



BOY SCOUTS

Youth

[Activities](#)
[Awards](#)
[Events](#)
[Opportunities](#)
[Publications](#)

Resources

[Troop Program Features Vol. I - III](#)
[Troop Program Resources](#)

Adult Leaders

[Activities](#)
[Awards](#)
[Opportunities](#)
[Publications](#)
[Support](#)
[Training](#)

Advancement & Awards

[Introduction to Merit Badges](#)

Guide for Merit Badge

Counselors

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)
[Guide for Merit Badge](#)
[Counselors](#)
[Rank Advancement](#)
[Resources](#)
[Merit Badge Review](#)

National Eagle Scout

Association

Order of the Arrow

Passport to High

Adventure

Teaching Leave No Trace

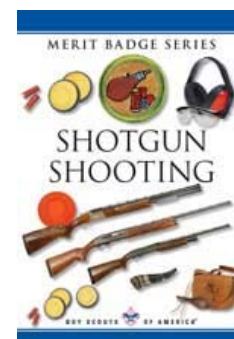
[Home](#) | [Boy Scouts of America](#) > [Boy Scouts](#) > [Advancement & Awards](#) > [Introduction to Merit Badges](#) > [Shotgun Shooting](#)

Shotgun Shooting

A shotgun is a precision instrument, designed to shoot a shot charge in a specific pattern to cover a designated area at a certain distance. Unlike a rifle, the bore of the shotgun is not rifled, so the shot emerging from the muzzle is not spinning.

Requirements

1. Do the following:
 - a. Explain why BB and pellet air guns must always be treated with the same respect as firearms.
 - b. Describe how you would react if a friend visiting your home asked to see your or your family's firearm(s).
 - c. Explain the need for and use and types of eye and hearing protection.
 - d. Explain the main points of the laws for owning and using guns in your community and state.
 - e. Explain how hunting is related to the wise use of renewable wildlife resources.
 - f. Successfully complete a state hunter education course, or obtain a copy of the hunting laws for your state, then do the following.
 1. Explain the main points of hunting laws in your state and give any special laws on the use of guns and ammunition, and
 2. List the kinds of wildlife that can be legally hunted in your state.
 - g. Explain to your counselor the proper hygienic guidelines used in shooting.
 - h. Identify and explain three shotgun sports. Identify places in your community where you could shoot these sports and explain how you can join or be a part of shooting sports activities.
 - i. Give your counselor a list of sources that you could contact for information on firearms and their use.
 - j. Do ONE of the following options:
 1. Identify the principal parts of a shotgun, action types, and how they function.
 2. Identify and demonstrate the rules for safely handling a shotgun.
 3. Identify the parts of a shotgun shell and their functions.
 4. Identify the various gauges of shotguns. Explain which one you would pick for use and why.
 5. Identify and explain the fundamentals of safely shooting a shotgun.
 6. Identify and explain each rule for safely shooting a shotgun.
 7. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot moving targets, using the fundamentals of shotgun shooting.



Shotgun Shooting
BSA Supply No. 35948

Shotgun Shooting (Modern Shotshell Type) Option

- a. Identify the principal parts of a shotgun, action types, and how they function.
- b. Identify and demonstrate the rules for safely handling a shotgun.
- c. Identify the parts of a shotgun shell and their functions.
- d. Identify the various gauges of shotguns. Explain which one you would pick for use and why.
- e. Identify and explain the fundamentals of safely shooting a shotgun.
- f. Identify and explain each rule for safely shooting a shotgun.
- g. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot moving targets, using the fundamentals of shotgun shooting.

- h. Identify the materials needed to clean a shotgun.
- i. Demonstrate how to clean a shotgun safely.
- j. Discuss what points you would consider in selecting a shotgun.
- k. Shooting score required—Hit at least 12 (48 percent) out of 25 targets in two 25-target groups. The two groups need not be shot in consecutive order.

Shooting skill rules:

- Targets may be thrown by a hand trap, manual mechanical, or on any trap or skeet field.
Note: If using a hand trap or manual mechanical trap, the trap operator should be at least five feet to the right and three feet to the rear of the shooter. If throwing left-handed with a hand trap this should be reversed.
- All targets should be thrown at a reasonable speed and in the same direction.
- Targets should be generally thrown so as to climb in the air after leaving the trap.
- Scores may be fired at any time, either in formal competition or in practice.
- Any gauge shotgun not exceeding 12 gauge may be used.
- Standard clay targets customarily used for trap and skeet are to be used.
- Any ammunition, either factory or hand loaded, may be used.
- Shooters must shoot in rounds of 25. Rounds need not be shot continuously or on the same day (the term "round" refers to a single series of 25 shots).

Muzzle-Loading Shotgun Shooting Option

- a. Discuss a brief history of the development of the muzzle-loading shotgun.
- b. Identify principal parts of percussion and flintlock shotguns and discuss how they function.
- c. Demonstrate and discuss safe handling rules of a muzzle-loading shotgun.
- d. Identify the various grades of black powder and their proper use.
- e. Discuss proper safety procedures pertaining to black powder use and storage.
- f. Discuss proper components of a load.
- g. Identify proper procedures and accessories used for loading a muzzle-loading shotgun.
- h. Demonstrate knowledge, skill, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a muzzle-loading shotgun on a range, including range procedures.
- i. Shoot a moving target with a muzzle-loading shotgun using the five fundamentals of firing the shot.
- j. Identify the materials needed to clean a muzzle-loading shotgun properly and safely.
- k. Demonstrate how to clean a muzzle-loading shotgun safely.
- l. Identify the causes of a muzzle-loading shotgun's failing to fire and explain or demonstrate proper correction procedures.
- m. Discuss what points you would consider if selecting a muzzle-loading shotgun.
- n. Shooting score required—Hit at least five out of 15 targets.

