

Range Bag Checklist/Preps

I know everything on this list is not for everyone. I know from personal experience that nothing sucks more than to go to the range and forget something, or need something bad and not have it. Here is my Checklist below. I have a laminated copy and a copy it resides in my Range Bag. I go over the list when I come home and before I leave for the Range to ensure I haven't forgotten something.

First Tip:

Try not to go the Range alone. There is safety in Numbers. If you're seriously hurt or injured a second person can get help or save your life. If you do go alone let someone know EXACTLY WHERE you will be and for roughly how long. Leave an address, map, or coordinates of where you are in case you don't come back. This info will be helpful for a search party if the Range is off the beaten path. A Second Range Buddy can also point out any Gun Safety Violations you may not recognize if alone. A Range Buddy can also secure and hold your belongings if you are taken away by Medical Personnel if you are injured or a firearm KABOOMS. Kabooms happen, if you doubt me look here: <http://www.mdshooters.com/showthread.php?t=56306>

I also suggest you put the same info in your Range Bag. If there is an Accident/Emergency you'll need to be able to tell 911 WHERE you are. When crap goes south you can have mental blocks and not remember where you are, having it written down is good insurance. Also be sure to put Emergency Contacts, Blood Type, Medications you take, and any Allergies you may have on a "Range Bag Info Card" for Responding Medical/Emergency Personnel.

Try to bring a Cell Phone for EMERGENCIES (FULLY CHARGED). If you can afford it bring a Handheld CB/FRMS Radio if Area you are shooting has no Cell Reception.

Second Tip:

If legally permitted keep a CCW on your person (HIDDEN). People DO rob people at Shooting Ranges when they unload and go downrange. Some have even been murdered for their Weapons and Gear. Having a Range Buddy with you helps mitigate this terrible scenario from occurring.

Third Tip:

Wear appropriate clothes and footwear for the Range/Season. If it's wet/muddy wear GOOD Boots, bring some spare Socks and Shoes for the ride home so you don't mud up your Vehicle. Don't wear Clothes so loose that hot Fired Brass can go down your Shirt/Pants, etc....

Fourth Tip:

Put your Contact Info on your expensive Equipment, if you leave it behind a Good Samaritan may contact you to return it.

Fifth (and last) Tip:

Make a GOOD FIRST AID/Trauma KIT and take some CLASSES on how to use the Supplies. Here's some stuff I have in mine:

Medic Style/Molle Pouch	Nitrile gloves
Quickclot (Gauze Form)	Band-Aids
Chest Seal	Saline
CPR Shield	Israeli Bandage
2" Roll Gauze	Tampons (WITHOUT Applicator)
Roll Cloth Tape	Headlamp
2"x5" Flexible Bandage	Foil Blanket
Combine ABD Pad, 5"x9"	Mini Surgical Kit
Gauze 4"x4"	Headache Meds
Gauze 3"x9"	Antacids
Eye Wash	Benadryl
EMT shears	Bugspray
Antiseptic Towelettes	Sunscreen
Rubber Tourniquet	

Now for a "List of Range Preparedness":

- Range Membership Badge/Card
- Driver's License/Wallet/Purse
- Spare Vehicle Keys (In case you lock your Keys in your Vehicle)
- NFA Paperwork
- Range WRITTEN Permission Slip (If on Private Property)
- Fire Extinguisher (Tracers and Muzzle Blasts can cause Fires)
- Spray Paint (For Repainting Steel Targets)
- Folding Chair (All Ranges don't have Seating)
- Corrective Lenses/Contacts (Know your Target and what beyond)
- Broken Shell Extractor
- Rubber Mallet (Unjamming/Clearing Seized Bolts/Actions)
- Sectioned Cleaning Rod (Clearing Suck Casings)
- Eye Protection (2 SETS MINIMUM/1 Clear and 1 Tinted for Sunny Days)
- Ear Protection
- Foam Earplugs (In case your Earpro breaks or have on hand as giveaways. Often at Public Ranges there are people with NO hearing protection, most of the time its Children, Wives or Girlfriends)
- Firearms

- Magazines/Clips/Moon Clips FOR EACH FIREARM
- Choke Tube Wrench/Spare Chokes
- Chamber Flags
- Small Cooler (Sandwiches/Additional Hydration for LONG Days at the Range)
- Bottled Water
- Scarf (For the Ladies specifically, it keeps Spent Brass from going down their shirt and burning them.)
- Clay Targets/Thrower (If doing this type of Shooting)
- Magazine Loaders/Speed Loaders/LULA Loaders (Saves busted Thumbs)
- Keys for any locks on firearms/cases
- Small Screwdriver/Socket Kit/Allen Wrenches
- Punches
- Small Hammer
- Multi-tool
- Data Book/Notepad
- Shooting Gloves (Can protect your hands from Cuts and from Kabooms)
- Silicone Suppressor Sleeve/Silicone or Fabric Oven Mitt for Removing HOT Sound Suppressors/Silencers (Don't grab a HOT Silencer or Barrel with Gloves, use a OVEN MITT/SUPPRESSOR COVER)
- Trash Bag (In case the Range doesn't have one)
- Ziploc Bags (For Spent Brass if you are a reloader)
- Ammo FOR EACH FIREARM
(Save some extra ammo for the trip home/Home Defense)
- Baseball Cap/Hat
- Targets
- Range Bag
- Shot Timer
- Range Finder
- Sandbags/Tripod/Bipods/Shooting Rest
- Duct Tape (Its good for EVERYTHING)
- BRIGHT Orange/Yellow Safety Vest (Wear when going Downrange)
- Emergency Food (Beef Jerky/Nuts/Granola Bar/MRE/Freeze Dried)
- Flashlight
- Spare Batteries for ALL Optics/Lights/Equipment
- Gun Oil (For when your Firearm is dry)
- Pen/Marker/Pencil (For Data Book/Notepad)
- Twine (For Targets/Repairs)
- Clothes Pins (For Targets/Repairs)
- Concealed Bulletproof Vest (Mainly for Public Ranges, they can be DANGEROUS)
- Poncho
- Small Tube of Blue Loctite
- Rubberized Table Cloth
(In case you don't want to lay your guns down on a Concrete Bench. Can also be used as a Mat, if Shooting Prone)
- Specialized Sight Adjustment Tools

- Lead Wipes or Baby Wipes (For Cleaning the Lead Residue off before Eating or Drinking; also can be used if the Restroom Facilities don't have Toilet Paper)
- Hand Sanitizer
- Shop towel/Old T-Shirts
- Eye Glass/Optics Cleaner Solution and Cloth
- Staple Gun/Staples (Attach Targets)
- Red permanent marker (mark the first 1/2 inch of both ends of your staples to show when you are running low, nothing like being hundreds of yards down range with an empty staple gun).
- Masking Tape (Repair Targets/Cover up holes on used Targets)
- Spotting Scope/Binoculars
- Mini Cleaning Kit/Solvents
- Deck screws for repairs of target holders, etc.
- Magnifying glass - so those who have presbyopia can see graduations on sights

Courtesy of Chad Albrecht
Scott's Gunsmithing Service (SGS)
Master Gunsmith (as posted on www.mdshooters.com)