

FIX IT

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Having completed this badge Guard/Rangers will be able to:

- safely access utility meters and explain why this may be required;
- demonstrate some basic home maintenance;
- refuel and start a lawn mower;
- explain required actions involving electrical emergencies.



BADGE REQUIREMENTS

1. Explain how to safely access utility meters and why this knowledge is needed.
2. Demonstrate some basic home maintenance skills.
3. Demonstrate how to prepare and paint a household item such as a chair or bookcase.
4. Fuel and start a mower. Demonstrate mowing safety.
5. Explain emergency procedures involving electricity.

GUARDS
RANGERS



CATEGORY

Skills

TIME FRAME

Minimum
Three - four
weeks

AIM

To build members' confidence and ability in basic home maintenance and repairs.





Teaching ideas

This badge might best be completed at a residence where members can experience the learning first hand. It is also recommended that, where you do not have the necessary skill and/or knowledge, you invite a skilled, and preferably qualified, trades person to instruct members.



1. Explain how to safely access utility meters and why this knowledge is needed.

Show members the gas, water and electricity meters. Explain their use and how to safely turn them off and on. Give an example when a home's occupant might need to access the meters.



2. Demonstrate some basic home maintenance skills.

Demonstrate, and allow members to practice, some of the following maintenance work:

- change a light bulb
- change washers in taps and shower heads
- replace a fuse
- fix a dripping toilet
- repair grout
- reseal a vanity or bath
- replace fly screen netting
- replace battery in fire alarm and check alarm
- lubricate hinges
- clean and replace air filters in heaters/coolers, clothes dryers
- hang a picture. Instruct members how to locate beams within walls to secure hangers, and how to place at least two hangers so that pictures are level.
- set a mouse trap. Discuss the best bait and location for traps. Discuss the different types of traps and the risk to native fauna. Look at humane traps. Discuss also the reason for trapping mice and rats.

These skills should be reviewed several times before badges are presented to ensure members have gained the skills. Be sure members understand that knowing how to complete these small tasks will save them, and their families, money.



3. Demonstrate how to prepare and paint a household item such as a chair or bookcase.

Provide an item for members to paint. You may be able to find a chair for each patrol and when painted donate them to the corps family store or similar.

- The item to be painted must be properly prepared before any paint is applied. This means the surface should be free of any holes or cracks. These should be filled with a filler or putty. This is then left to dry and sanded. The whole surface should be sanded to remove any old paint and allow the new paint to take hold. After sanding the surface should be wiped free of dust.

Teaching ideas



- Use a good quality brush to prevent fibres falling out as you paint. Use a smaller brush for the fiddly areas. Pour a small amount of paint into a tin or can. Don't flood the brush with paint - just dip the end in the paint and wipe excess off on the edge of the can. Don't load the paint past the finial of the brush. Always paint in a well ventilated area, use a drop sheet or cover the floor with a ground sheet and wear old clothes.
- If the item has been painted it may be necessary to use a stripper to remove this paint. Oil based paint will 'bubble' under the new paint. Paint the wood with a primer. Turn the chair upside down and start on the underside, work from the centre out to ensure you don't miss any spots. Then turn the chair over and work from the top to the bottom.
- When the primer is totally dry start with your top coat; Use the same procedure starting from the underside. When the paint is dry check for any missed spot or flaws, lightly sand, wipe and apply a second coat. If paint bubbles re-sand to remove any old paint that may be reacting and wipe with a cloth to remove the dust before applying another coat.
- When finished wash your brushes thoroughly and store in a clean dry cupboard. Seal your paint with a layer of plastic wrap to prevent a skin and store it away in the garage or shed.
- You may choose to have some techniques demonstrated and use electric sanders or paint strippers.



4. Fuel and start a mower. Demonstrate mowing safety.

Demonstrate, and allow members to practice, how to set fuel, start and operate a lawn-mower, including emptying the catcher and adjusting the mower's height. Discuss mower safety including clothing, fuelling, stones/sticks and pet safety. Discuss how to dispose of cuttings and the purpose of adjusting the mower's height.



5. Explain emergency procedures involving electricity.

Explain the use of an emergency switch, circuit breaker and/or earth leakage switch. Demonstrate how to re-set such switches or change fuses. Discuss the in emergency situations and how to avoid electrocution. Get current information from www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au and <http://www.energyaustralia.com.au/energy/ea.nsf/Content/Safety+Home>.

Distribute **Handout 1** for members to complete.

Handout 1

Guard/Rangers

safety advice

Place these words into the correct spaces:

appliances, appliances, check, children, circuit, cooking, correct, doors, flame, fuel, fuel, ground, heating, interrupt, licensed, licensed, mower, odourless, pets, protection, running, sealed, shoes, stones, trousers, windows.

Natural gas safety

Gas is widely used for _____ and _____ . It is naturally _____ , but a distinctive smell is added for easy detection of gas leaks.



Gas leaks and shortages

If you smell gas indoors:



- Do not look for a gas leak with a _____ .

Check whether gas cooker burners have been left on and unlit, or if a gas outlet socket has not _____ . Turn the burner off and wait until you can no longer smell gas before using any appliance again.

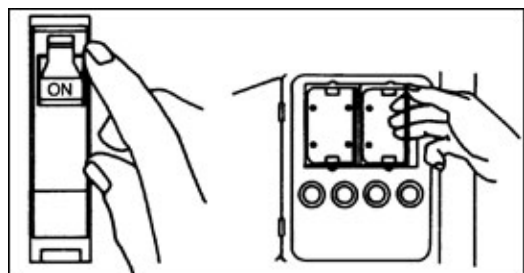
- Open _____ and _____ .
- Do not operate power or light switches or turn on electrical _____ as these may cause a spark which may start a fire.
- If stove burners or appliances do not seem to be the cause, turn off the gas at the meter and call a _____ gas fitter.

