



New Scout Camping Guide



Troop 895 – Richardson, Texas

Updated January 2013

Troop 895 new scout and parents camping guide

The Troop 895 program is built around a monthly camping program. This guide is for new scouts and parents to give you important information to have a great camping experience.

How often do we camp and where are the campouts?

The Troop camps every month except July. Each campout has a particular theme that the weekend and events are focused on. Examples are canoeing, rock climbing, backpacking, horseback riding, water sports, and backwoods skills. The troop normally leaves on Friday night around 6:30 p.m. and returns around noon on Sunday. Long term camping includes a 5 day winter camp and a 7 day summer camp. Camping locations are generally within 1 to 2 hours of Richardson. The scout calendar is very busy. We do not expect a scout to go on every campout. Each year a calendar is published in August of the full year of camping events for the troop from August to June.

What to expect on a campout?

Most campouts have a theme. So part of Saturday usually has events around that theme. However, most of the weekend has plenty of free time to enjoy the great outdoors. Adults do not hover over every boy and what he is participating in. This is the first time for many boys to enjoy deciding what they will participate in during weekends. So, they have the option of what activities to participate in on a campout. There are some organized events on a campout. However, we make sure much time is available and a variety of events to let boys enjoy themselves with what they like to do. For first year scouts, there is always time spent on the campout with Trail to First class activities focused on signing of their requirements to advancement.

Patrol method for campouts

Scouting is based on the patrol method which provides 6-9 scouts the opportunity to work together as a team. Each patrol camps and cooks together on a campout. This gives boys the opportunity to learn new skills such as pitching a tent and cooking in a safe environment where it is okay to learn by making mistakes. The patrols are required to have a duty roster to help share the workload. The adult scouters on the campout also operate as a patrol and camp and cook separately from the scouts. Adults are not allowed to tent with scouts per scout policy.

Boy leadership

Troop 895 is a boy lead troop. This means the decisions and leadership are with the boys. Each patrol has a patrol leader and assistant patrol leader. The troop has a senior patrol leader and assistant senior patrol leaders. The adults are there to provide guidance and ensure safety. Decisions about where to go for campouts are decided by the boy leadership of the troop.

What about safety on scout campouts?

Troop 895 adheres to the "Guide to Safe Scouting" policy book published by the Boy Scouts of America which documents acceptable practices. We have a strong safety record of avoiding serious injuries. Camping is in the great outdoors so sometimes injuries happen. We are prepared by having a designated "Medicine Man/Woman" on each campout with a well equipped first aid kit. Furthermore, we travel with a copy of the medical information on each scout and scouter. All scouts learn basic first aid as part of training and advancement. The adults ensure the "Guide to Safe Scouting" is adhered to. Hazing or bullying is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. Scouts are required to adhere to the buddy system and must be with a "buddy" to leave the camping area. Scouts are not allowed to use knives or axes until they have earned their "tottin chip". The adult scouters practice the two-deep leadership method. At all times adult scouts have an adult partner when working with or interacting with scouts. This is a national scout policy and is for the protection of youth and the adults.

Who teaches the new scouts how to camp?

Each new patrol has a troop guide (older scout) assigned to them on campouts to teach them how to cook and camp and ensure safe practices. The primary role for teaching is for the older boys to teach the younger boys. This provides a great experience for both of them. The leadership style for teaching is the EDGE method. This allows boys to learn through experiencing themselves. They are old enough to do it themselves instead of having everything done for them.

E – Explain

D – Demonstrate

G – Guide

E - Enable

How well supervised are the scouts?

One of the goals of scouting is to give young boys the opportunity to learn on their own with guidance. The patrol method helps guide scouts. However, boy scouts is different from cub scouts in that the adults are in the background instead of making every decision as in cub scouts. This "letting go" of direct control is often difficult for new scout parents who have been in the cub scout program. However, the adults are always ready to step in to an activity to maintain safety.

How do you signup for a campout?

