

SLORRM Railroad Merit Badge Checklist

Items printed in red are prerequisites and must be completed before the class.
Items printed in black will be completed in class.

- 1a. Name three types of modern freight trains. Explain why unit trains are more efficient than mixed freight trains. p. 15
- 1b. Name one class 1 or regional railroad. Explain what major cities it serves, the locations of major terminals, service facilities and crew change points, and the major commodities it carries. p. 24-25
- 1c. Using models or pictures, identify 10 types of railroad freight or passenger cars. Explain the purpose of each type of car. p. 16-19
- 2a. Explain the purpose and formation of Amtrak. Explain, by the use of a timetable, a plan for making a trip by rail between two cities at least 500 miles apart. List the times of departure and arrival at your destination, the train number and name, and the type of service you want. p. 26-27, 45-48
- 2b. List and explain the various forms of public/mass transit using rail. p. 26
- 3b. Tell about the opportunities in railroading that interest you most and why. p. 51
- 4a. Explain the purpose of Operation Lifesaver and its mission.
- 4b. List 9 track basic safety tips to remember when you are walking around a railroad track. p. 35-37
- 4c. List 9 safety considerations to follow when walking near a railroad track. p. 37-38
- 4d. Explain what a driver can do to safely operate near tracks.
- 4e. Explain safety precautions when using a light rail or commuter train.
5. Explain the appearance and meaning of the following rail signs and signals. p. 40-43
- 5a. Passive signs and active signs.
- 5b. Devices at a crossing (flashing red lights - with or without bells, flashing red lights with gates, and cantilever flashing lights)
- 5c. Markings on the road (pavement markings and stop bars)
- 5d. Signs before the crossing (advance warning sign, advance warning sign for side streets, no train horn sign, and low ground clearance grade crossing sign)
- 5e. Signs along the railroad property (no trespassing sign)
- 5f. Signs at the crossing (crossbuck sign, emergency notification system sign, multiple track sign, stop sign, and yield sign)
- 6a. Explain how railroad signals operate and show two basic signal types using color or configuration.
- 6b. Explain the meaning of three horn signals.
- 6c. Describe a way to signal a train for an emergency stop.
- 6d. Explain the use and function of the EOTD (end of train device) or FRED (flashing rear end device) used on the last car of most freight trains.
- 7a2. Build one model railroad car kit or one locomotive kit.
- 7a3. Name the scale of four popular model railroad gauges.