

# What Would You Carry?

During the Civil War, infantry soldiers carried their weapons, ammunition, and equipment as they marched from place to place. They stored their food, plates, and utensils in a haversack. They carried canteens to hold water. Union soldiers also carried shoulder mounted knapsacks packed with extra clothes, blankets, and personal items. **The soldiers had to be careful, though. If they packed too much, their knapsack could get really heavy and be a big burden on the march.**



10-20 minutes

# What Would You Carry?

## Instructions

As you look at the items on the next page, you need to think like a soldier. Which items would you take with you to survive **6 months** of camping, marching, eating, and soldiering? The things that you are required to carry are listed to the right. Once you have your list of chosen items, add up the total weight of what you have selected at the bottom of the page. Be careful, the weight will add up quickly! **You want to stay below a total of 60 pounds.** Add up the total weight of what you have chosen, and what is required, on the last page of this PDF.

**Remember, it all has to fit in your knapsack and you have to carry it wherever you go.**

### Required Weapons and Ammunition :

- Rifle musket: **9 pounds**
- Cartridge box: **2.5 pounds**
- Waste belt, cap box, bayonet and scabbard: **2 pounds**
- 40 rounds of ammunition: **4.5 pounds**

### Food and Water

- Full canteen of water: **4 pounds**
- Haversack with three days rations: **5 pounds**
- Empty knapsack (all your camping equipment, extra clothing, and personal gear will be carried in here): **6 pounds**

**Total Weight After Required Weapons, Food and Water, and Empty Knapsack: 31 pounds**

# What Would You Carry?

## Items to Choose From:

- Wool blanket: **5 pounds**
- Half shelter tent: **2 pounds**
- Winter overcoat: **2 pounds**
- Single change of underclothes (shirt, socks, drawers): **2 pounds**
- Extra trousers: **1 pound**
- Waterproof rubber blanket/ground cloth: **2 pounds**
- Frying pan: **2 pounds**
- Cup: **1 pound**
- Fork, spoon, and knife: **1 pound**
- Plate: **1 pound**
- Coffee boiler: **2 pounds**
- Diary or journal: **1 pound**
- Pencil or pen: **1 pound**
- Ink bottle: **1 pound**
- Razor: **1 pound**
- Photographs: **1 pound**
- Books/Bible: **2 pounds**
- Candles: **1 pound**
- Pipe: **1 pound**
- Matches: **1 pound**
- Toothbrush: **1 pound**
- Comb: **1 pound**
- Mirror: **1 pound**
- Wallet: **1 pound**
- Playing cards: **1 pound**
- Chess set: **3 pounds**
- Checkers set: **2 pounds**
- Dominoes: **2 pounds**
- Sewing kit: **1 pound**
- Writing paper and envelopes: **1 pound**
- Soap: **1 pound**
- Washcloth: **1 pound**
- Scarf: **1 pound**
- Winter hat: **1 pound**

**Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

# What Would You Carry?

## Total Weight:

Weight of Weapons and Ammunition: **16 pounds**

Food and Water: **9 pounds**

Knapsack: **6 pounds**

Total required weight: **31 pounds**

Total weight of chosen items:

## Total Weight of Everything

You Would Carry: \_\_\_\_\_