A signup sheet will be provided for three weeks before each campout. It is mandatory that each scout and scouter attending signup to have an accurate record for the troop and scout council of who is attending. This list is also critical so the proper amount of transportation will be arranged for the campout. The grubmaster for each patrol also needs to know who is going. The last time to signup for a campout is the Monday night prior to the campout.

What about transportation?

Troop 895 has a very active number of adult scouters. As such, there are normally enough seat belts in vehicles going to accommodate every boy. This list is managed as part of the campout signup sheet. Every driver is required to carry a minimum amount (set by BSA) of automobile insurance to drive. The troop also brings a trailer containing troop equipment and larger gear.

Important note on traveling

Scouts are required to travel to and from a campout in a Class "A" uniform. This consists of a scout shirt, scout belt, scout pants and scout socks. Eat dinner before arriving at the troop departure site (Episcopal Church of the Epiphany) on Friday evening. The vehicle your son travels to for the campout generally will carry his gear. If there is not enough room, the troop trailer is also available to carry the excess gear.

What about getting the gear into the campsite?

Many campouts we drive to the campsite. However, we often hike a short distance into the campsite. A scout should be prepared to pack his person gear into the campsite. Patrol gear such as cooking equipment, food, and ice chests can ride into the campsite in the troop trailer.

What about food for the weekend?

Each patrol has a grubmaster who is responsible for purchasing and cooking the food for that weekend. Normally, the cost for a weekend of food will be \$10-15. Bring money to pay the grubmaster that weekend. The troop provides cooking stoves, propane, lanterns, cooking equipment, dutch ovens and a table for each patrol from the troop trailer. Equipment is checked out from the quartermaster at the troop trailer at the campsite. Furthermore, the adults of the troop setup a proper washline to clean and sanitize dishes after cooking. This is used by all patrols. The Troop 895 cookbook has many great recipes. A scout must bring his own utensils, plate, and water bottle.

The patrol plans the menu the Monday night before the campout. If you have questions, contact the assistant scoutmaster for new scouts.

Important note: No Food is allowed in the tents. Do not send extra snacks. Ants and small critters like to come into the tent to share this food.

If you signup to come and do not cancel by Wednesday of the week of the campout, you are expected to pay your share to the grubmaster anyway since the food was purchased.

What about adult scouters?

All adults are welcome to attend a campout. Signup at the troop meeting to know you are coming. If you come, we expect you to drive to help with transportation. You will be eating with the adult OGP patrol. The OGP patrol has a grubmaster just like the scout patrols do. Bring your own eating utensils. If a parent attends the campout, remember, you are an adult scouter for the weekend more than you are a parent. Give your son plenty of space to learn and experience without you doing for them. If they need help pitching a tent or cooking, you need to direct them to an older, experienced boy in the troop rather than doing work for them. If you can resist the temptation to "do it for them", they will learn much quicker and you will have a more fulfilling experience. One of the methods of scouting is to allow your

son to have interaction with other adults. Thus, you will be in a background role with your son and allow your son learn how to interact with other adults. The adults also practice the national policy of two-deep leadership with any interaction with boys. This means each adult must have an adult partner when working with or interacting with the boys.

Cost for camping.

Normal weekend camping trips have no additional cost other than the grubmaster food cost. There are occasional campouts (such as canoe trips) that have costs that are known in advance and payable before the trip. Money is collected on "Money Monday" which is the meeting before the campout.

High Adventure camping

Troop 895 annually has one or more high adventure trips for the older boys. This include backpacking trips through the mountains at Philmont Scout Ranch, canoe treks at Northern Tier in Minnesota, Seabase in Florida, and other special trips. Because of the distance and length of the trip, these trips are significantly more expensive and require extra training. Generally, a scout must be first class or above to participate in a high adventure trip.

EQUIPMENT

What equipment will my son need?

