



# RIFLE SHOOTING

## Merit Badge 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) Give 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) Obtain a copy of the hunting laws for your state. Explain the main points of hunting laws in your state and give any special laws on the use of guns or ammunition.
- G) Identify and explain how you can join or be a part of shooting sports activities.
- H) Explain to your counselor the proper hygienic guidelines used in shooting.
- I) Give to your counselor a list of sources that you could contact for information on firearms and their uses.

2) Do ONE of the following options:

### **OPTION A - Rifle Shooting (Modern Cartridge Type)**

- A) Identify the three main parts of a rifle and tell how they function.
- B) Identify and demonstrate the three fundamental rules for safe gun handling.
- C) Identify two types of cartridges, their parts, and how they function.
- D) Explain to your counselor what a misfire, hangfire, and squib fire are, and explain the procedures to follow in response to each.
- E) Identify and demonstrate the five fundamentals of shooting a rifle safely.
- F) Identify and explain each rule for safe shooting.
- G) Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a rifle from the bench rest position or supported prone position while using the five fundamentals of rifle shooting.
- H) Identify the basic safety rules for cleaning a rifle, and identify the materials needed.
- I) Demonstrate how to clean a rifle properly and safely.
- J) Discuss what points you would consider in selecting a rifle.
- K) Using a .22 caliber rimfire rifle and shooting from a bench rest or supported prone position at 50 feet, fire five groups (3 shots per group) that can be covered by a quarter. Using these targets, explain how to adjust sights to zero.
- I) Adjust sights to center the group on the target and fire five groups (5 shots per group). According to the target used, each shot in the group must meet the following minimum score:
  - 1) A-32 targets - 9,
  - 2) A-17 or TQ-1 targets - 7,
  - 3) A-36 targets - 5.

**\*\* NOTE:** It is not always practical to adjust the sights (i.e. when using a borrowed fixed-sight rifle). For requirement 2-1, you may demonstrate your ability to use the shooting fundamentals by shooting five shot groups (five shots per group) in which all shots can be covered by or touch a quarter and then explain how to adjust the sights to zero the rifle.

### **OPTION B - Air Rifle Shooting (BB or Pellet)**

- A) Identify the principal parts of an air rifle, and how they function.
- B) Identify and demonstrate the three fundamental rules for safe gun handling.
- C) Identify the two most common types of air rifle ammunition.
- D) Identify and demonstrate the five fundamentals of shooting a rifle safely.
- E) Identify and explain each rule for shooting an air rifle safely.
- F) Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a target from the bench rest position or supported prone position while using the five fundamentals of rifle shooting.
- G) Identify the basic safety rules for cleaning an air rifle, and identify the materials needed.
- H) Demonstrate how to clean an air rifle safely.
- I) Discuss what points you would consider in selecting an air rifle.
- J) Using a BB gun or pellet air rifle and shooting from a bench rest or supported prone position at 15 feet for BB guns or 33 feet for air rifles, fire five groups (three shots per group) that can be covered by a quarter.
- K) Adjust sights to center the group on the target and fire five groups (five shots per group). According to the target used, each shot in the group must meet the following minimum score:
  - 1) BB rifle at 15 feet or 5 meters using TQ-5 targets - 8;
  - 2) Pellet air rifle at 25 feet using TQ-5 target - 8, at 33 feet or 10 meters using AR-1 targets - 6.

### **OPTION C - Muzzle-loading Rifle Shooting:**

- A) Discuss a brief history of the development of muzzle-loading rifles.
- B) Identify principal parts of percussion and flintlock rifles and discuss how they function.
- C) Demonstrate and discuss the safe handling rules of muzzle-loading rifles.
- 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 rifle.
- H) Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a muzzle-loading rifle on a range, including range procedures.
- I) Shoot a target with a muzzle-loading rifle using the five fundamentals of firing a shot.
- J) Identify the materials needed to clean a muzzle-loading rifle safely. Using these materials, demonstrate how to clean a muzzle-loading rifle safely.
- K) Identify the causes of a muzzle-loading rifle's failure to fire and explain or demonstrate proper correction procedures.
- L) Discuss what points you would consider in selecting a muzzle-loading rifle.
- M) Using a muzzle-loading rifle of .45 or .50 caliber and shooting from a bench rest or supported prone position, fire three groups (three shots per group) at 50 feet that can be covered by the base of a standard-size soft drink can.
- N) Center the group on the target and fire three groups (five per group). According to the target used, each shot in the group must meet the following minimum score:
  - 1) At 50 feet using NRA A-23 or NMLRA 50-yard targets -- 7
  - 2) At 50 yards using NRA A-25 or NMLRA 100-yard targets -- 7

