

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
TROOP 1100  
6400 NATIVITY LANE  
BURKE, VA 22015**

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MEMORANDUM FOR PARENTS  
SUBJECT: **Purchasing Patrol Food**

Throughout the scouting year, individual scouts will occasionally be required to purchase food for a troop outing. This normally is food for their patrol of 8-10 youth. The purpose of having scouts purchase food is to share the responsibility and to teach the scout about decision making in the marketplace. Scouts cannot accomplish this alone. In addition to transportation, they need the help of an experienced shopper, cook, and nutritionist (usually MOM). Below is a general outline of Do's and Don'ts for the patrol shopper and procedures for purchasing food.

Developing the menu. Generally, one or two meetings before the outing, the scout patrol will get together and decide upon their menu. Once developed, each patrol will provide a copy of this menu to the Scoutmaster for approval. Following this, one individual will be designated by the patrol leader to purchase the food. He will be given a planning number of people to be fed, and a dollar amount not to be exceeded (the normal rule of thumb is \$2.50/person/meal).

Purchasing the food. Scouts will normally require a parent to accompany them to the store. Parents should go over the list to see if the patrol has included all the necessary food items for each meal, generally considering what will be the main course, vegetable, dessert, drink, etc., and if other ingredients are necessary to properly prepare the meal. Parental help will insure that scouts purchase food which can easily be prepared outdoors with limited cookware and time. Also, parents should insure that generally wholesome meals are being planned and that there is not an excessive amount of sweets, snacks, junk food, etc. Parents should pay for the food and submit their receipt for reimbursement following the outing. Maintain all receipts. If an outing is cancelled or all of the food is not consumed, it is oftentimes possible to return food for a refund. Look for bargains and shop in economy stores (commissary, warehouse stores, and chain grocery stores) and use coupons if available. Prior to arriving at the outing, break food down into separate meals and discuss with your scout how to prepare each. If special cookware or ingredients are required, please include those with the food. If food requires refrigeration, please provide a cooler and ice. Lastly, deliver the food to the departure point at the appropriate time.

Reimbursement for food. Following the outing, provide a copy of all food receipts to the Troop Treasurer on the Reimbursement Voucher for reimbursement. You will be provided a check for the exact amount of your purchase.

**DO:**

- Review menu with scout
- Assist in purchasing food
- Purchase simple, wholesome meals that are easy to prepare
- Shop economically
- Ensure special cookware/ingredients are included
- Include refrigeration as necessary
- Include one roll of paper towels
- Ask quartermaster what food supplies may already be available
- Try new ideas

**DO NOT:**

- Purchase cleaning supplies
- Plan elaborate/complex meals or meals from scratch
- Purchase excessive soft drinks, candies, etc.
- Purchase glass containers

## Example

### Mt. Everest Campout & Hike

		Saturday			Sunday	
Patrol 1	Fri	Brfst	Lunch	Dinner	Brfst	Total
Davey Jones	X	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$10.00
Bobby Orr	X	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$10.00
Mike Muscles	X	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$10.00
Billy Gates	X	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$10.00
Tony Tiger	X	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$10.00
Jimminy Cricket	X	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$10.00
Adam Smith	X	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$10.00
Eddy Fast	X	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$10.00

Total = \$80.00

$$\begin{aligned} \$2.50/\text{meal} \times 4 \text{ meals} &= \$10/\text{scout} \\ 8 \text{ scouts} \times \$10 &= \$80.00 \end{aligned}$$

The maximum amount that will be reimbursed for food on this outing for this patrol is \$80.00