Do not go out and buy a lot of new expensive equipment when your son is new to the troop. As they grow and learn what is needed, you can buy equipment. Also, camping equipment makes great Christmas and birthday presents. .

What your son need for camping for the first campout

- Flashlight (Headlight or Handheld)
- Personal First Aid Kit (pg 127 Scout Manual)
- Personal grooming kit (soap, toothbrush, comb)
- Poncho
- Change of clothes (underwear, pants & shirt)
- Sleeping Bag
- **Eating Gear**
 - Medium-sized unbreakable bowl and plate
 - Medium-sized unbreakable cup
 - Nalgene or similar water bottle
 - Fork, spoon and knife

Do not send anything you cannot afford to lose.
Mark all equipment and clothes with your son's name.

What to buy later after a few campouts

- Camp stool
- Folding scout knife (no sheath knives)
- Backpack (ask for advice)
- Compass
- Hiking boots
- Hiking Socks
- Tent

Items not allowed:

- Knives that do not fold
- Electronic gadgets (games, cellphones) ((get locked in a car))
- Aerosol cans

Tips on camping equipment

One of the first (and most important) questions every parent of a new Scout asks is: "What do I need to buy for my son?" Good question! Unfortunately, this critical topic is handled in only very general terms in your son's Scout Handbook and Fieldguide. Every Scoutmaster has seen his share of beginner Scouts absolutely atrociously outfitted despite the expenditure of hundreds of dollars by well meaning parents - a financial disaster for the parents and a physical disaster for the Scout! It is not enough to know that your son needs a sleeping bag or a flashlight - the specifics are vital - and you also need to know what not to buy. Herein is a summary of thoughts on how best to proceed in outfitting your Scout.

Lesson Number One: Your boy is going to lose things! Most items that are small, dark colored or (sadly, but true) extremely desirable to Scouts in other Troops tend to have unusually high mobility. Therefore, it is in your best interest to: A) Customize all gear with name tags or specific markings (yellow paint, etc.); B) Buy bright colored lower quality substitutes for younger Scouts (ages 10 through 13); C) Avoid camouflage or other dark gear that blends into the scenery; and D) Keep your patience.

Lesson Number Two: "Buy to Size." Don't subject your son to a "Bataan Death March;" although you'll be tempted to buy oversized equipment ("He'll grow into it") or surplus military gear, don't do it! Overweight or oversized gear will run your boy right into the ground - and a few months later, you'll be yard selling everything off at 5 cents on the dollar because: "I really don't like Scouting very much."

Troop versus Personal Gear

What the Troop provides: Basically, all group oriented gear is bought, maintained, and replaced by the Troop. This includes dining flies (tarps), cooking gear, wood cutting equipment (axes, saws, etc.), stoves and lanterns, propane tanks, ropes, full sized First Aid kit, tables and a few tents for new scouts.

What the Scout provides: All personal gear; this includes (at a minimum), a duffel bag (eventually a backpack), a three season sleeping bag, a foam pad (full size for the sleeping bag), personal eating gear (bowl, fork and spoon, cup, canteen), a flashlight, proper clothing, proper footwear, rain gear, standard personal Scout gear (a decent knife, a compass, eventually a personal first aid and personal emergency kit) and items for maintaining personal cleanliness.

Understand immediately that proper outfitting of your son requires time, effort and (of course) money! There are a *few* short-cuts that are not short-changes, but they are limited! Taking the philosophical view, however, dollars spent now can lead to a lifetime of enjoyment and satisfaction - on a relative basis, camping gear (and Boy Scouting) can be a pretty good bargain.

Obviously, however, on the short time-scale, certain compromises between quality, expense and the simple reality of a rapidly expanding Scout must be made. Unless you have several interested boys in

your family, it is difficult to justify purchasing costly equipment that will be outgrown in 18 months or less; on the other hand, you don't want your son to suffer in the great outdoors with defective junk!

Yes, you can do this without bankrupting yourself. A recommendation is to purchase the high quality equipment that you can whose use is not dependent on the size of the scout -- Keep Lesson One in mind.