Fuses and circuit breakers



Fuses and circuit breakers are designed to _____ excess current which can overload the electrical wires in your home. These overloads are often caused by faulty _____ . When an overload occurs, the fuse melts or the circuit breaker trips before the wires can overheat, which reduces the risk of fire.

- Always replace a blown fuse with the _____ fuse wire. Never use fuse wire that is heavier than the recommended gauge. Never use any other type metal or wire.
- If fuses keeps blowing, or a circuit breaker keeps tripping, _____ that your appliances are not faulty.
- If fuses continue to blow, or circuit breakers continue to trip after appliances are unplugged, there could be a problem with your wiring. Contact a _____ electrician immediately.



Handout 1 (contd.)

safety switches

Safety switches look similar to _____ breakers, but they provide extra _____ from electric shock. Safety switches monitor the flow of electricity and if any irregularity is detected, the electricity supply is immediately cut off.



Mowers



Always check the type of _____ for the particular mower.

Use a designated _____ can. Never store fuel in food containers. Its a good idea to record the type of fuel on the can or label.

When filling the fuel can place the can on the _____. Static electricity can cause a fire. Store the fuel in a locked shed or garage away from small _____.

Never remove guards from the _____. Guards are their for your safety.

Wear _____ and _____ when mowing. It is also recommended that you wear goggles and ear protection. A lawn mower reaches 95 decibels.

Never try to remove anything that is stuck in the mower while it is still _____

Turn the mower off if you need to adjust the height of the blades or refuel.

Collect pegs, coathangers, sticks and _____ from the lawn before mowing.

Check where children, dogs and other _____ are.





Devotional ideas



1. **Title:** Shine like new
Bible: Psalm 37:6
Thought: Jesus removes the stain of sin from our lives.
Supplies Bible, 2 brass items, vase or similar, one dull and tarnished one clean and shiny, cleaner and cloth

Show members the shiny vase and comment on its purpose. It is made of a metal called brass. As you can see it is bright, shiny, and very beautiful. That isn't always the case. When brass is exposed to the air, it becomes dirty, dusty, and tarnished. That means that the bright golden colour becomes dull and lifeless. See, here is a piece that has become tarnished. It is no longer very pretty to look at. When a piece of brass becomes tarnished, we take some of this cleaner and put it on a clean, soft cloth and then we rub the vase. Soon it will be shining like new.

That same thing can happen in our lives. When Jesus comes into our hearts, his light shines through us and our life is bright and beautiful. But as we live our day to day life, we become exposed to all of the bad things in the world around us and our lives sometimes become tarnished by sin. When that happens, our life no longer shines for Jesus, so we have to ask Jesus to clean us up and make us shine again. The Bible says that when we ask him to, "He will make us shine like the morning sun!" Is your life shining as brightly as it once was, or do you need to ask Jesus to forgive you, polish you up, and make you shine like the morning sun?

Dear Lord, some of us have become tarnished by the sin in the world. We ask you to forgive us and polish us up so that we shine like new

Devotional ideas



- 2. Title:** Power from above
Bible: 2 Samuel 22:33
Thought: Showing consideration of others honours God
Supplies: An electric implement that you have used during the badge such as a paint stripper or sander

Display item to members. Let them respond. What is the purpose of a paint stripper? Wait for answers. Will this paint stripper work if I don't plug it in? No, the item has to be plugged into a power source to work. Then plug the paint stripper in to show that it works. We even have to pay for electricity or the power to use this paint stripper.

This item represents us as Christians. If we don't give the paint stripper power, it can't be used. The same is true with us. God is our power source ... we need to plug ourselves into God so we can be used for his purposes. Read 2 Samuel 22:33 To use God's power is free of charge. We stay connected to him after we accept him into our hearts, through continuous prayer. Then God can use us for his purposes ... to teach, sing, play an instrument, encourage, befriend, etc ...

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for promising to be our strength and power source. Help us to use your power for your purposes. Amen.





Devotional ideas



3. Title:

Faults

Bible:

1 Peter 4:8; Ephesians 4:15; 4:25:27; Proverbs 16:24

Thought:

How we view our own faults and shortcomings

Supplies:

Bibles, Pens and paper

When we forget something, it's just a little slip of the mind; but when somebody else forgets, it's gross negligence. When we snap at someone, it's simply because we're having a bad day; but if they snap at us, we see them as mean-spirited. And of course, if we're late for an appointment, it's because of the hectic day we're having. But if someone else is late, we accuse them of being irresponsible.

We may laugh or say no not me! But isn't this the way we behave? It's easy to condemn and criticise others for their shortcomings and faults while excusing our own.

We all have faults. And while someone's fault may strike a sour note in us, be assured that one of our faults may strike the same sour note in others. Jesus did not tell us to judge one another but to love one another.

Have members form four groups and allocate one of the Bible verses to each group. Hand out paper for notes. Ask members in these groups to discuss the verse and form their appropriate application in their life and write this down. Allow 5-7 minutes for this discussion.

Bring the groups together and have each group read their notes. How much stronger the body of Christ would be if we used our strengths to complement others and our voices to build them up!

Pray with members to help them apply the right action when dealing with others in their life.