



## Winter Camping Gear

The gear list provided below is one example of how a lightweight backpacker might select equipment for a 3-day weekend outing in temperate mountain ranges in the winter.

Inherent assumptions in this list include:

- Several feet of unconsolidated snow cover on the ground
- Overnight low temperatures of zero to fifteen degrees
- Daytime highs not above freezing

**Avoid Cotton.** Clothing keeps you warm by trapping warm air near your skin. When cotton gets wet, it ceases to insulate you because all of the air pockets fill up with water. If the air is colder than your body temperature, you'll feel cold because your cotton clothing is saturated.

**Sleds.** Gear can either be carried in a backpack or hauled on a sled. Wrapping the backpacks in large trash bags and tying them to sleds is an efficient way to haul gear over snow.

**Pack List.** Developing a pack list is a philosophical exercise and each family have their own ideas about an acceptable pack list – consider this a starting point.

<b>Base Layer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Base Layer Top <input type="checkbox"/> Underware	<input type="checkbox"/> Base Layer Bottom <input type="checkbox"/> Boots	<input type="checkbox"/> Light Socks (no cotton)
<b>Insulation Layer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Fleece Jacket <input type="checkbox"/> Light Gloves	<input type="checkbox"/> Pants (no cotton) <input type="checkbox"/> Light Hat	<input type="checkbox"/> Heavy Socks (no-cotton)
<b>Shell Layer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof Jacket <input type="checkbox"/> Warm Gloves	<input type="checkbox"/> Weatherproof Pants	<input type="checkbox"/> Warm Hat
<b>Gear</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Backpack <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Socks <input type="checkbox"/> Large Trash Bag	<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Base Layer Bottom <input type="checkbox"/> Avalanche Shovel (optional)	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed-Cell Foam Pad <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Base Layer Top <input type="checkbox"/> Candle
<b>Cooking</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cookpot <input type="checkbox"/> Cup/Mug	<input type="checkbox"/> Utensils <input type="checkbox"/> Water Bottle	<input type="checkbox"/> Stove/Fuel (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Food
<b>Toiletries</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Toilet Paper	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand Sanitizer	<input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush/paste
<b>Equipment</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Knife <input type="checkbox"/> Compass <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter/Tarp <input type="checkbox"/> Snowshoes (optional)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Starter <input type="checkbox"/> Bandana <input type="checkbox"/> Paracord 50' <input type="checkbox"/> Ski Poles (optional)	<input type="checkbox"/> Watch <input type="checkbox"/> Small First Aid Kit <input type="checkbox"/> Headlamp/Flashlight <input type="checkbox"/> Sled (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Warmers (optional)

**Prohibited Items.** Cell phones (Scoutmaster will confiscate them), electronic gear, radios, iPods, anything in glass, aerosol sprays (deodorants), anything expensive (watches, jewelry, or 'heirloom' knives), soft drinks in cans or bottles.

**Resources.** For more information contact your Senior Patrol Leader.