For equipment that **will** be outgrown - pack, sleeping bag, rain gear, outdoor clothing, etc., you should buy moderate cost. Check garage sales.

Now let's get specific

A great list can be found at the end of this document or in the Boy Scout Handbook (pp. 292-309).

The Backpack: You can generally hold off on this until your son actually wants to participate in backpacking events - usually a year or two down the line, although some boys want to jump in immediately. When you do go for it, get an external frame backpack that fits your son. Firmly resist buying oversize! Make sure it has a padded hipbelt, padded shoulder straps and support webbing across the back. Internal frame packs are great to carry a lot of gear. However, external frames are much easier to tie tents and sleeping bags to. If you're buying a used backpack make sure that there are no cracks in the welds (the one thing that can't be repaired)

The Sleeping Bag: Get a three season bag (rated to about 30° F; weighing less than 4 pounds) and (if desired) a flannel or fleece liner; the latter can be easily custom made by anyone with a sewing machine. Get a synthetic (Hollofil II, etc.) bag as opposed to down; they are less expensive, nearly as warm, nearly as light, and - most importantly - are still reasonably insulating when wet (down is useless when wet!). The flannel or fleece liner is for very warm nights (use it alone on top of the sleeping bag) or very cold nights (inside) and is conveniently removed and washed (which extends the life of the bag). Most bags come with a waterproof nylon stuff bag; if not, purchase one - they're usually inexpensive.

The Foam Pad: Avoid a cheap (beach) air mattress; they weigh far too much, are easily punctured and are extremely cold in the winter. The latest (and greatest) are the new "Ridge Rest" (or equivalent) foam pads; they provide about a 15° F differential between the ground and the sleeping bag, plus they're very light. They come in two sizes (48 and 72 inches); they last forever, so you're better off buying the full 6 foot version unless you've got younger boys to eventually inherit the 4 foot version. Therm-a-Rest are self inflating and marvelously comfortable, but much more expensive.

Pillow: Not really necessary! Buy a small cloth stuff bag (commercially available, or make your own) for your son to fill with clothing or a jacket. If you insist on an inflatable pillow, still get a small cloth stuff bag that it will fit into; otherwise, it just slides away (plastic on plastic!). Most camping stores now sell a "backpacker's pillow," which you may prefer - again, not cheap.

Eating gear: Don't bother buying the old army/Boy Scout Mess Kit - no one uses them anymore. Everyone can more than get by with a medium size bowl and cup - both in durable plastic (lightweight, much easier to clean, and plastic doesn't transfer heat like metal). Likewise, avoid the classic "knife, fork and spoon" kit; instead, get the heavy duty Lexan polycarbonate utensils (fork and spoon only!) - Lexan is lightweight and virtually indestructible. All of these can and should be marked with indelible pens - mixed up gear is a perpetual headache at campouts. Use fingernail polish or scratch initials; indelible pens work fine for virtually all plastic, but will need occasional renewal.

Water bottle: Get a translucent plastic 1 quart Nalgene bottle (easy to see how full, whether it's got a flavored drink in it, and also whether or not he picked up any interesting items (leaves, etc.) when filling it at the last waterhole!). Avoid metal canteens (too heavy, react with some acidic drink mixes) and opaque plastic models.

Flashlight: Buy a small LED flashlight or headlamp

Clothing: Seemingly trivial but actually the toughest subject to address! Most beginning Scouts carry: A) Far too much, and B) the wrong type of clothing. Briefly, synthetics and wool clothing are much better than 100% cotton fabrics; hot weather clothing should be light colored to reflect sunlight, cold weather should be dark; avoid pullovers - use button down shirts instead, they can be unbuttoned for cooling; in cooler weather, *dressing in layers* is far more versatile than using heavy duty one piece clothing (the latter has only two options: Broil or Freeze!). Blue jeans and blue jean jackets (or any other heavy weight cotton clothes) are extremely poorly suited to outdoor use; cotton is actually a negative insulator when wet - meaning you're better off wearing nothing at all rather than wet cotton. All clothing should be packed into nylon stuff sacks to keep them dry; bring one extra empty stuff sack to separate used from new through the weekend.

