

So you fancy being a hill walking permit holder?

Please be aware POR changes! This document is correct on date of: 09/05/2016.

Hillwalking is the movement through and over hills and mountains without the planned use of a climbing rope or other climbing aids. Hillwalking can take place under summer or winter conditions. Obviously the equipment, skills and experience required vary accordingly. To run any adventurous activities within Scouting you need a permit (a Scouting based assessment) these can be gained by following the simple information in this document. You need to fill in an application form, this can be found at:

<http://members.scouts.org.uk/activitypermitapplication>

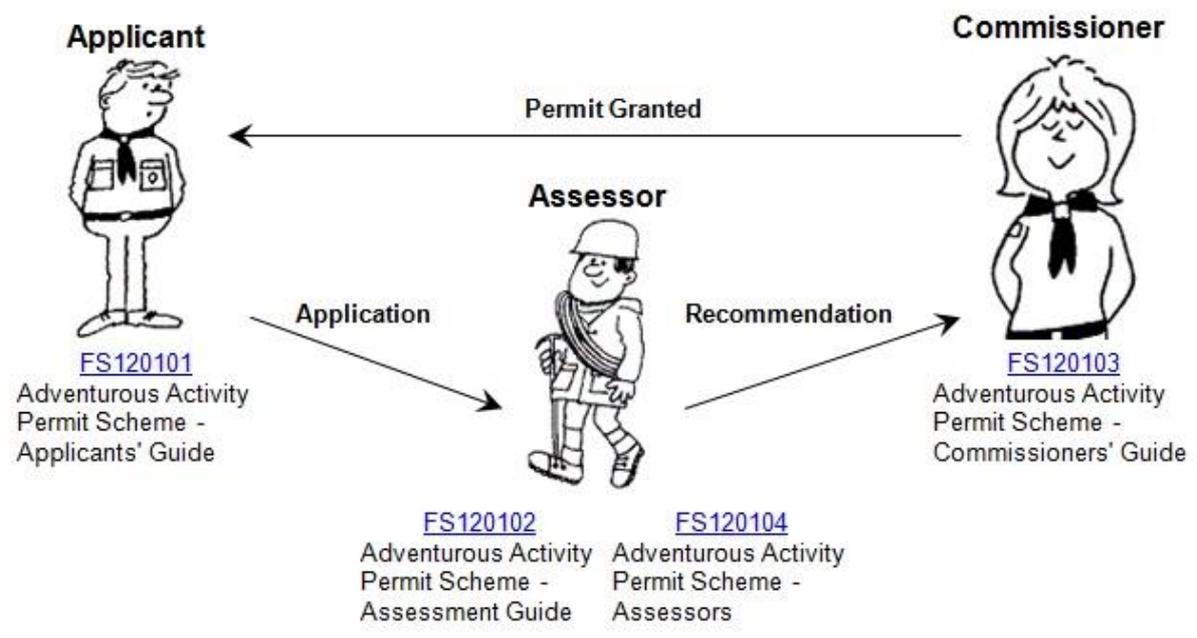
But just before you do, please read the rest of the page about all the other information about becoming an instructor.

All vital information can be found here:

<https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/30/hillwalking/?cat=26,407,408&moduleID=24&runMethod=scout>

Other documents you will find helpful are:

- Adventurous activity permit scheme - applicants' guide can be found here:
<https://members.scouts.org.uk/FS120101>
- Adventurous activity permit scheme - assessment guide can be found here:
<https://members.scouts.org.uk/FS120102>
- You will need to fill in a hill walking activities log book, this can be found here:
https://members.scouts.org.uk/documents/activities/hillwalking_log.doc



Types of permits

There are three levels of permit available; personal, leadership, supervisory:

Permit	Age Restrictions	Allows	Doesn't Allow	Useful For
Personal	Maximum age 17, no minimum age.	Taking part in the activity with others who hold personal permits.	Leading the activity for anyone without a permit.	Allowing young people to progress in an activity by practising with their peers.
Leadership	No maximum or minimum age.	Leading the activity for a group of young people while remaining with them.	Remotely supervising an activity or working with multiple groups.	Introducing and training young people in an activity by working directly with them.
Supervisory	No maximum or minimum age.	Remotely supervising an activity for multiple groups.	Approving groups to take part in the activity without remotely supervising them.	Developing young people by giving them opportunities for supervised responsibility.

What is assessed?

There are four areas assessed to gain a permit:

1 **Technical Competence** – This looks at the specific technical skills required to run the activity. It is usually assessed through a practical assessment although other evidence such as logged experience and other qualifications held can help as well. There is an assessment checklist for each activity listing the skills that will be assessed. The assessment checklist for hill walking can be found here: <https://members.scouts.org.uk/fs120409>

2 **Scout Association Rules** – This checks whether the applicant is aware of the activity Rules and how they affect the activity within Scouting.

