



Tent Camping

Before completing this charm, girls should have completed the Be Wild, Be Free patch as well as leave no trace, first aid, and fire charms. If you plan on using knives for cooking, girls should complete that charm as well.

Camping can be a great way to bond with your girl scout sisters. Planning and executing a successful camping trip can be very rewarding. You may be experienced campers or you may be trying something new. Whichever the case, remember to have fun and enjoy nature.

You and your troop are a team, work together and enjoy the camping experience!

If this is your first time camping, review all the skills from each level. The more you know before you go, the safer you will be.

Daisy:

- Discover what things are needed to go camping. What do you think the 5 most important things are?
- Discuss with your troop or family what is important to take on a weekend camping trip. Make a list of items that you will need. How will you be sure everything gets to your campsite? Find out why camp kaper charts are important.
- Practice putting up a tent in your backyard with your family or troop.
- Pack a bag as if you were going camping. What are some things you can do to be sure you remember everything you need?
- Have a backyard campout. With your family, a friend or your troop mates, set up your tent and sleep outside for the night
- Go camping!

Brownie:

- Plan your camping trip. Make your packing list, organize a kaper chart, and be sure everyone knows their role.
- Practice putting up your tent. Before you take your tent to the great outdoors, be sure that you know how to put it up. This will help make your actual camping trip less stressful. It is also important to practice taking down your tent and fitting it back into its bag.

- Check what the weather will be. If this is your first time camping, you may want to choose a time of year when nice weather is highly likely. But be prepared for cool evenings and mornings.
- Go camping! Set up your tents, then have fun. Getting the work out of the way first can be a relief. After, you can make a snack, go on a walk or play a game.

Junior:

- Plan your camping trip. Where will you go? Make your packing list and kaper chart and be sure everyone knows their role.
- Check the weather. Prepare for the possibility of rain, cool nights, foggy mornings.
- Decide how you will organize meals. Now is a good time to practice your outdoor cooking skills. Are you using a Dutch oven, or cooking on the grill? Or are you using a camp stove? Be sure you practice before you camp.
- Know how to set up a campsite. You can use your council outdoor manual to find this information.

Cadette: *Adults: at this age, girls should be doing most of the prep work and camping work themselves. You are there to maintain safety.

- Plan your trip. Decide where to go. Do you need fire permits? Being able to have a campfire or not will be a factor in food preparation.
- Decide on meals and how you will cook beforehand. Assign jobs to each person. Remember, you are a team, work together.
- Prepare for weather. Find out if evening weather will be cool or if mornings will be foggy.
- Be sure that each person can properly demonstrate the skills needed for camping:
 - Fire building
 - Knife use and safety
 - Outdoor cooking
 - First aid
 - What to do if lost
- Go camping!

Senior/Ambassador:

- Plan your trip.
 - Decide on meals, who does what job, prepare for weather.
 - Challenge yourselves by going on a longer trip than you have before, or try out primitive camping.
- Be sure your outdoor skills are up to par. Prior to your trip, review the camping skills needed for a successful outing.
 - Fire building
 - Knife use and safety
 - Outdoor cooking
 - First aid
 - Compass/Orienteering (if you plan on hiking while on your trip)

- What to do if lost
- Go camping! Your camping trip can be the culmination of all your outdoor skills. It's a great time to bond with your sister girl scouts, to prove to yourself that you really have learned all you can, and most of all have fun and enjoy nature!