



# Royal Rangers

Merit Requirements: Silver-Bordered Merit

## WINTER CAMPING MERIT

**Prerequisite:** Camping merit (gold)

**Requirements:** All outdoor activities for this merit must be performed in conditions below 50 degrees (BSA standard) with or without snow.

**Requirement #1** - Explain the advantages and disadvantages of the following shelters: snow trench, A-frame, snow cave, and lean-to.

**Requirement #2** - Construct one of the above shelters and sleep in it for one night during the cold winter months (under adult supervision).

**Requirement #3** - Explain how to properly prepare an area to pitch a tent. Pitch a tent and sleep outside in it for one night during the winter.

**Requirement #4** - On your overnight campouts cook a meal. (dinner or breakfast). Explain how your winter calorie intake is different from your summer calorie intake.

**Requirement #5** - How does your clothing and the snow make winter camping more difficult than summer camping.

Name at least one other thing to consider when conducting winter outings that you are not usually too concerned with in the summer.

**Requirement #6** - Explain what hypothermia is, its symptoms, and the first aid treatment for it.

**Requirement #7** - Define frostbite. Explain how to treat the different types of frostbite and how to prevent frostbite.

**Requirement #8** - Explain what trench foot is and how to prevent it.

**Requirement #9** - Explain what snow blindness is, how to treat it, and how to prevent it.

**Requirement #10** - Explain how to obtain drinking water. Why should you not eat snow to obtain water? How should you treat your water?

**Requirement #11** - In winter clothing what is meant by "layering"? List the advantages and disadvantages of the following materials as it applies to the cold, wet winter environment:

- a. Wool
- b. Synthetic fabrics such as Pile, Fleece fabrics, Polypropylene and other Hydrophobic
- c. Vapor Barrier Systems
- d. Down
- e. Cotton

**Requirement #12** - What things should you consider when determining if an area is prone to avalanches? Include in your answer the angle, orientation and other factors.

**Requirement #13** - What should you do if you get caught in an avalanche?

**Requirement #14** - Read a book that deals with the outdoors in the winter.

**Requirement #15** - Explain how to safely cross frozen rivers and lakes. How thick should ice be for a individual, a small group, a vehicle?

**Requirement #16** - Take a hike of at least 2 miles using snowshoes.