



MOTORBOATING MERIT BADGE WORKBOOK

This Scoutmaster Bucky Merit Badge Workbook is based off the 2021 Scouts BSA Requirements.

Consider also using the Motorboating merit badge class preparation page for clarification and expectations when participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky merit badge opportunity (online or in-person).

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/motorboating/>

Scout's Name:

REQUIREMENT 1: Do the following:

REQUIREMENT 1A: Discuss with your counselor the following hazards you might encounter while motorboating: flammable fuel; carbon monoxide; propellers; collisions; falls overboard; capsize; running aground. Explain what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.

REQUIREMENT 1B: Explain first aid for injuries or illnesses that could occur while motorboating, including hypothermia, heat reactions, dehydration, motion sickness, bugbites, and blisters.



REQUIREMENT 1C: Identify the conditions that must exist before performing CPR on a person, and explain how such conditions are recognized. Demonstrate proper technique for performing CPR using a training device approved by your counselor.

REQUIREMENT 2: Do the following:

REQUIREMENT 2A: Before doing requirement 5, successfully complete the BSA swimmer test.

REQUIREMENT 2B: Name the different types of personal floatation devices (PFDs), and explain when each type should be used. Show how to choose and properly fit a PFD.

See the [Swimming merit badge](#) requirements for details about the BSA swimmer test.



REQUIREMENT 3: Do the following:

REQUIREMENT 3A: Explain inboard, outboard, and inboard/outboard motors, and the uses and advantages of each.

REQUIREMENT 3B: Explain the safety procedures and precautions involving handling fuel and engine servicing, and equipment storage and placement.

REQUIREMENT 3C: Explain how to winterize a boat motor and tell why this procedure is necessary.



REQUIREMENT 3D: Explain the safety procedures and precautions involving swimmers and skiers in the water, passenger positions under way, and boat wakes.

REQUIREMENT 4: Show you know safety guidelines for motorboating by doing the following:

REQUIREMENT 4A: Review how each item of the BSA Safety Afloat policy applies, including checking the weather prior to and during time on the water, confirming all required equipment is present and functional, and following a float plan.

REQUIREMENT 4B: Explain the rules or laws that apply to recreational boating in your area or state. Have a permit to operate a motorboat, if required by the laws of your state. Discuss how you would find information regarding the boating laws in different states.



REQUIREMENT 4C: Discuss how hazards of weather and heavy water conditions can affect safety and performance in motorboating.

REQUIREMENT 4D: Discuss with your counselor the nautical rules of the road and describe the national and your state's aids to navigation.

REQUIREMENT 4E: Explain and show the correct use of equipment required by both state and federal regulations to be carried aboard a motorboat.

REQUIREMENT 4F: Explain federal and state rules for a ventilation system, and tell why these rules are required.



REQUIREMENT 4G: Explain the use of lights (sight signals) and sound signals on motorboats.

REQUIREMENT 4H: Discuss the common types of anchors used in motorboating and under what conditions each would be preferred. Explain proper anchoring techniques.

REQUIREMENT 5: With your counselor or other adults on board, demonstrate proper boat-handling procedures and skills by doing the following:

REQUIREMENT 5A: Board and assist others in boarding. Confirm that all passengers on board are wearing properly fitted life jackets.



REQUIREMENT 5B: Fuel the boat and complete a safety check.

REQUIREMENT 5C: If equipped, attach a kill switch and safely start the motor. Get underway from dockside or from a beach launch.

REQUIREMENT 5D: Run a course for at least a mile, showing procedures for overtaking and passing slower craft, yielding right-of-way, passing oncoming traffic, making turns, reversing direction, and using navigation aids.

REQUIREMENT 5E: Stop and secure the boat in position on the open water using anchors. Raise and stow the anchor and get underway.



REQUIREMENT 5F: Land or dock the boat, disembark, and assist others in doing the same.

REQUIREMENT 5G: Moor, dock, or beach the boat and secure all gear.