

Survival Camper: Part 2

Ambassador Badge





What is the Survival Camper Badge?

It is your chance to camp in the woods with limited supplies. Test your skills to go on the ultimate camping adventure.

Preplanning: Before you begin

Step 1: Plan a survival camping trip

Step 2: Gather your gear

Step 3: Plan and prepare your trip meals

Step 4: Learn a survival camp skill

Step 5: Go camping



Safety at Camp

The top priority of any camping trip is safety—*especially* a survival camping trip.

Investigate your camping area. Look for signs of flash flooding, ant mounds, animal tracks, and dead or dying trees.

Don't assume you'll have cell service. If you're far out in the wilderness, cell service may be unreliable. Look into cell service in the area where you'll be camping. (Some cell providers may have better service than others.) If

service is spotty, make sure you can easily get to a place where you can make a call. Have emergency contact numbers with you at all times. Think about how you will charge your battery.

Know where to go for help. Find out about park administrators or rangers who can help in an emergency. Be sure to check in with park staff or campground hosts **before** you go on your trip—or on any side hikes—so people know where you'll be in case of an emergency.





Step 4: Learn a Survival Skill

Choose one or more:

Use this as an opportunity to not only learn a new skill but to refresh your skills and/or strengthen your skills.

- **Practice starting a campfire with only your jackknife, steel and flint, and a mirror.**
- **Find your way – using only landmarks and the sun.**
- **Strengthen your knot-tying skills.**

Step 4: Choice 1 – Campfire

It's a good idea to know how to start a fire without matches. Matches can get wet or you can run out. Always have a backup plan. It takes a lot of practice to master this skill.

How to start a fire using flint and steel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-iroe1Xulc>





Step 4: Choose 2 – Find your way

Using only landmarks and the sun can be key to your survival. While you should always bring a compass and map, this skill can aid in navigations. Having a backup plan and being prepared is essential.

How well can you navigate?

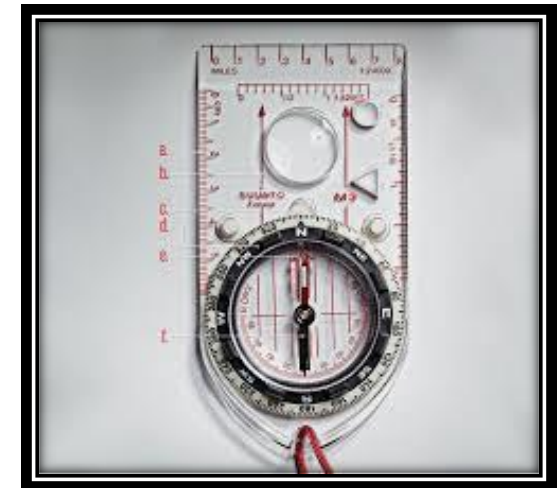
<https://www.outsideonline.com/2405201/navigation-skills-test-checklist>

How to use a compass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0cF0ovA3FtY>

Backpacking navigation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZkGVLk2iVhI>





Step 4: Choose 3 – Knot Tying Skills

Strengthen your knot tying skills. Practice knots you already know. Think about what they can be used for. Learn a new knot.

Basics of knot tying and the half hitch

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHWI16Vk87E>

Five useful knots for camping

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABIRIz-qxSI>





Step 5: Go Camping

Utilize this time, during NY on PAUSE, to practice camping. Camp in your backyard or in your home. Use the skills you'll need to go backpack camping. Make camping meals, utilize compass/map skills while doing a day hike, practice packing your backpack and carrying it, first aid skills, fire building skills, knot skills, tent building and anything you think will help you for your big adventure camping trip.

Choose one or more:

- **Keep a journal on your trip**
- **Learn about trail signs, cairns, and their use.**
- **Plan a survival challenge game for your camp mates.**



Step 5: Choice 1 – Keep a Journal

Document your trip. Below are just a few ideas.

- **Date, time, place and who you went with**
- **Weather**
- **What went well or didn't go well?**
- **Recipes**
- **Sketches, poems, songs or funny things that happened**
- **Photos**





Step 5: Choice 2 – Trail Signs

Learn how to read trail signs, cairns and their use. Cairns are human-made stacks of rocks that have been put in place to guide hikers and mark trails. Do not touch any cairns that you see.



Trail signs and cairns

<https://howtowilderness.com/trail-signs/>

Step 5: Choice 3 – Games

Plan a survival challenge game for your camp mates. It could be an endurance test, a cooking contest, a shelter-making challenge—anything that puts your survival skills to the test. Get creative with both your game and the prizes!

- **Use virtual meetings with your camp mates**
- **Share recipes. Try to each cook one on your own. Who has the best camp recipe?**
- **Time yourself building a fire or tent. Compare your times with your camp mates. Who's the fastest? Who can build a fire using the least matches?**
- **Who's the fastest at knot tying or who can tie the most knots?**





Ambassador Outdoor Journey

The Ambassador Outdoor Journey consists of three badges: Outdoor Art Master, Water, and Survival Camper. It also includes a Take Action project.

Step One:
Ambassadors
earn the
Outdoor Art
Master
Badge*



Step Two:
Ambassadors
earn the
Water
badge*



Step Three:
Ambassadors
earn the *new*
Survival
Camper
badge



Step Four:
When all three badges are complete, girls plan
and carry out a Take Action project using the
skills they learned, and earn their Take Action
Award which shows they earned their
Outdoor Journey!

