



Royal Rangers

Merit Requirements: Silver-Bordered Merit

WILDERNESS SURVIVAL MERIT

Requirement #1 - Build a shelter from native materials such as a debris hut. The shelter should have adequate insulation and provide protection from wind and rain.

Requirement #2 - Demonstrate the following methods of purifying water:

(a) Boiling water in a can, metal cup, or a coal-burned bowl with hot rocks.

(b) Using iodine or purifying tablets. **Requirement #3** - Light a fire with each of the following and sustain one of the

fires for fifteen minutes:

(a) Flint and steel

(b) Any two of the following:

- A magnifying glass
- A bow and drill
- Steel wool and battery

Requirement #4 - Submit a list of 5 edible foods for each of the following groups found in the wilderness: greens, roots, animals and fish.

NOTE: BSA recommends against eating wild plants or animals.

Requirement #5 - Memorize the priorities for survival.

Requirement #6 - Make a small survival kit, explain how it works and carry it on outdoor outings.

Requirement #7 - Imagine yourself in the following three situations where you have only a pocket -knife and three days will pass before you are found. Make a list of the things you should do in order to survive. The list should be realistic and based on your survival knowledge.

(a) Being lost in a wooded, mountainous, wilderness area.

(b) Being the only survivor of a plane crash in a cold, snow-covered area.

(c) Being stranded in a hot, dry desert.

Requirement #8 - With a friend or a group go on a survival camping trip of at least 24 hours. Build a shelter out of native materials to stay in overnight, use only a natural source of water, and eat only food you caught or gathered in the field. All cooking should be done with any of the following: a can, a sierra cup, a tin cup or any primitive method such as a coal-burned bowl or a forked stick.

Requirement #9 - Explain the standard distress signals.

Requirement #10 - Explain three ways to navigate without a compass or a map on a cloudy day.

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