

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
TROOP 658

Patrol Leader's Checklist for an Overnight Camping Trip

1. How many people are going? Which nights? Where are we meeting? When will they be arriving? Who needs transportation? Where are we going? Who will be doing base camp setup?
2. Do you have enough tents for everyone? Who is sleeping in whose tent? Who needs a Troop tent? Have you made arrangements to get a Troop tent?
3. Does everyone have a backpack, sleeping bag, mess kit and utensils, and know what clothing to bring (e.g., wool hat, rain gear/winter coat, gloves, and change of clothes)? Check personal gear list on pages 224-225 in the Boy Scout Handbook. What kind of weather are you expecting for the trip?
4. What is the patrol menu? Have you taken care of everybody's special dietary needs?
5. If this is a backpacking trip, the patrol will need to decide which items from the list are essential. Bulky items and weight will need to be kept to a minimum since all items need to be packed in and packed out of the camp site.
6. Based on the menu and #5, what food do you need to buy? Check the Troop 658 Meal Planning Guide.
7. Who is buying the food? How much money, if any, do you need to collect per person? Add \$1 per person to pay for propane, if you are going to use a propane stove and lantern. Check with the Scoutmasters to see if you need to collect any fees for the weekend (other than food and fuel).
8. Based on the menu and #5, what cooking supplies (e.g., matches, charcoal, trash bags, aluminum foil, paper towels, and salt) do you need to bring or get from the Troop Quartermaster?
Check patrol gear list on pages 226-227 in the Boy Scout Handbook.
9. Based on the menu and #5, what cooking utensils (e.g., pots, pans, Dutch Oven, coffee pot, Chef's kit, thermos, and griddle) do you need to bring or get from the Troop Quartermaster?
10. What will you cook the food on (Large propane stoves, backpacking stoves or fire)? Are you cooking by patrol, two scouts or individual? Do you have the equipment to do that?
11. If using a stove, who is bringing the stove and the fuel or who is going to get it from the Troop Quartermaster?

12. If you are planning on having a fire, you will need two metal buckets for water and a small shovel. Will the fire be in a fire pan? Who is responsible for bringing or getting this equipment?
13. If you are cooking over a fire, do you have a grill? Are you using the Dutch Oven? Make sure that you have an extra garbage bag to put the dirty grill in at the end of the trip.
14. Who is bringing fire wood for the camp fire? Do you need a saw or ax? Are you setting up a chopping yard? What is needed for that?
15. Do you have containers for drinking water or who is going to bring that?
16. Do not forget things like SOS pads, soap, wash buckets and paper towels.
17. Don't forget the first aid kit.
18. Make sure that you have divided up the patrol's gear and food so that everyone is carrying part of the patrol's load.
19. Ask the Scoutmasters or other adult troop leaders for help, if you need it.
20. Plan ahead. Don't wait to the last minute.
21. Make sure that your patrol members call you to let you know if there are any changes in their plans for the event. Make sure that they know, that if they cancel, they still have to make arrangements for any food or equipment they were responsible for.

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