Footwear: - Not at all critical until your son begins to attend backpacking events. Once he does, however, this is your highest recurring expense. Your son will grow out of his boots long before he wears them out; however, you really can't compromise on footwear on the trail. Cheap, shoddy boots cause rapid blister formation and utter hiking misery - a surefire recipe for a horrible backpacking experience! Likewise, *you cannot buy used boots* unless they were only worn once or twice - footwear that's been broken in on someone else's feet are far worse for you to break in versus a brand new pair of boots. Look for reasonable quality leather or "High Tech Hiking" (not "Walking") boots that come up to about mid-ankle (for support); the soles should have a fairly aggressive tread design for proper purchase on wet, sloppy trails. The instep should have good arch support - bad boots are usually flat. Buy oversize! - your son will be wearing a thick pair of socks while wearing the boots (bring along a very thick pair of socks when going out to buy your son's boots!) Careful, most boots are standard width, if your son has a wide foot (see below), you may have to special order or look elsewhere. Always wear wool socks (not cotton) with boots. Also, look for a pair of boot liner socks to go on first before the wool socks.

Finally, don't pitch those old worn out sneakers (unless he's outgrown them)! This is what the guys wear around the campsite itself. Keep a pair in the pack in a plastic bag. Open toed shoes are NOT allowed camping.

Rain Gear: Although everybody hates them, the standard issue poncho is still about as reasonable as you can get. Full rain suits are a no-no; any activity and your boy is just as wet - from condensation and sweat - because they do not breathe. Some of the newest technology raingear (e.g., Gore-Tex) is breathable, but A) costs an unbelievable fortune; and B) doesn't hold up all that well under pack-straps or in heavy brush - Don't bother

For backpacking, most backpacks are moderately rain resistant; rainproof pack covers are available or can be fashioned at need from heavy duty garbage bags. A good combination includes a windproof, water resistant jacket, a pack cover, a lightweight poncho, and a waterproof hat with a brim - this is versatile enough to handle up to very heavy driving rains (which we probably wouldn't hike in anyway).

Optional personal Scout gear

Knife: A standard Boy Scout official knife is inexpensive and an excellent choice. Your son will not need an axe or hatchet. The troop provides these.

Compass: A standard compass is all that's necessary - no need for the gold plated model with 200 functions. Definitely mark it with your son's name - most compasses look mighty similar! (Use a magic marker on the case, then cover it with a piece of Scotch tape.)

Personal Cleanliness: This includes a small roll of toilet paper in a plastic bag (wet toilet paper isn't very useful!), washcloth, small towel, soap (in a small plastic container; some guys bring a squeeze tube of liquid soap - much more convenient!), and toothbrush. It's much more sensible to purchase separate items and keep them in the pack; if the Scout uses his everyday home materials, he'll forget them in the pre-campout rush. Note: Realistically, all he'll use on a weekend campout is the toothbrush.

Other optional or "seasonal" personal stuff no one ever remembers: Insect repellent, suntan lotion, sunglasses, small sewing kit (with extra buttons), shoelaces and Scout book (for new Scouts working on advancement).

Do not pack: Radios, Walkmans, electronic games, extra food (especially drinks or fresh fruits - they weigh a ton!), anything in glass, any aerosol type sprays (deodorants, insect repellent, etc.), gambling materials, excessive money or very valuable watches, jewelry, or 'heirloom' knives.

Do not wear: Any military garb, any clothing with imprinted socially unacceptable logos or messages.

Do not pack in: footlockers (except for summer camp), duffel bags without handles, or suitcases.

