- If there is no sheath, don't pass with point or edge inside your hand.
- Always remember "Thank you; you're welcome."



Understand how to safely carry and use a saw

- Do be aware of other around you when carrying a saw. It is not enough to think only of yourself. Be sure others are aware that you have a sharp tool and take measures to protect them from being injured.

Understand how to safely carry and use an axe

- Do be aware of other around you when carrying an axe. It is not enough to think only of yourself. Be sure others are aware that you have a sharp tool and take measures to protect them from being injured.
- Do be sure there is no trip or slip hazard when using an axe.
- Do keep an axe "buried" in a chopping block in the axe yard between uses and before putting it away after the job is done.
- Do use a safety guard on a file when sharpening an axe.
- Don't use a double-bit axe.
- Don't cut any trees, alive or dead without permission.
- Never chop into the ground. Rocks can easily break the axe blade. Use a chopping block so that when you cut through, the blade will hit the wood of the block rather than the ground.

Requirement 2: "Demonstrate proper handling, care and use of the pocket knife, axe and saw."

These requirements mean that you must show that you can do the things required by the Requirements of Requirement 1 before you earn your Totin' Chip.

Requirement 3: "Use the knife, ax, and saw as tools, not playthings. Use them only when you are willing to give them your full attention."

Requirement 4: "Respect all safety rules to protect others."

Requirement 5: "Respect property. Cut living and dead trees only with permission and with good reason."

Requirement 6: "Subscribe to the Outdoor Code." [Handbook pp. 218-219: Clean; Careful; Considerate; Conservation-Minded]

These requirements mean that you are always proving that you should have a Totin' Chip by being serious when using tools that can cause serious injury or death when used improperly. If leadership determines that you broke a safety rule, you will lose corner of your Totin' Chip. Lose four corners or do something really unsafe, and you must be retested before being allowed to use sharp tools. The only way to be safe is for the rules to become automatic. Thank you.

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