



Safety

Scouts BSA · Health & Safety

Name

Started

Completed

Safety is about noticing risks and making smart choices before something goes wrong. You will check your own home, learn how to stay safe in public and online, and know what to do if someone tries to hurt you. These skills protect you and the people you care about.

Requirements

Every official requirement, in plain language. Check the official wording when you sign off (scouting.org/merit-badges/safety/). Tips and examples are ideas, not extra requirements.

1 Safety and hazards

Tips for this section: Think of a hazard you face every day, like crossing a busy street, and talk about how you lower the risk.

Example for this section: Use biking to school as your example: the hazard is traffic, the risk is how likely and how bad a crash could be, and you manage it with a helmet, lights, a route with bike lanes, and riding with the flow of traffic.

- ☐ **1a** Explain what safety is and what being safe means

- ☐ **1b** Explain what hazards are and how people manage them to lower the risk of harm and stay safer

2 Family and home safety

Tips for this section: Walk through your home with a parent and use a checklist to look for fire and injury hazards, then fix what you can.

Example for this section: With a checklist and a parent, look for loose rugs on stairs, cords under rugs, overloaded outlets, unlocked medicines, and a missing fire extinguisher. Fix two things that day and make a plan for the rest.

- ☐ **2a** Explain common causes of injuries at home and how to prevent them

- ☐ **2b** Discuss the dangers of using fireworks

- ☐ **2c** Explain common causes of home fires and how to prevent them

- ☐ **2d** With an adult, look for hazards in your home (or a similar building) using the pamphlet's Home Safety Checklist or a counselor-approved one, then review your findings with your counselor

- ☐ **2e** Draw a fire-escape plan for your house (or a similar building) showing ways out of every room and an outside meeting spot. Hold a fire drill, then review the plan and drill with your counselor

- ☐ **2f** Make a family plan for evacuating during weather or other natural disasters common where you live. Assemble or check an emergency supply kit using the pamphlet's checklist or an approved one, and explain how your family would put the plan and kit to use

3 Safety from crime

Tips for this section: With a parent, check your doors, windows, and lights, and talk about how teens can avoid becoming crime victims.

- ☐ **3a** Explain the common kinds of crimes that can affect teens

- ☐ **3b** With an adult, check your home or a similar building's security against crime using the pamphlet's Home Security Checklist or a counselor-approved one, then review your findings with your counselor

4 Safety in public places

Tips for this section: Talk with your family about what to do if you get separated in a crowd or there's an emergency in a store or school.

Example for this section: Talk through scenarios with your family: getting separated at a stadium (go to a pre-set meeting spot or find a worker in uniform), a fire alarm at the mall (walk to the nearest exit, not the way you came in), or severe weather while out.

- ☐ **4a** Explain to your counselor how to get out of public buildings, a hotel, and a stadium safely in an emergency

- ☐ **4b** Explain to your counselor how and why Scouts take shelter at camp

- ☐ **4c** Explain to your counselor how Scouts should respond to an active shooter

- ☐ **4d** Explain to your counselor what the saying "If You See Something, Say Something" means

5 Safeguarding youth

Tips for this section: Go over the Safeguarding Youth guidelines with a parent and know who you'd tell if something felt wrong.

Example for this section: Explain the three R's of Safeguarding Youth: Recognize situations that could lead to abuse, Resist by saying no and getting away, and Report to a parent or another trusted adult right away. Name two adults you would tell.

- ☐ **5a** Discuss the Scouting America Safeguarding Youth guidelines that adults and Scouts follow to keep everyone safe in Scouting

- ☐ **5b** Discuss with your counselor which situations and behaviors would lead you to Recognize, Resist, and Report possible abuse

- ☐ **5c** Discuss how anyone, including you, other Scouts, and leaders, can report suspected abuse, such as by calling the Scouts First Helpline

6 Safety from assault

Tips for this section: Discuss ways to stay out of risky situations, like staying with friends and trusting your gut when something feels off.

- ☐ **6a** Explain how to avoid or prevent being assaulted on the street

- ☐ **6b** Explain how to avoid or prevent assault at a restaurant event

- ☐ **6c** Explain how to avoid or prevent sexual assault on a date or at a party

7 Online safety

Tips for this section: Review your passwords and privacy settings with a parent, and learn the warning signs of a scam message.

Example for this section: Bring two real scam examples, like a text claiming you won a prize or a message from "your bank" asking for a password. Point out the warning signs, then show how you'd turn on two-factor login and spot a fake link.

- ☐ **7a** Discuss with your counselor how to avoid becoming a victim of online crime

- ☐ **7b** Discuss with your counselor common online money scams

- ☐ **7c** Discuss with your counselor what good online security looks like

- ☐ **7d** Discuss with your counselor what identity theft is and how to prevent it

- ☐ **7e** Discuss with your counselor how criminals use social media to target people

- ☐ **7f** Discuss with your counselor how bullying, texting, and sharing photos can turn into crimes

8 Travel safety

Tips for this section: Before your next trip, help your family plan: share where you're going, buckle up, and pack a small emergency kit.

- ☐ **8a** Explain how to travel safely on foot in a city

- ☐ **8b** Explain how to travel safely in a friend's car or truck

- ☐ **8c** Explain how to travel safely in a rideshare vehicle

- ☐ **8d** Explain how to travel safely on a bus

- ☐ **8e** Explain how to travel safely on a subway or train

- ☐ **8f** Explain how to travel safely on a commercial airplane

9 Careers and hobbies: Choose 1 of 2

Tips for this section: Ask a firefighter, police officer, or safety manager what they do each day to keep people safe.

- ☐ **9a** Research one safety-related career (training, education, costs, job outlook, pay, duties, advancement), with a parent's OK for online searches, interviews, or visits, and discuss your findings and its appeal with your counselor

Safety worksheet (continued)

- ☐ **9b** Research how safety skills could support a hobby, lifestyle, or volunteer service, including training, costs, and supporting groups, then discuss your short- and long-term goals with your counselor