



AWARD WORKSHEET

Totin' Chip

Scouts BSA

Name

Started

Completed

The Totin' Chip shows you know how to use a pocketknife, ax, and saw safely and responsibly. It's a trust card: once you earn it, you're trusted to carry and use woods tools at Scouting events. Learn it well, and you'll use these skills on every campout.

Requirements

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

- ☐ 1 Read the woods tool use and safety rules in the Scouts BSA handbook and show you understand them

Tip: Read the woods-tool safety rules in your handbook and talk them over with an older Scout or leader.

- ☐ 2 Show how to handle, care for, and use a pocketknife, ax, and saw properly

Tip: Practice with each tool while an experienced adult or older Scout watches. Learn how to pass, sharpen, and store them.

Example: Show that you can pass a knife closed or handle-first, check your safety circle at arm's length, split kindling with an ax on a chopping block, and saw a log that's supported so the cut doesn't pinch the blade.

- ☐ 3 Use a knife, ax, and saw as tools, never as toys

Tip: Treat tools with respect. Only use them for real jobs, never to show off or play around.

Example: Tools as tools means real jobs: shaving tinder, cutting cord, sawing firewood. Throwing knives at trees, carving on picnic tables, or chopping to show off are toys, and they can cost you your card.

☐ **4** Follow every safety rule that protects other people

Tip: Always check your safety circle and keep others out of it before you use a tool.

☐ **5** Respect property: cut living or dead trees only with permission and a good reason

Tip: Never cut live trees or carve on property without permission and a good reason.

Example: A real example: your patrol wants poles for a lashing project. Instead of cutting saplings, you ask the camp ranger, who points you to a pile of downed wood you're allowed to use.

☐ **6** Commit to following the Outdoor Code

Tip: Learn the Outdoor Code and think about how it applies when you're using tools outdoors.

Example: Talk about how the Outdoor Code's promise to be careful and considerate applies to tools: no carving names into trees, no cutting live branches, and no hacking at stumps around the campsite.