

Boating Merit Badge Worksheet

Follow the Safety Afloat Guidelines:



1. **Qualified Supervision.** Supervision by a mature conscientious adult (21 years of age or over) knowledgeable of the 8-Point Safe-Swim Defense Plan and should be experienced in water activities. They must be able to respond in the event of an emergency able to perform lifesaving techniques including Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Artificial Respiration (AR). The responsible adult is called the swim coordinator.
2. **Physical Fitness.** All swim participants must have a current health history and medical checkup available.
3. **Swimming Ability.** Each Scout's swimming ability must be tested. Non-swimmers are just learning. Beginners must be able to jump feet first into deep water, swim 25 feet, turn around, and swim back to the start point. Swimmers must be able to jump feet first into deep water and swim 75 yards using one or more strong strokes. They must then swim 25 yards using a resting backstroke and then float on their back for 1 minute. The 100 yards must be swum continuously.
4. **Personal Floatation Equipment.** Properly fitted approved Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) must be worn at all times by all persons engaged in activity on the open water.
5. **Buddy System.** Each Scout is paired with another of about the same swimming ability. Each must stay together. Each pair will be assigned a number from 1 to the total number of pairs. When the swim coordinator calls for a buddy check each pair will sound-off their buddy number one after the other from 1 to the last numbered pair.
6. **Skill Proficiency.** Scouts must be properly trained in water craft handling skills, safety, and emergency procedures specific to the activity.
7. **Planning.** Obtain current maps about the waterway being traveled pointing out exactly where to "put in" and "pull out" and the route to be followed. Provide a reasonable estimate for travel time and review the plan with those who have traveled the route recently. Get permission to use the routes especially those that enter private property. Follow municipal and provincial regulations with regards to the area. File permits with your local council including your route. Check for permitting weather conditions and plan for possible emergencies and circumstances that will force a change in plan. Appropriate and documented alternate plans must be developed for each possible emergency identified.
8. **Equipment.** All equipment must be in good condition and satisfy all rules and regulations. Spare and repair equipment must be carried and emergency equipment available for immediate use.
9. **Discipline.** The swim coordinator ensures that there is discipline and that all rules of the swim area is being followed.

Requirement 1

- Swim 100 yards using any stroke, then rest by floating as still as you can for one minute.

Important! Complete requirement 1 before proceeding to other requirements

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Requirement 2

Show that you know safety rules for boating or sailing.

Requirement 3

Secure a permit to operate a motorboat (if needed).

Explain the laws affecting pleasure boating in your area: _____

Requirement 4

Show that before going in a boat, you know the features or hazards of the body of water to be cruised.

Identify the body of water to be cruised: _____

List features or hazards of the body of water: _____

Requirement 5

Explain the rules of the sea lanes: _____

Describe aids to navigation where you cruised: _____

Requirement 6

Examine the condition and demonstrate the proper use of the following safety gears.

	Condition	Demonstrate		Condition	Demonstrate
Lifesaving Device	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire extinguisher	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oars or Paddles	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Light	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tool Kit	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Extra Shear Pin	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extra Sparks Plugs	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Horn, Whistle, Other	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Compass	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anchor and Line	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety Chain	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	First Aid Kit	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bilge Pump for Bailing	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>			