

TROOP 22 TOTIN' CHIP REQUIREMENTS

References: Boy Scout Handbook, 11th Ed. pp. 77-85 and 218-219; Boy Scout Handbook, 10th Ed. pp. 63-76 (superior to 11th Ed. but still deficient); Boy Scout Handbook, 5th Ed. pp. 280-287 (superior on knives but does not show guard on file for axe sharpening and totally neglects saws)

SECTION 1

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

a. 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.

b. 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... .

c. 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.** [Wear some sort of shoe 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]

Requirement 1-22:

- **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.

Requirement 1-22a: Understand how to safety 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."**

Requirement 1-22b: 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.

Requirement 1-22c: 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.

SECTION 2

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

Requirement 2-22: Demonstrate proper handling, care and use of fixed-blade knives.

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

SECTION 3

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. Break the rules repeatedly, and you must learn to camp in Troop 22 without using a knife, ax, or saw. The only way to be safe is for the rules to become automatic. Thank you. (You're welcome!)

THEY ARE NOT TOYS!!

TROOP 22 TOTIN' CHIP CHECKLIST

SECTION 1

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

a. Safe Knife Use Rules [START WITH OPEN POCKET KNIFE]

- Here is a pocket knife [pocket knife open]. Pass it to me safely. <Must pass closed; "thank you"; "you're welcome">
 - [Return pocket knife to Scout] <"thank you"; "you're welcome">
 - How should a folding knife be kept when not in use? <Closed>
 - Regardless of what work you are doing with a knife, in what direction do you cut? <Away>
 - Why is it important to keep your knife sharp? <Safer to use>
 - What is a knife for? <Cutting>
 - Should you throw your knife? Why not? <Damage knife; unsafe>
- If you can't cut deep enough with your knife, should you hammer it [Show] to drive it deeper? Why not? <Damage knife; not made for that use.>
 - What will probably happen if you use your knife for a screw-driver? <Damage knife>

b. Safe Saw Use [START WITH GUARDED BOW SAW, OPEN FOLDING SAW; log to be "sawed"; second log for prop]

- How should a saw be kept when not in use? <Edge covered; stored out of the way; stored where it will keep dry>
 - Show me how to carry a saw [bow saw with guard on]. <Balanced; edge away>
 - Why is a sharp saw important? <Easier to cut and control>
 - Pass this saw [folding saw; unfolded] to me. <Close; "thank you"; you're welcome">
 - [Return saw to Scout] <"thank you"; "you're welcome">
 - What might you wear to protect your eyes when using saw? <goggles> What are goggles?
 - Do you have the right to cut any wood you see?
 - Who do you ask for permission to cut wood? <Adult leader; property owner>
- Why is it unwise to cut into the ground? <Damage blade>
- Here is the log you are to saw. Show me how you avoid cutting into the ground. <Place a log or rock under the wood being cut to prop it up and cut with air under the cut>
- FOR EXTRA CREDIT: How close should another person be when you are sawing? <Ten feet or more>
- How do you keep saw dust out of your eyes if you don't have goggles? <Don't saw wood above your head.>

c. Safe Axe Use [START WITH HAND AXE W/ GUARD OFF AND A FILE WITHOUT A GUARD]

- How should an axe be kept when not in use? <Edge covered; stored out of the way; stored where it will keep dry>
 - Show me how to carry an axe [guard off]. <Replaces guard; balanced; edge away>
 - Pass the axe to me <guard still on; head down; edge out; "thank you"; "you're welcome">
- [Return axe to Scout] <"takes with proper hand; his hand under yours; "thank you"; "you're welcome">
 - Why is a sharp axe important? <Easier to cut and control>
 - What do you do if an axe has a loose head? <Turn in to adult leader>
 - What do you do if an axe is dull? <Turn in to adult leader>
 - What do you do if an axe had a cracked handle? <Turn in to adult leader>
- What about shoes when using an axe? <Wear some sort of shoe with a tread that will allow you to keep your footing.>
- Describe a safe place to use an axe. <clear around and above you to whatever distance chips will fly and you can reach with the axe - at least ten feet>
- Describe how to buck a log. <Place log on cutting block; cut "V" same width as log with alternate cuts, meeting at bottom of log>
- Describe limbing a log. <Stand on opposite side of log; cut in same direction as limb angles>
- Describe how to split a 2" round piece of wood. <Strike on side unless piece can stand vertically on its own. NEVER HOLD VERTICAL WITH YOUR HAND!!!!>
 - Describe the "contact method." <Axe and piece of wood strike "chopping block" together>
- Is this file safe for sharpening an axe? Why not? <Lacks a guard; if they answer with word "guard," ask them what a guard is.>