3 **Safeguarding** (not for applicants who are under 18) – This will be carried out by the Commissioner or their nominee and ensures that the necessary personal enquiry checks have been carried out and the appropriate safeguarding training (module 1) has taken place.

4 **Personal Suitability** – This is to check the applicant is suitable (in terms of attitude, health for the activity involved etc) to be leading an adventurous activity for young people.

Information you need to know:

- AN Forms
 Before you run an activity, you have to complete the district AN form (activity notification form) this is then sent to your groups GSL (Group Scout Leader), The DC (District Commissioner) or DESC (District Explorer Scout Commissioner) is responsible for approving all activities for Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts and Explorer Scouts.
- The InTouch system
 A brief synopsis- when out on an activity you need have somebody who at ‘Home’ who can contact parents or next of kin for you, or that parents can contact them instead of you, so you can concentrate with the situation. Full details can be found at: <http://members.scouts.org.uk/FS120075>
- Risk Assessments
 All activities need a risk assessment written beforehand. More information can be found at: <http://members.scouts.org.uk/fs120000>
- Emergency procedures
 In an emergency, you need to know how to deal with it according to the Scout procedure, more information can be found here: <https://members.scouts.org.uk/por9.5>
 When hill walking you need to carry an emergency card with you, this can be found here: <https://members.scouts.org.uk/fs120077>
- First aid
 Currently you need a minimum of a first response first aid training to gain a terrain 1 permit, but you will require a full 16hr first aid certificate for terrain 2



For activities in Terrain One and Two as defined in Rules 9.29 & 9.30:

- (a) A detailed route plan must always be left with a responsible person not taking part in the activity.
- (b) Any route planning forms produced locally must contain at least the same information as sought in the Headquarters form. Found here: <https://members.scouts.org.uk/fs120409>
- (c) The route plan should be cancelled or collected when the activity is completed.
- (d) Emergency cards must be carried by the party.
- (e) Any emergency cards produced locally must contain the same information as sought in the Headquarters form.
- (f) When Members take part in non-Scout events, the above rules may be varied at the discretion of their County Commissioner

Terrain Grades

- Terrain Zero describes terrain which meets one of the following criteria:
 - a. Meets all the following criteria:
 - is below 500 metres above sea level; and
 - is within 30 minutes travelling time from a road which can take an ordinary road-going ambulance or a building which is occupied (such as a farm) or another means of summoning help (such as a telephone box); and
 - contains no element of mountainous steep ground (routes or areas where the average person would need to regularly use their hands at least for balance if not for actual progress. This does not stop people from using their hands as an aid to confidence.)
 - or:
 - b. Is a road, or path adjacent to a road, on which you would expect to see traffic.
- Terrain One describes terrain which meets all of the following criteria:
 - a. Meets any of the following criteria:
 - is below 800 metres but more than 500 metres above sea level or;
 - is more than 30 minutes but less than three hours travelling time from a road which can take an ordinary road-going ambulance or a building which is occupied (such as a farm) or another means of calling help (such as a telephone box).
 - and
 - contains no element of mountainous steep ground (routes or areas where the average person would need to regularly use their hands at least for balance if not for actual progress. This does not stop people from using their hands as an aid to confidence.)



- and
 - b. Is not a road, or path adjacent to a road, on which you would expect to see traffic.
- Terrain Two describes terrain which meets all of the following criteria:
 - a. Meets any of the following criteria:
 - is over 800 metres above sea level or;
 - lies more than three hours travelling time from a road which can take an ordinary road-going ambulance or a building which is occupied (such as a farm) or another means of calling help (such as a telephone box), or:
 - contains an element of mountainous steep ground (routes or areas where the average person would need to regularly use their hands at least for balance if not for actual progress. This excludes climbing activities but may include areas where ropes are used for confidence and security.)
 - and
 - b. Is not a road, or path adjacent to a road, on which you would expect to see traffic.

Walking Party Sizes

For activities in Terrain One and Two as defined in Rules 9.29 & 9.30:

- a. Parties must consist of no more than eight, but no less than four people, except as provided for in Rule 9.32 (d) below.
- b. Each party must have a leader holding a permit or a designated party leader.
- c. If more than one group is formed the parties must use different routes or, if using the same route, leave a clear time and distance interval between them – so that they do not become mixed.
- d. When walking directly to, and off the hills after, a multi pitch climb the party size may be less than four.
- e. No leader with a permit to supervise the activity may do so with more than three parties, including their own.
- f. When leaders holding permits are checking on the safety of Scout parties or their routes, the party size may be less than four. All the members of such a reduced party must each have the skills and experience required to travel safely in the hills in such circumstances, must follow rules regarding route plans and should plan to spend the minimum of time on their own.