Shooting skill rules:

- Targets may be thrown by a hand trap, manual mechanical, or on any trap or skeet field.
Note: If using a hand trap or manual mechanical trap, the trap operator should be at least five feet to the right and three feet to the rear of the shooter. If throwing left-handed with a hand trap this should be reversed.
- All targets should be thrown at a reasonable speed and in the same direction.
- Targets should be generally thrown so as to climb in the air after leaving the trap.
- Scores may be fired at any time, either in formal competition or in practice.
- Any gauge shotgun not exceeding 10 gauge may be used.
- Standard clay targets customarily used for trap and skeet are to be used.

Resources

Scouting Literature

- *Environmental Science, Fish and Wildlife Management, and Rifle Shooting* merit badge pamphlets
- *Camp Health and Safety*, No. 19-308
- *Camp Program and Property Management* (section VI, Shooting Sports), No. 20-920B
- *Guide to Safe Scouting*, No. 34416D
- *Health and Safety Guide*, No. 34415B

Books

- Bridges, Toby. *Muzzleloading*. Creative Publishing, 1997.
- Brister, Bob. *Shotgunning: The Art and the Science*. Winchester Press, 1977.
- Galan, J. I. *Airgun Digest*. DBI Books, 1995.
- Henderson, David R. *Gunsmithing Shotguns: A Basic Guide to Care and Repair*. Lyons Press, 2003.
- Malloy, John. *Complete Guide to Guns and Shooting*. DBI Books, 1995.
- McIntosh, Michael. *Shotguns and Shooting: A Celebration of the Gun*. Countrysport Press, 1995.
- Meyer, Jerry. *The Clay Target Handbook*. Lyons Press, 1995.
- Migdalski, Tom. *The Complete Book of Shotgunning Games*. McGraw-Hill, 1998.
- Morrow, Tom. *The Orvis Field Guide to Shotgun Care and Maintenance*. Willow Creek Press, 2000.
- Re, Lois. *Black's Wing and Clay: The Complete Shotgunner's Guide to Equipment, Instruction, and Destinations*. Masters Press, 1999.
- Russell, James. *Precision Shooting: The Trapshooter's Bible for the Advanced Trapshooter and Those Who Strive to Be*. James Russell, 1998.
- ----- . *Trapshooting Secrets*. James Russell, 1999.

Organizations and Web Sites

Alco Target Company

Toll-free telephone: 888-258-4814

Web site: <http://www.alcotarget.com>

Amateur Trapshooting Association

601 W. National Road

Vandalia, OH 45377

Telephone: 937-898-4638

Web site: <http://www.shootata.com>

American Target Company

Telephone: 303-733-0433

Central Target Company

Toll-free telephone: 800-843-5726

Discover the Outdoors: Shooting Sports

1560 W. 100 Terrace

Lenexa, KS 66219

Telephone: 913-498-3100

Toll-free telephone: 1-866-386-0266

Web site: <http://www.dto.com/shooting>

Littler Sales Company

Telephone: 313-273-6889

Michaels of Oregon

Toll-free telephone: 800-962-5757

Web site: <http://www.michaelsoforegon.com>

National Rifle Association of America

11250 Waples Mills Road

Fairfax, VA 22030

Telephone: 703-267-1428

Web site: <http://www.nra.org>

National Shooting Sports Foundation

11 Mile Hill Road

Newtown, CT 06470

Telephone: 203-426-1320

Web site: <http://www.nssf.org>

National Skeet Shooting Association

National Sporting Clays Association

5931 Roft Road

San Antonio, TX 78253

Telephone: 210-688-3371

Toll-free telephone: 800-877-5338

Web site: <http://www.nssa-nsca.com>

National Target Company

Toll-free telephone: 800-827-7060

Web site: <http://www.nationaltarget.com>

Remington Arms Company Inc.

870 Remington Drive

P.O. Box 700

Madison, NC 27025-0700

Toll-free telephone: 1-800-243-9700

Web site: <http://www.remington.com>

Shotgun News Magazine

Primedia Inc.

2 News Plaza

P.O. Box 1790

Peoria, IL 61656

Toll-free telephone: 800-521-2885

Web site: <http://www.shotgunnews.com>

Shotgun Report

Web site: <http://www.shotgunreport.com>

Shotgun Sports Magazine

P.O. Box 6810

Auburn, CA 95604

Telephone: 530-889-2220

Web site: <http://www.shotgunsportsmagazine.com>

Target Barn Inc.

Telephone: 419-829-2242

The Target Shop

Telephone: 856-358-5140

Web site: <http://www.trapshooters.com>

U.S. Target Company

Toll-free telephone: 800-746-6836

Web site: <http://www.ustargetonline.com>

USA Shooting

1 Olympic Plaza

Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Telephone: 719-866-4670

Web site: <http://www.usashooting.com>



© 2010 Boy Scouts of America - All Rights Reserved

[| About](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Licensing and Trademark](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Terms](#) | [Sitemap](#)