Pack In: For non-backpacking camping, packing in a medium sized duffel bag is perfectly adequate. It's preferable to use the type that zip down the sides, allowing easy access to everything without having to empty the entire bag out the end. **Use the equipment list and check items off while packing!**

If your son insists on a backpack for every event, fine - but keep in mind some of the following "advanced" concepts:

Packing the Backpack: Try to keep the same items in the same place each time you pack; this way it's obvious when something's missing. Keep heavier items higher and closer to the back; this way the weight of the pack is more centered above your son's center of gravity (which makes the pack much easier to carry). Along similar lines, try to match the weight side-to-side in the pack. Use mesh or large, clear plastic bags as organizers; this way, it's obvious what's inside with a glance. The canteen, toilet paper, rain gear, flashlight, insect repellent, suntan lotion, sunglasses and any trail snacks should be placed in the outside pockets for quick, easy access. Most backpackers tie their sleeping bags on the lower frame and their foam pads on the top. Upon return home, have him unpack immediately; don't let those wet sneakers, candy bar wrappers and funky clothes ferment for a week or two! Empty and wash the canteen; rewash all cookwear and utensils. After everything's been accounted for and cleaned, put it all in one spot (the same spot every time) for the next campout. [Don't, however, pack it all up in a "ready-to-go" mode - let things air out and stay fresh and dry.]

Local Camping/Backpacking Outfitters - Where to get it

Following are most of the true outdoor outlets in our area. If you're planning to buy anything major (i.e., expensive), it makes good sense to bring along a few catalogs for price comparisons. Don't be afraid to ask the staff for advice. At most camping outfitters, the staff is genuinely interested in assisting you. General Comments: While your son is still growing, do not invest in really expensive gear that they are likely to outgrow (such as hiking boots, backpacks, etc.). It is more important that the gear fits than it be of the highest quality. More than likely, he will outgrow it before he out-wears it. It should simply be durable enough to last until he hits the next growth spurt and comfortable enough that it will not detract from his outdoor experience. Wait until he's stopped growing before you invest in high-quality (and usually more expensive) gear.

For Scout Uniforms, Books and other supplies:

1. **Scout shops** – These are the closest locations to buy the uniform, merit badge pamphlets, etc.

www.scoutstuff.org (online store for all official scout equipment and uniforms)

Circle 10 offices

Location: 8605 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, TX Phone: 214-902-6767

Store Hours: M-F: 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sat: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

National Scout Museum

Location: 1329 W. Walnut Hill Lane., Irving, TX Phone: 972-580-7875

(south of 114 just west of MacArthur Blvd.)

Store Hours: M-T, Th-S: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sun: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Collin County Scout Shop

5600 US 75

Fairview, TX 75069

Mon. - Fri.: 9 AM to 6 PM

Thurs.: 9 AM to 8 PM

Sat.: 10 AM to 4 PM

For Camping Gear:

1. **R.E.I.** - Types of Gear: Backpacking, Camping, Canoeing, Climbing, Cycling, Hiking

They have a very wide selection of medium to high-quality gear, including "house-brand" gear. Staff knowledge varies but is generally very good. Pricing on gear is fairly competitive. Pricing on clothing tends to be high. R.E.I. is a cooperative; you can pay an initial \$15 lifetime membership fee with a rebate (credit voucher or cash) on purchases offered at the end of the year of up to 10%. They have several sales during the year and if you put yourself on their mailing list, you'll receive notice of all major sales. They also have an outlet website where you can purchase gear at prices up to 60% off.

Location: 4515 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX Phone: 972-490-5989

(north access road between Welch and Midway Rd.)

Store Hours: M-F: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sat: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sun: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Website: www.REI.com and www.REI-OUTLET.com

2. **Mountain Hideout** - Types of Gear: Backpacking, Camping, Climbing, Hiking

Not as large as R.E.I. but with fairly knowledgeable staff. They also have a clearance section on their website with savings of up to 50%.

