



Home Maintenance

Life Skills – Elective Step 8

Purpose

Home maintenance is a great skill to have. It is important to know how to take care of what you have. The Trailmen will be exposed to a variety of projects that will expand his knowledge.

1. Why is home maintenance important?
2. Who can perform home maintenance?
3. What are some types of maintenance that may need to be done to a house or car?
4. What are some types of maintenance that you can do?
5. When should you call 911?




Notes to the Trail Guide

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1. The goal is not for the boys to be experts at these skills, but to gain an increased knowledge and awareness of the skills of this Step.
2. Make it relative to your patrol.
3. Remember, these lessons should build from Fox to Hawk and from Hawk to Mountain Lion.
4. See the Leaders Guide for more information on Steps.

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Skills Progression

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Learn why home maintenance is important.2. Learn to check or maintain items around home or car.3. Skills progression will be based on the knowledge of the Trail Guides.
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Helps

1. Why is home maintenance important?
 - a. **Goal:** To understand that maintaining things God has given you is important.
 - b. **Lesson:** Discuss reasons for home maintenance.
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. Taking care of what God has given you
 - ii. Maintaining things is often better than replacing them
 1. Cheaper/less costly
 2. Disposing of things is often wasteful.
 3. Overburdened up landfills
 - iii. Maintaining things properly may prevent more costly repairs later
2. Who can perform home maintenance?
 - a. **Goal:** To list some of the people who do home maintenance or car maintenance.
 - b. **Lesson:** Make list of some of the people who do home maintenance or car maintenance.
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. Mechanic
 - ii. Plumber
 - iii. Electrician
 - iv. HVAC technician
 - v. Roofer
 - vi. Painter
 - vii. Handyman
 - viii. Dad, Mom, brother, sister, relative
 - ix. You
3. What are some types of maintenance that may need to be done to a house or car?
 - a. **Goal:** To understand the many things around the house that must be maintained.
 - b. **Lesson:** List the many things around the house that must be maintained.
 - c. **Examples:** (Stress that each family is different and boys in some families may be given more responsibilities than others)
 - i. Clean gutters
 1. prevents build-up of leaves and debris
 2. prevents rainwater from standing in the gutters and causing them to fall
 3. Helps keep water from harming the house
 - ii. Changing air filters
 1. Helps HVAC system run more efficiently
 2. Clogged air filters may damage the HVAC system
 3. Clogged air filters may cause ice build-up on coils and cause the system to fail
 - iii. Clean range hood filter

1. Grease buildup is unsanitary
2. Use de-greaser and rinse
- iv. Inspect fire extinguishers
 1. Be sure they are fully charged
- v. Check smoke alarms
 1. Check quarterly
 2. Change batteries twice per year (perhaps when you change the clocks by an hour)
- vi. Deep clean house ("Spring cleaning")
 1. Vacuum refrigerator coils (clean coils make the unit run more efficiently and saves money)
 2. Dust and vacuum rarely seen parts of the house
- vii. Check window screens
 1. Cuts in screen may allow bugs to enter
 2. Replacing the screen is easy with a screen tool
- viii. Check roof for missing shingles
 1. Missing shingles may lead to roof leaks
- ix. Check chimney for soot build-up
 1. Soot build-up could lead to a house fire
- x. Check deck/patio
 1. Replace damaged boards
 2. Clear plants from cracks in concrete (plants force the cracks to enlarge)
- xi. Clean out window wells
 1. Debris in window wells lead to water damage in basement
- xii. Remove lint from dryer vent pipe
 1. This can be a fire hazard
- xiii. Check handles and knobs
 1. Tighten all cabinetry handles, knobs, hinges
- xiv. Yard maintenance
 1. Mowing
 2. Pulling weeds
 3. Trimming plants
- xv. Automotive
 1. Check/change oil
 2. Check/change air filter
 3. Check tires for wear
 4. Check spare tire for pressure
 5. More

4. What are some types of maintenance that you can do?

- a. **Goal:** To learn how young Trailmen can help with maintenance
- b. **Lesson:** List a few ways you can help your family with maintenance.
- c. **Examples:**
 - i. See list above
 - ii. Many others
 - iii. Discuss things your boys do now and what they could do

5. When should you call 911?

- a. **Goal:** To know to call 911 during emergencies.
- b. **Lesson:** List a few injuries that could occur while performing home maintenance that may require a call to 911.
- c. **Examples:**
 - i. Deep cut with blade
 - ii. Shocked while working with electricity
 - iii. Fall from roof
 - iv. More

Game ideas

- Check the games section online for game ideas.
- Or, create a game that works for your patrol.

Activity ideas

- Walk around meeting place looking at different things that could be maintained. Use list above for ideas.
- Ask a deacon, janitor, or maintenance personnel to show you some of the things they maintain at the church or meeting place.
- Change the oil in a car.

Scripture

Mark 1:19

- Fox – Taking care of your things help them last longer.
- Hawk – Help your family care for the things they own.
- Mt. Lion – Working to maintain your belongings saves money. A little money spent on maintenance now saves a lot of money down the road. Help your family care for the things they own.

1 Chronicles 26:27

- Fox – **We should help take care of God's House.**
- Hawk – **We should help take care of God's House.** Do what you can to keep God's house respectable.
- Mt. Lion – **Your church is God's House and needs maintenance and care just like your own home.** Do what you can to keep God's house respectable.

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