



AWARD WORKSHEET

Firem'n Chit

Scouts BSA

Name

Started

Completed

The Firem'n Chit shows you know how to build and manage fires safely and responsibly. It's a trust card that lets you carry fire-starting tools and build campfires. Good fire skills keep your group warm, fed, and safe while protecting the outdoors.

Requirements

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

- ☐ **1** Read the fire use and safety rules in the Scouts BSA Handbook and show you understand them

Tip: Read the fire safety rules in your handbook and discuss them with a leader or older Scout.

- ☐ **2** Build a campfire only when it's needed and you have any required permits (rules vary by place)

Tip: Ask yourself if you really need a fire, and check for fire bans or permits before every trip.

Example: Before lighting, ask yourself: Would a stove do the job? Is there a burn ban or high fire danger today? Does this campground need a permit? If a fire isn't needed or isn't allowed, skip it.

- ☐ **3** Keep campfire impact low or use an existing fire lay, following Leave No Trace; clear all burnable material at least 5 feet around the fire (10 feet across)

Tip: Keep your fire small and use an existing fire ring when you can. Clear anything that can burn at least 5 feet around it.

Example: Use an existing fire ring when there is one. Clear leaves, twigs, and pine needles at least 5 feet back, keep the fire small enough to cook on, and burn wood down to ash.

☐ **4** Use and store matches, lighters, and other fire starters safely

Tip: Keep matches and lighters dry and in a safe place, away from the fire and from younger Scouts.

Example: Keep matches in a waterproof container and lighters in your kit, not on the log next to the fire. Store fire starters away from the flames and out of reach of younger Scouts.

☐ **5** Make sure someone is watching the fire at all times

Tip: Never leave a fire alone, even for a minute. Take turns watching it with a buddy.

☐ **6** Keep water and/or a shovel close at hand, and quickly report any wildfire to the right authorities

Tip: Set out water or a shovel before you light the fire. If you see a wildfire, tell an adult right away.

Example: If you see smoke or flames outside a fire ring, tell an adult right away so they can call 911 or the park office, and move your group away from the fire, not toward it.

☐ **7** Use the cold-out test to be sure the fire is completely out, and clean up the fire lay before leaving

Tip: Drown, stir, and feel the ashes until they're cool to the touch. Leave the site clean.

Example: The cold-out test: drown the fire with water, stir the ashes, drown again, then carefully feel near and on the ashes with the back of your hand. If anything is warm, repeat. Pack out any trash left in the fire ring.

☐ **8** Live by the Guide to Safe Scouting, the Outdoor Code, and the Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly! principles

Tip: Learn the Outdoor Code, Leave No Trace, and Tread Lightly! ideas, and check the Guide to Safe Scouting with a leader.

Example: Compare them: the Outdoor Code is a promise, Leave No Trace gives seven principles including minimizing campfire impacts, Tread Lightly! covers responsible use of trails and backroads, and the Guide to Safe Scouting has the fire rules for Scouting events.