## Requirement 1

Why should BB and pellet air guns be treated with the same respect as firearms? \_\_\_\_\_

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How would you react if a friend visiting your home asked to see your or your family's firearm(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

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Explain the need for, use, and types of eye and hearing protection: \_\_\_\_\_

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Give the main points of the laws for owning and using guns in your community and state: \_\_\_\_\_

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Explain how hunting is related to the wise use of renewable wildlife resources: \_\_\_\_\_

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Obtain a copy of the hunting laws for your state. Explain the main points of hunting laws in your state and give any special laws on the use of guns or ammunition: \_\_\_\_\_

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Identify and explain how you can join or be a part of shooting sports activities: \_\_\_\_\_

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Explain the proper hygienic guidelines used in shooting: \_\_\_\_\_

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List the sources that you could contact for information on firearms and their use: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Requirement 2

You have been given three options for this requirement. Select and complete one of them.

If you selected *Option A: Rifle Shooting (Modern Cartridge Type)*:

Identify the three main parts of a rifle and tell how they function:

Part: \_\_\_\_\_

How does it function? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Part: \_\_\_\_\_

How does it function? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Part: \_\_\_\_\_

How does it function? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Identify and demonstrate the three fundamental rules for safe gun handling.

Rule 1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_ Demonstrated

Rule 2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_ Demonstrated

Rule 3: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_ Demonstrated

Identify the two types of cartridges, their parts, and how they function.

Cartridge Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartridge Part: \_\_\_\_\_ Function: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartridge Part: \_\_\_\_\_ Function: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartridge Part: \_\_\_\_\_ Function: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartridge Part: \_\_\_\_\_ Function: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartridge Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartridge Part: \_\_\_\_\_ Function: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartridge Part: \_\_\_\_\_ Function: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartridge Part: \_\_\_\_\_ Function: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartridge Part: \_\_\_\_\_ Function: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain the following and also explain the procedures to follow in response to each:

Misfire: \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure: \_\_\_\_\_

Hangfire: \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure: \_\_\_\_\_

Squib Fire: \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure: \_\_\_\_\_

Identify and demonstrate the five fundamentals of shooting.

1-Fundamental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrated

2-Fundamental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrated

3-Fundamental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrated

4-Fundamental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrated

5-Fundamental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrated

Identify and explain each rule for safe shooting.

Rule 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rule 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rule 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rule 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rule 5: \_\_\_\_\_  
Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Rule 6: \_\_\_\_\_  
Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Rule 7: \_\_\_\_\_  
Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a rifle from the bench rest position or supported prone position while using the five fundamentals of rifle shooting.

Summarize how you demonstrated this: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Identify the basic safety rules for cleaning a rifle: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List the materials needed to clean a rifle:

- |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1: _____ | 2: _____ | 3: _____ |
| 4: _____ | 5: _____ | 6: _____ |

\_\_\_ Demonstrate to your merit badge counselor how to clean a rifle properly and safely. Briefly describe the steps you took: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Use the spaces below to list some of the points you would consider in selecting a rifle.

- |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1: _____  | 2: _____  | 3: _____  |
| 4: _____  | 5: _____  | 6: _____  |
| 7: _____  | 8: _____  | 9: _____  |
| 10: _____ | 11: _____ | 12: _____ |
| 13: _____ | 14: _____ | 15: _____ |

The last requirement asks that you do some shooting. Using a .22 caliber rimfire rifle and shooting from a bench rest or supported prone position at 50 feet, fire five groups (3 shots per group) that can be covered by a quarter.

Using these targets, explain how to adjust the sights to zero: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Adjust sight to center the group on the target and fire five groups (five shots per group). According to the target used, each shot in the group must meet the following minimum score:

- (1) A32 targets – 9
- (2) A-17 or TQ-1 targets – 7
- (3) A-36 targets – 5

**\*\* NOTE: It is not always practical to adjust the sights (i.e. when using a borrowed fixed-sight rifle). For requirement 2-1, you may demonstrate your ability to use the shooting fundamentals by shooting five shot groups (five shots per group) in which all shots can be covered by or touch a quarter and then explain how to adjust the sights to zero the rifle.**

\_\_ Once you have met the minimum shooting score show your targets to your merit badge counselor for verification.