Location: 5643 Lovers Lane, Dallas, TX Phone: 214-350-8181

Store Hours: M-W: 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. (open until 8 p.m. during Summer)

Th: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

F-S: 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Sun: 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Website: www.mountainhideout.com

3. Academy Sports- Types of Gear: Camping, Cycling, Hiking, Fishing, Water Sports (and other sporting activities) Not solely devoted to camping, but you can generally find good prices on most gear, including gear for fishing. Staff generally doesn't have the knowledge of R.E.I. or Mountain Hideout. Pricing is very competitive, often less than other specialty stores.

Location: 8050 Forest Ln., Dallas, TX Phone: 214-221-2284
(Forest Lane @ Central Expressway—Next to Home Depot)
3305 Dallas Pkwy, Suite 301, Plano, TX Phone: 972-781-2970
4045 Central Expressway, Plano, TX Phone: 972-516-7020
Store Hours: M-S: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sun: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Website: www.academy-sports.com

4. Bass Pro - Types of Gear: Camping, Canoeing, Fishing, Hiking
Predominantly a fishing and water sports type of store, they do have gear for other sports as well.

Location: 2501 Bass Pro Drive, Grapevine, TX Phone: 972-724-2018
Store Hours: M-S: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Sun: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Website: www.basspro.com

5. Galyan's - Types of Gear: Backpacking, Camping, Canoeing, Cycling, Fishing, Hiking
Wide selection of gear (although emphasis is toward sports, fishing and hunting) with good pricing. Staff is not as knowledgeable as outfitters such as R.E.I. and such.

Location: 2611 Preston Rd., Frisco, TX Phone: 972-618-0200
Store Hours: M-S: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sun: 12 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Website: www.galyans.com

6. Dick's Sporting Goods

Multiple locations

7. Online source – 40-50% savings for scouts and scouters

Alps Mountaineering sells equipment at a 40-50% discount to scouts and scouters.

www.scoutdirect.com

Camping Equipment Checklist (use this when packing)

This list summarizes the minimum equipment necessary for a typical weekend camp-out. Long-term camps (Summer Camp, Winter Camp, High Adventure Treks) are addressed by other lists.

Essential Equipment

Sleeping Gear

- Sleeping Bag, rated to about 25°
- Ground Pad, foam or self-inflating
- Small Pillow

Eating Gear

- Medium-sized unbreakable bowl and plate
- Medium-sized unbreakable cup
- Fork, spoon and knife

Clothing and Other Equipment

- Field Uniform (for traveling)
(Scout Shirt, Pants, Belt & Socks)
- Activity Uniform
- 1 pair underwear
- 2 pair of socks
- 1 pair gym shorts
- 2 T-shirts
- 1 pair long pants
- 1 sweatshirt (if cool nights)
- 1 long-sleeve shirt (if cool nights)
- Hat or Boy Scout Cap
- Extra pair of sneakers or boots
- Rain gear (poncho or jacket/pants combo)
- Small flashlight and extra batteries
- Water bottle
- Toiletry Kit
(toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, small towel)
- Insect repellent - non-aerosol
- Sunscreen
- Personal First Aid Kit
- Pocket knife (if they have the Totin' Chit)

Other

- Compass
- Scout Handbook/pencil
- Tent - to be shared with buddy, only one needs to bring a tent
- Medium-sized duffle bag or backpack

Optional Equipment

- Swim trunks
- Sunglasses
- Lip balm
- Folding camp stool
- Camera and film

Leave at Home

- Electronic Games
- Radios or CD players
- Mobile phones
- Lighters or fireworks
- Open-toe shoes or sandals

Note: Most parents of new Scouts outfit their sons with more than enough clothing. Do not pack more than the above, which is already more than he will likely need. Remember, he may have to carry it some distance to the campsite. If the expected weather appears to be warmer or colder than normal, make appropriate substitutions or deletions. Make sure everything has his name (or his initials) clearly marked on it. And pack nothing that you cannot afford to have lost.