Requirement 1-22 - axe yard

- When should you establish an axe yard? <Whenever camp is made>
 - Describe a good axe yard <Footing; clearance; visible boundary>

Requirement 1-22a - fixed-blade knife. **[START WITH FIXED BLADE KNIFE OUT OF ITS SHEATH]**

- Pass this knife to me [knife on surface without sheath but sheath available]. <Places in sheath; "thank you"; "you're welcome">
 - Return the knife to me. <"thank you"; "you're welcome">
- Show me how to pass this knife [knife on surface without sheath and no sheath available]. <handle out; edge out; point not in line with hand; "thank you"; "you're welcome">

Requirement 1-22b - "HOT COFFEE!!!"

- Suppose you must walk through a crowd of people with a bucket of **boiling hot** coffee, what do you want them to know?
- What do you want other persons around you to know if you are carrying a knife, saw, or axe with an exposed edge?
<That you have a knife, saw, or axe with an exposed edge>
- How do you let them know that you have a knife, saw, or axe with an exposed edge? <"I have an axe!"

Requirement 6: "Subscribe to the Outdoor Code."

- It is not necessary to quote the Outdoor Code, but tell me what it requires of you. <Handbook pp. 218-219: Clean; Careful; Considerate; Conservation-Minded>

THE REQUIREMENTS IN ITALICS ARE ONLY PART OF THE SAFE AXE USE REQUIREMENTS FOR TOTIN' CHIP. THE SCOUT MUST DEMONSTRATE THE TECHNIQUES FOR BUCKING, LIMBING, SPLITTING, AND THE "CONTACT METHOD." THESE THINGS CANNOT BE DONE UNLESS AN AXE YARD IS ESTABLISHED. THEREFORE, A SCOUT CAN ONLY RECEIVE A PARTIAL "PASS" UNTIL HE CAN DEMONSTRATE THESE BASIC SKILLS IN AN AXE YARD. THIS SHOULD BE DONE AT THE VERY NEXT CAMPOUT. AT THAT TIME, THE SCOUT CAN ALSO BE COACHED ON KNIFE AND AXE SHARPENING.

Remind the Scout:

- 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.

➤ Break the rules and you may permanently lose the right to use sharp tools. Worse, you may permanently lose some part of your body.

- The only way to be safe is for the rules to become automatic. Thank you. (You're welcome!)

➤ **THEY ARE NOT TOYS!!**

SCOUT _____ HAS PASSED TOTIN' CHIP REQUIREMENTS AS FOLLOWS (See Troop 22 Totin' Chip Checklist and Troop 22 Totin' Chip Requirements.)

SECTION 1

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

___ a. Safe Knife Use Rules

___ b. Safe Saw Use

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

___ Requirement 1-22: He understands that Scouts establish an "axe yard" when making camp.

___ Requirement 1-22a: He understand how to safety carry and pass a fixed-blade knife.

___ Requirement 1-22b and c: He understands that in carrying a sharp tool he must be aware of - and protect - others around him and must be sure others are aware that he has a sharp tool..

___ Requirement 1-22c: He understands the rules:

- Be sure there is no trip or slip hazard when using an axe.
- Keep an axe "buried" in a chopping block in the axe yard between uses and before putting it away after the job is done.
- Use a safety guard on a file when sharpening an axe.
 - No not use a double-bit axe.
 - Cut trees, alive or dead only with 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."

___ Requirement 2-22: **Demonstrate** proper handling, care and use of fixed-blade knives.

___ Requirement 4: He has promised to "Respect all safety rules to protect others."

___ Requirement 5: He has promised to "Respect property. Cut living and dead trees only with permission and with good reason."

___ Requirement 6: He understands and has promised to follow the Outdoor Code." [Handbook pp. 218-219: Clean; Careful; Considerate; Conservation-Minded]

___ IN SUMMARY: He has promised to use the knife, ax, and saw as tools, not playthings and to use them only when he is willing to give them his full attention.