If you selected **Option B: Air Rifle Shooting (BB or Pellet)**:

Identify the three main parts of an air rifle and tell how they function:

Part: \_\_\_\_\_

How does it function? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Part: \_\_\_\_\_

How does it function? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Part: \_\_\_\_\_

How does it function? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Identify and demonstrate the three fundamental rules for safe gun handling.

Rule 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_ Demonstrated

Rule 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_ Demonstrated

Rule 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_ Demonstrated

Identify the two most common types of air rifle ammunition:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Identify and demonstrate the five fundamentals of shooting a rifle.

1-Fundamental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrated

2-Fundamental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrated

3-Fundamental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrated

4-Fundamental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrated

5-Fundamental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrated

Identify and explain each rule for shooting an air rifle safely.

Rule 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rule 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rule 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rule 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rule 5: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rule 6: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rule 7: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a target from the bench rest position or supported prone position while using the five fundamentals of rifle shooting.

Summarize how you demonstrated this: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Identify the basic safety rules for cleaning an air rifle: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List the materials needed to clean an air rifle:

1: \_\_\_\_\_ 2: \_\_\_\_\_ 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
4: \_\_\_\_\_ 5: \_\_\_\_\_ 6: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrate to your merit badge counselor how to clean an air rifle safely. Briefly describe the steps you took: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Use the spaces below to list some of the points you would consider in selecting a rifle.

1: \_\_\_\_\_ 2: \_\_\_\_\_ 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
4: \_\_\_\_\_ 5: \_\_\_\_\_ 6: \_\_\_\_\_  
7: \_\_\_\_\_ 8: \_\_\_\_\_ 9: \_\_\_\_\_  
10: \_\_\_\_\_ 11: \_\_\_\_\_ 12: \_\_\_\_\_  
13: \_\_\_\_\_ 14: \_\_\_\_\_ 15: \_\_\_\_\_

The last requirement asks that you do some shooting. Using a BB gun or pellet air rifle and shooting from a bench rest or supported prone position at 15 feet, fire five groups (3 shots per group) that can be covered by a quarter.

Adjust sights to center the group on the target and fire five groups (five shots per group). According to the target used, each shot in the group must meet the following minimum score:

- (1) BB rifle at 15 feet or 5 meters using TQ-5 targets - 8
- (2) Pellet air rifle at 25 feet using TQ-5 target - 8, at 33 feet or 10 meters using AR-1 targets - 6.

\_\_\_ Once you have met the minimum shooting score show your targets to your merit badge counselor for verification.

If you selected **Option C: Muzzle-Loading Rifle Shooting**:

Discuss a brief history of the development of muzzle-loading rifles: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Discuss proper safety procedures pertaining to black powder use and storage: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Discuss proper components of a load: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Identify proper procedures and accessories used for loading a muzzle-loading rifle: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a muzzle-loading rifle on a range, including range procedure: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Shoot a target with a muzzle-loading rifle using the five fundamentals of firing the shot. Briefly describe how you did this: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List the materials needed to clean a muzzle-loading rifle:

- |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1: _____ | 2: _____ | 3: _____ |
| 4: _____ | 5: _____ | 6: _____ |

Describe how to clean a muzzle-loading rifle safely: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Demonstrate to your counselor the safe way to clean a muzzle-loading rifle.

Identify the causes of a muzzle-loading rifle's failing to fire and explain or demonstrate proper correction procedures.

- |              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Cause: _____ | Correction: _____ |
| Cause: _____ | Correction: _____ |
| Cause: _____ | Correction: _____ |
| Cause: _____ | Correction: _____ |

Use the spaces below to list some of the points you would consider in selecting a muzzle-loading rifle. List some of the physical features you would look for when buying a muzzle-loading rifle. Also, list a few other points you want to discuss or know "before you buy", include a few points about buying a used muzzle-loading rifle.

1: _____	2: _____	3: _____
4: _____	5: _____	6: _____
7: _____	8: _____	9: _____
10: _____	11: _____	12: _____
13: _____	14: _____	15: _____

The last requirement asks that you do some shooting. Using a muzzle-loading rifle of .45 or .50 caliber and shooting from a bench rest or supported prone position, fire three groups (three shots per group) at 50 feet that can be covered by the base of a standard-size soft drink can.

Center the group on the target and fire three groups (five per group). According to the target used, each shot in the group must meet the following minimum score:

- (1) at 25 yards using NRA A-23 or NMLRA 50-yard targets – 7
- (2) at 50 yards using NRA A-25 or NMLRA 100-yard targets – 7

\_\_ Once you have met the minimum shooting score show your targets to your merit badge counselor for verification.