

Campsite Inspection Checklist

Purpose: Use this checklist as a final campsite walk-through. A perfect campsite should look organized, be hazard-free, follow Scout methods, and make safety and responsibility visible to inspectors.

1. Campsite Entrance & Identification ☐ Gateway or entrance clearly identifies the troop. ☐ Patrol areas are identified and separated. ☐ Troop, patrol, and U.S. flags are properly displayed. ☐ Campsite has a clean, organized first impression.	2. Campsite Layout & Organization ☐ Tents, kitchen, gear, and common areas are logically arranged. ☐ Patrol areas are distinct and youth-led. ☐ Adult area is separate from youth areas. ☐ Walkways are clear and easy to move through. ☐ Campsite follows camp rules and boundaries.
3. Safety & Hazard Control ☐ Site is free of trip hazards, sharp objects, unstable structures, and unsafe setups. ☐ Tents are away from fire, fuel, cooking, and tool areas. ☐ Guy lines and stakes are safe and visible. ☐ No dead limbs, low spots, or obvious environmental hazards. ☐ Emergency plan and first aid kit are easy to find.	4. Kitchen & Food Safety ☐ Kitchen area is clean, organized, and away from tents. ☐ Menu is posted and includes balanced meals. ☐ Duty roster is posted and being followed. ☐ Food is stored properly and protected from animals. ☐ Coolers and dry food are organized and closed. ☐ Dishwashing and handwashing stations are set up.
5. Trash, Sanitation & Leave No Trace ☐ Trash is bagged, secured, and disposed of properly. ☐ No visible trash or micro-trash around camp. ☐ Grey water and food scraps are handled properly. ☐ Restroom/latrine and handwashing procedures are understood. ☐ Campsite shows Leave No Trace practices.	6. Fire, Fuel & Stove Safety ☐ Fire area is approved, controlled, and supervised. ☐ Fire bucket, water, sand, or extinguisher is available. ☐ Fuel is stored safely away from tents, food, and flames. ☐ Stoves are stable and used safely. ☐ Matches, lighters, and fire tools are controlled. ☐ Fire is fully extinguished using the "cold out" test before leaving.
7. Tool & Axe Yard Safety ☐ Axe yard is clearly marked if tools are being used. ☐ Axe yard is away from tents, walkways, and common areas. ☐ Tools are safely stored when not in use. ☐ Totin' Chip rules are followed. ☐ No tools are left out or lying on the ground.	8. Equipment & Personal Gear ☐ Troop and patrol gear is neatly stored. ☐ Personal gear is organized inside tents. ☐ No food or smellables are stored in tents. ☐ Wet gear is drying appropriately. ☐ Equipment is protected from weather and does not block paths.
9. Scout Spirit & Patrol Method ☐ Scouts can explain the campsite setup and safety plan. ☐ Patrol leaders know their responsibilities. ☐ Scouts are courteous and prepared for inspection. ☐ Patrol flags, yells, or identity are visible. ☐ Youth are leading the campsite, not adults.	10. Overall Appearance ☐ Campsite looks clean, safe, and organized. ☐ Patrols show pride in their areas. ☐ Nothing appears rushed, cluttered, or neglected. ☐ Campsite would be easy to break down cleanly. ☐ Site reflects strong preparation and teamwork.

Quick Final Walkthrough

☐ Flags displayed properly	☐ Menu and duty roster posted	☐ First aid kit visible
☐ Fire safety equipment ready	☐ Food and fuel stored safely	☐ Trash secured
☐ Kitchen clean	☐ Axe yard safe	☐ Gear organized
☐ No trip hazards	☐ Patrol areas clearly separated	☐ Scouts ready to explain their setup

Leave No Trace + Firem'n Chit + Totin' Chip

One-page campsite inspection and outdoor safety reference

Inspection takeaway: A strong Scout campsite is planned, clean, low-impact, fire-safe, tool-safe, wildlife-aware, and ready to leave better than found.

LEAVE NO TRACE: WHAT INSPECTORS SHOULD SEE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan ahead and prepare - menu and duty roster posted; weather, permits, group size, skills, and gear considered; meals packed to reduce trash. • Travel and camp on durable surfaces - use established campsites and trails; keep the site compact; avoid creating new paths or worn areas. • Dispose of waste properly - pack out trash, leftover food, and micro-trash; secure garbage; handle dishwater and gray water by camp rules. • Leave what you find - no trenches, nails in trees, bark damage, lean-tos, or unnecessary site changes; restore moved items before leaving. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize campfire impacts - use a stove when practical; use an existing fire ring if fires are allowed; keep fires small; burn to ash; cold out. • Respect wildlife - observe from a distance; never feed wildlife; store food, smellables, garbage, and scraps securely. • Be considerate of others - keep noise down, respect privacy and property, camp away from other groups when possible, and leave gates as found. • Final LNT test - the site should look natural, clean, and undamaged when the unit leaves. |
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FIREM'N CHIT: KEY CALLOUTS

- **Purpose** - allows a Scout to carry fire-lighting devices and build campfires after showing responsibility to a leader.
- **Know the rules** - understand and follow Scouts BSA Handbook fire-use and safety rules.
- **Use fire only when needed** - build a campfire only when necessary and only where local or camp rules allow it.
- **Prepare the fire lay** - minimize impact or use an existing fire lay; clear flammable material 5 feet in every direction.
- **Control fire materials** - safely use and store matches, lighters, and fire-starting materials.
- **Attend and extinguish** - keep fire attended; keep water and/or shovel ready; use the cold-out test; clean the fire lay before leaving.
- **Follow the standard** - follow the Outdoor Code, Guide to Safe Scouting, and Leave No Trace principles. Firem'n Rights can be taken away.

TOTIN' CHIP: KEY CALLOUTS

- **Purpose** - allows a Scout to carry and use woods tools after showing responsibility to a leader.
- **Know the rules** - read and understand woods-tool use and safety rules from the Scouts BSA handbooks.
- **Demonstrate skill** - show proper handling, care, and use of the pocketknife, ax, and saw.
- **Tools, not toys** - use knife, ax, and saw as tools, not playthings.
- **Protect others** - respect all safety rules; never use or point a knife in a threatening manner.
- **Respect property** - cut living or dead trees only with permission and good reason.
- **Follow the standard** - subscribe to the Outdoor Code. Totin' Rights can be taken away if responsibilities are not followed.

Fast final check: trash secured | no food in tents | fire water/shovel ready | fuel away from tents/flames | axe yard marked | tools covered/stored | first aid visible | food secured | campsite ready to leave better than found

Sources: BSA Leave No Trace flier No. 21-105, pages 2-3; Scouts BSA Requirements, Firem'n Chit and Totin' Chip sections. Unit-friendly summary; follow current BSA, Guide to Safe Scouting, and camp-specific rules.

Use as a patrol/troup setup guide before inspection.