

## BPE DofE Expedition Bitesize 09: Planning your Route

To plan your route you will need:

- A map (1:25,000 or 1:50,000 of your chosen area)
- A length of string between 56cm – 80cm long
- Sharpie marker pen
- Route Information – Start, Finish, Camps, Checkpoints etc.

Step-by-step approach to planning your route:

- Mark on your map your key locations for that day – start/finish, camp, any checkpoints provided to you. Draw a small circle around the Grid Reference of these locations – **NOT** the words.
- Lay the string along the scale at the bottom of the map (1:25k: 4cm = 1km) and ensure it is of the appropriate length (Bronze: approx 14km, Silver: approx 17km, Gold: approx 20km).
- Using the string, trace out your route, placing the string loosely along where you plan to travel.
- What you can use (**see opposite**): public rights of way (e.g. footpaths, bridleways, byways) and small use of minor roads to link footpaths.
- Only cross major roads (A-roads & B-roads) at safe crossing places.
- Know your symbols – do not plan your route along boundaries, electricity lines or active railway lines. Check the legend if unsure.
- Link the route with your Aim.
- When you have a route, using the marker pen, mark your route using inverted “V”s along your route, showing the direction and changes of direction.
- Mark 8 checkpoints in total, including your finish/camp destination, using small circles (**see opposite**). Make sure the checkpoints are key landmarks that are easily identified or accessible e.g. church, road, footpath junction.
- Do a final check of your distance against the scale on the map.

### OK to use

	Footpath
	Bridleway
	Byway open to all traffic
	Road used as a public path
	Other routes with public access
	National Trail/Long Distance Route
	Path / Llwybr

### Only use in small amounts

	Road > 4 m wide
	Road > 4 m wide
	Other road, drive or track

### Only cross in safe place

	A 35	Dual carriageway
	A 31(T) or A35	Trunk or Main road
	B 3074	Secondary road

### Linear features to avoid!

	National
	County
	Unitary Authority (UA)
	Civil Parish (CP)
	Constituency (Const)
	Electricity transmission line
	Multiple track
	Single track
	Cutting; tunnel; embankment

