



Equipment Cleaning Guide

Scouts BSA Troop 192

Troop 192 has spent a lot of money on the equipment that we take on camping trips and use for troop activities. To keep this equipment in good condition, pieces of gear are sent home with Scouts to clean and brought back to the next meeting, ready for their next use. This booklet details how to care for and clean each piece of troop gear before you bring it back to the next troop meeting.

Happy cleaning!

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Tarps

Tarps always need to be dried out after a campout, even if it has not rained. Dew on a tarp is enough to cause mildew.

Do NOT machine wash or dry tarps. The heat can melt the fabric.

Guidelines to Cleaning:

1. Lay tarp out to dry (preferably outside in the sun)
2. Once dry, take a broom and sweep all dirt/debris off the tarp
3. If dirt remains on the tarp, spray with water and use a scrub brush to clean off the dirt
4. Once completely dry, fold the tarp (or roll if it is larger than tent sized and tie with rope)
5. Create a list of any issues with the tarp (if applicable)
 - a. Include any issues you have noticed and as much detail about them as possible
 - b. Include your name and patrol name
 - c. Turn in to the Quartermaster with the tarp



Tents

Tents must be set up AS SOON AS YOU ARRIVE HOME. Leaving the tent in its bag for as little as 24 hours can cause mildew to set in. Mildew can permanently damage the waterproof coating on a tent and often stains tents. It also causes tents to smell, and no one wants to sleep in a tent that reeks of mildew.

Tents always need to be set up and dried out after a campout, even if it has not rained. Dew on a tent is enough to cause mildew.

Do NOT machine wash or dry tents. The heat can melt the fabric.

Make sure to check that your tent has all of its parts when you dry it out. If it is missing parts or parts are broken, let the Quartermaster know when you check the tent back in.

Tent Parts:

- ☐ 1 Tent Body
- ☐ 1 Rainfly
- ☐ 3 Aluminum Poles
- ☐ ~4-6 Stakes
- ☐ ~4-6 Rope Guy Lines
- ☐ 1 Tent Bag
- ☐ 1 Pole Bag
- ☐ 1 Stake Bag

Guidelines to Cleaning:

1. Dry the tent, rainfly, and bags by setting up the tent OR hanging up each part
2. Clean the tent by:
 - a. Shaking out dirt/debris from the inside of the tent
 - b. Sweeping out the inside of the tent
 - c. Wiping mud/dirt off the inside and outside of the tent with damp cloth
3. Check for all tent pieces (see list above)
4. Ensure all poles are in working order
5. Check for holes or rips in the tent and note their location and size
6. Once completely dry, pack the tent into the bag
 - a. Place the rope guy lines and stakes in the stake bag; place the poles in the pole bag
 - b. Fold the tent into thirds so it is about the length of the tent bag
 - c. Fold the rainfly so it is the same size or smaller than the tent
 - d. Lay the folded tent out on the floor and place the folded rainfly on top of the tent
 - e. Roll the poles and stakes inside of the tent
 - f. Place in the tent bag
7. Create a list of any issues with the tent (if applicable)
 - a. Include any issues you have noticed and as much detail about them as possible
 - b. Include your name and patrol name
 - c. Turn in to the Quartermaster with the tent



Pop Ups

Pop up covers always need to be dried out after a campout, even if it has not rained. Dew on a pop up cover is enough to cause mildew.

Do NOT machine wash or dry pop up covers. The heat can melt the fabric.

Guidelines to Cleaning:

1. Dry the pop up structure, cover, and bag by setting up the pop up OR hanging up the cover and bag and opening up the structure
2. Clean the pop up by:
 - a. Sweeping off the pop up cover
 - b. Wiping mud/dirt off the pop up cover and structure with a damp cloth
3. Once completely dry, collapse the pop up with the cover on and put in the bag
4. Create a list of any issues with the pop up (if applicable)
 - a. Include any issues you have noticed and as much detail about them as possible
 - b. Include your name and patrol name
 - c. Turn in to the Quartermaster with the pop up



Chuckboxes

Chuckboxes are the patrol's responsibility. It is their job to keep the gear inside clean and to alert the Quartermaster when things are damaged or they need more of a consumable.

Remember that you use the supplies in the chuckboxes to cook and eat. It is possible for cookware left uncleaned in a chuckbox to grow mold and other fungi. No one wants to get sick at a troop event, so take care of your dishware.

Guidelines After an Outing:

1. Take out used sponges and throw away; return unused sponges to the consumables bin
2. Take out all towels and potholders and set aside to go home with another Scout

Guidelines to Cleaning:

1. Empty the chuckbox of all contents
2. Clean the inside and outside of the box with soap and warm water
 - a. Note any damage to the box
3. Ensure all equipment is present using the Chuckbox Inventory included in the box
 - a. Note any items missing or in need of replacement
4. Clean any items within the box that need cleaning
5. Ensure all utensils and smaller items are in the appropriate clear containers
 - a. Check knives to make sure all have covers
6. Once dry, repack all items in the chuckbox
7. Create a list of any issues with the chuckbox (if applicable)
 - a. Include any issues you have noticed and as much detail about them as possible
 - b. Include your name and patrol name
 - c. Turn in to the Quartermaster with the chuckbox



Dutch Ovens/Griddles

Cleaning cast iron can be intimidating, but it isn't that hard if you know what to do. It's important that you don't shock the cast iron when cleaning as that can cause cracks to form. Be careful to dry the cast iron completely, or it can rust.

