

Wish List: Ideas for Scout Gifts

Adapted from the **Inquiry Net**: <http://inquiry.net/outdoor/equipment>

___ **100% POLYPROPYLENE LONG UNDERWEAR** (Required on winter campouts, but recommended year-around for rainy weather, and for cold nights & mornings in the spring and fall. If buying new, look for 100% Polypropylene, *NOT* the white "waffle pattern" cotton blend—REMEMBER cotton is just about useless when wet. If you want to go natural—think WOOL).

___ **OFFICIAL SCOUT SHIRT** (We have some "recycled" Scout shirts available at the Scout Hut, see Mr. Bill)

___ **TROOP ACTIVITY PANTS** (Green Olive-Drab) In 2006, the National Supply Group introduced the Switchbacks™ official uniform pants as another option. These are made of lightweight nylon material and zip off at the knee to convert them into shorts. Do not let your Scout use hand-me-down military BDUs. It is against BSA uniform policy, and the UCMJ, to wear military uniform items.

BSA Rules and Regulations, Article X, Section 4, Clause 4. Prohibition of Alteration or Imitation:

a). No alteration of, or additions to, the official uniforms, as described in the official publications, or the rules and regulations covering the wearing of the uniform and the proper combinations thereof on official occasions, may be authorized by any Scouting official or local Council or any local executive board or committee, except the National Executive Board after consideration by the Program Group Committee.

b) Imitation of United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Air Force uniforms is prohibited, in accordance with the provisions of Act of Congress, approved June 3, 1916."

While civilian Trebark or similar camo clothing items are not addressed in BSA policy, the immediate past Chief Scout Executive of the BSA Roy William's sent out a memorandum stating, **"hunting and military-style clothing, combined with or worn instead of the official Boy Scout or Explorer uniform, are not acceptable wear during any Boy Scouting or Exploring activity. Scout Executives are to instruct unit leaders and volunteers that those articles of clothing along with equipment like pistol belts, suspenders and military field gear are not allowed to be worn with official Boy Scouts of America clothing or in the place of BSA uniforms and outdoor clothing."**

Troop policy continues that the Troop neckerchiefs are the **ONLY** camo item authorized for wear. They are not an imitation of any military uniform item, are all cut from a bolt of cloth and never from anything that has ever been a uniform, and are not addressed in any regulation or memorandum—whether UCMJ, Federal law or BSA policy statement.

___ **HIKING BOOTS** (Buy 1/2 size larger to fit heavy hiking socks--Make sure your boots are NOT TOO TIGHT!).

___ **HEAVY NON-COTTON HIKING SOCKS & Liners**

___ **COMPASS with a BASE-PLATE**, in a Zip-Lock bag (with map, if you have one).

___ **POCKETKNIFE** (SMALL Swiss Army Knife on neck chain, \$13. Never buy a knife made in China!)

___ Good quality **RAIN SUIT** (includes rain pants, about \$40)

___ **"BLUE" 5'X7' TARP** (or other Plastic Ground Sheet to keep your sleeping bag dry).

___ **SMALL DOME TENT** (Our Troop encourages use of Troop tents while camping in "Public", such as Camporees and facilities sharing use with the general public—this gives us a more uniform appearance. If you're buying a new tent for your scout, the outer Rain Cover should come *all the way down to the ground*. Make sure it is easily packed for High Adventure trips like Philmont or Northern Tier)