

## BOY SCOUT WINTER CAMPING GEAR LIST - TROOP 390 – Revised 11/22/05

- **COTTON IS NOT YOUR FRIEND IN COLD WEATHER!** Cotton absorbs moisture and makes you cold.
- **Layering is the best way to be comfortable in the winter. Layers can be added or removed as necessary.**
- **Backpack** – Before using any Backpack, bring it to a Troop meeting so that one of the experienced leaders can check/adjust the fit. Not all packs fit all Scouts. We strongly recommend an external frame pack holding 3500-4500 cubic inches, Kelty, Camptrails, Jansport, Dana K2 are good brands, cost is \$100.00 - \$150.00. Internal frame packs are more costly & don't adjust as well to growing bodies, proper fit is critical with internal frame backpacks. Always ask if the pack can be returned for full credit. Sales people don't have Scouting experience.
- **Sleeping Bag**- 20 degree F mummy style preferred, Polargard 3D, Primaloft, or Quallofil are excellent insulation's, cost is under \$125.00. Buy a long length if your son is over 5'10" tall. We discourage the use of down bags. Sleeping bag should come with a stuff sack. Look for total weight of 3-4 lbs. Extra fleece or wool blankets, clean/dry clothing and clean/dry wool socks make a big difference in sleeping comfort at temperatures below 30 degrees. Get in the bag at the store. Some sleeping bags run very small in girth. Check arm room laying down.
- **Ground Pad** – Closed cell foam - Ridgerest or Z-rest, full length or long length, (not short length) under \$ 20.00
- **Water Bottle** - 1-quart Nalgene wide mouth, no canteens, under \$10.00. Coleman and others make them, too.
- **Socks** – Wool or wool blend, 3 pairs, \$5.00- 10.00 per pair. Wool socks are a must. NO COTTON SOCKS!
- **Sock liners** - of polypropylene are used summer and winter to wick the moisture away from the foot and to prevent blisters. Sock liners are worn with wool socks over them.
- **Long Johns** – polypropylene, silk or other synthetic blend, avoid 100% cotton, cost varies.
- **Fleece Pullover** - polyester fleece, hooded if possible, cost & quality varies greatly look for US made fabrics. Polartec is very good material. It comes in 100, 200 and 300 weight. Cotton sweatshirt and sweatpants are only good for sleeping.
- **Coats** – are recommended (not Jackets). A coat with a zip out fleece and long enough to cover the upper thigh is great! These are usually wind and rain repellent. A poncho can be worn over top for wind and rain protection.
- **Rain Gear** - packable waterproof, breathables, like Gore-Tex are great but expensive. Ponchos are fine for weekend campouts, but please get something strong enough not to tear right away.
- **Boots** - Quality footwear is expensive & should be purchased at an outdoor store where they fit your son's feet. Do not make this investment (\$100.00-150.00) until you are certain the feet are done growing. For growing feet, buy inexpensive work type [leather] boots at Walmart and apply several coats of waterproofing. **For Winter the less expensive insulated boot with rubber lower and leather upper boots work fairly well with wool socks.**
- **Gloves** - Lightweight insulated ski gloves- 2 pair of modestly priced gloves is better than one pair of expensive ones. The younger Scouts get the gloves wet right away!
- **Hat or Ski Cap** - that covers ears or hat and ear muffs. Body heat is lost through the head and the ears get cold fast. Head covering is a must. A second knit hat can be used sleeping.
- **Eating gear** - Lexan cup, bowl, fork & spoon. **"Mess Kits" are not recommended.** Cost is under \$10.00, at Walmart or Dick's.
- **Flashlight** - Maglite, 2AA, \$8 – \$10 everywhere. Nothing bigger than 2 AA batteries. Headlights are nice but not worth paying a lot for.
- **Personal Items** – Tooth brush/toothpaste, small deodorant, small soap and small towel.
- **Scout Handbook** – in a Ziplock bag
- **Other Items for Advancement** – Depending on the Scouts desire to complete certain requirements on camp out.

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### **Local Stores-**

- Appalachian Outfitter- Peninsula, return/exchange policy is restrictive. Fitting may be suspect. 10% Scout Discount w/BSA membership card.
- Dicks Sporting Goods- limited selection. Most items not quality desired for Scouts. 10% Scout Discount w/BSA membership card.
- Target – limited selection but good pricing on flashlights, water bottles, etc.
- Walmart – limited selection but good pricing on flashlights, water bottles, etc.

### **Online stores- these stores have liberal return policies & good prices.**

- [www.campmor.com](http://www.campmor.com) (Order done only through Troop get 10% discount. Call Mr. Horvath)
- [www.sierratradingpost.com](http://www.sierratradingpost.com)
- [www.outdooroutlet.com](http://www.outdooroutlet.com)
- [www.rei.com](http://www.rei.com) & [www.reioutlet.com](http://www.reioutlet.com)