Guidelines to Cleaning:

1. Wash the griddle or Dutch oven with a damp paper towel
 - a. DO NOT submerge in water
 - b. DO NOT shock the cast iron by using very cold or very hot water
2. Scrape off food residue with a plastic pan scraper
 - a. DO NOT use brillo pads, metal, or anything similar
3. Dry with paper towels immediately after cleaning
 - a. Air drying can cause rust
4. Rub a light layer of cooking oil onto the surface of the griddle or Dutch oven with a paper towel
 - a. For griddles only, heat the oiled griddle in an oven to 250-300° for 5-10 minutes; then let cool

5. Wipe with a paper towel until no oil residue remains
6. Dry completely
7. Create a list of any issues with the griddle or Dutch oven (if applicable)
 - a. Include any issues you have noticed and as much detail about them as possible
 - b. Include your name and patrol name
 - c. Turn in to the Quartermaster with the griddle or Dutch oven



Stoves

It's important to keep our stoves clean to prolong their lifespan and keep them heating up well to cook our food. If food or grease is left on the stove, mold and other fungi can grow. We can't cook on a stove with mold in it, so make sure the stoves are kept clean and sanitized.

Stove Parts:

- ☐ 1 Stove Body with Two Burners
- ☐ 1 Stove Back
- ☐ 4 Stove Legs
- ☐ 2 Utensil Holders
- ☐ 1 Stove Bag

Guidelines to Cleaning:

1. Empty the stove bag of all contents
2. Check for all stove pieces (see list above)
3. Clean the stove and all parts
 - a. Use warm water, soap, degreasing cleaner, and scouring pads
 - b. Try to avoid getting water inside the burner system or propane hose
4. Set up stove and bag to dry
5. Once dry, repack all items into the stove bag
6. Create a list of any issues with the stove (if applicable)
 - a. Include any issues you have noticed and as much detail about them as possible
 - b. Include your name and patrol name
 - c. Turn in to the Quartermaster with the stove



Coolers/Water Jugs

If not cleaned well, coolers and water jugs can grow fungi or other types of bacteria. Uncleaned coolers or jugs develop a mildewy smell and can grow mold. Remember, you drink out of these, so it is in your best interest to keep them clean.

NEVER store a cooler or water jug that is still wet inside and never store one sealed.

Guidelines to Cleaning:

1. Clean the inside and outside of the cooler or water jug with soap and warm water
2. Rinse the cooler or water jug until the smell of soap is gone
3. Wipe the inside of the cooler or water jug with a disinfectant wipe
4. Rinse the cooler or water jug thoroughly with water
5. Scrub off any dirt on the outside of the cooler or water jug with a scrub brush
6. Let dry with lids open
 - a. Make sure the outside and inside are completely dry before checking it back in with the Quartermaster
 - b. We store tents inside these coolers and we don't want them getting wet when the Quartermasters repack our gear
7. Create a list of any issues with the cooler or water jug (if applicable)
 - a. Include any issues you have noticed and as much detail about them as possible
 - b. Include your name and patrol name
 - c. Turn in to the Quartermaster with the cooler or water jug



Food Bins

Food bins often have food residue inside after a campout. If left uncleaned, it can grow fungi or other types of bacteria. It also can attract bugs and rodents when stored. It's very important that we keep our food bins clean to avoid sicknesses on campouts or a bug/rodent infestation at the church.

Guidelines to Cleaning:

1. Clean the inside and outside of the box with soap and warm water
 - a. Note any damage to the box
2. Let dry with the lid off
3. Create a list of any issues with the bin (if applicable)
 - a. Include any issues you have noticed and as much detail about them as possible
 - b. Include your name and patrol name
 - c. Turn in to the Quartermaster with the bin



Towels/Potholders

Towels can get gross and dirty from use on a camping trip. Keeping them nice and clean reduces the risk of getting sick on a campout.

Guidelines to Cleaning:

1. Put towels and potholders in the washing machine and wash on cold alone
2. Put towels in dryer and air dry potholders inside out
3. Once completely dry, fold towels and turn potholders right side out
4. Create a list of any issues with the towels (if applicable)
 - a. Include any issues you have noticed and as much detail about them as possible
 - b. Include your name and patrol name
 - c. Turn in to the Quartermaster with the towels



Flags

We love our patrol and troop flags. To keep them in good condition and to prevent mildew from growing, we need to let them dry out after a campout.

Guidelines to Cleaning:

1. Take out of flag bag and set up
2. Let flags and bag dry
3. Repair any loose grommets and untangle any ribbons or awards hanging on the flag
4. Once completely dry, repack in bag
5. Create a list of any issues with the flags (if applicable)
 - a. Include any issues you have noticed and as much detail about them as possible
 - b. Include your name and patrol name
 - c. Turn in to the Quartermaster with the flags

