**Lowland Leader assessment course notes**

**Introduction**

The [Lowland Leader](https://www.mountain-training.org/qualifications/walking/lowland-leader) scheme is designed for people who want to lead groups in lowland countryside and woodland in summer conditions. The majority of the UK and Ireland is made up of this type of terrain so you'll never be short of places to go walking. This award is a wonderful opportunity to gain the leadership skills required to feel confident taking people out walking.

The Lowland Leader assessment course aims to assess the technical skills, judgements and areas of knowledge deemed necessary to ensure an individual is safe to do so. This is a 2 day course (minimum of 16 hours).

Mountain Training aims to inspire, enable and develop people in walking, climbing and mountaineering through the provision of nationally and internationally recognised skills training and leadership qualifications. All Mountain Training courses are quality assured.

[Mountain Training: Our Ethos](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PzqVFu7N-RA)

[Learn, Lead, Inspire - Into the Hills](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=35fhgWhbQN0)

**Prerequisites for the Lowland Leader assessment course**

Before you book onto the Lowland Leader assessment course;

* You must have attended a Lowland Leader training course (or have been granted exemption).
* You must be familiar with the syllabus
* You must have logged a minimum of 20 walks in lowland countryside in different types of terrain (woodland, coastal, farmland etc.)
* You must hold a current first aid certificate, minimum 16 hours and relevant to your work as a Lowland Leader.

**Please ensure you have entered your minimum prerequisites in your digital logbook (DLOG) at the time of confirming your place on the assessment course.**

**Lowland Leader assessment course content**

The course follows the Lowland Leader syllabus. A typical course will cover the following areas:

* Leadership skills and group management
* Walking skills
* Planning a walk
* Basic map work and route finding skills
* Equipment
* Hazards and emergency procedures
* Environment awareness, conservation, access and land ownership

Detailed information on each of the above topics can be found in the [Lowland Leader Handbook](http://www.mountain-training.org/Content/Uploaded/Downloads/MLT/fc7bef54-fbb1-4c31-912d-e4983532dce2.pdf), and the onus is on you to be competent in all of them by the time you come to assessment.

**Potential outcomes of assessment**

Following the assessment the course director will complete a course report on CMS which will record one of three possible results:

***Pass:*** Awarded where the candidate has demonstrated appropriate knowledge and application of the course syllabus, and has shown the necessary experience and attributes of a Lowland Leader.  
  
***Defer:*** *A*warded where the candidate has generally performed well and has shown the necessary experience and attributes, but where complete proficiency has not been attained in certain aspects of the syllabus or where a lack of experience has been identified.  
  
***Fail:***Awarded where the candidate’s performance has been generally weak, or the necessary experience and attributes have not been shown. A complete assessment course will need to be subsequently attended.

When a candidate's performance merits a defer or fail result the candidate will have a formal written report containing individualised feedback. All relevant information will be included to support the deferred/failed candidate and the assessor who conducts the re-assessment.

**Access to courses**

Mountain Training is committed to ensuring that everyone has equal opportunity to attend our courses. If you have a particular need that requires extra assistance, please discuss it with Mountain Training or your provider.

[More information can be found here](https://www.mountain-training.org/help/resources/support-for-people-with-additional-needs)

**Sustainable Transport**

Mountain Training recognises that climbing, hill walking and mountaineering impact on the environment, and acknowledges the responsibility to take reasonable measures to safeguard the environment for both the present and future generations. We therefore ask participants to consider sustainable transport to access courses.

[The BMC Community Liftshare site](https://thebmc.co.uk/bmcs-launches-lift-share-site)

A diagram of a hiking trail

Description automatically generated

**Insurance**

Mountain Training recommends that you consider personal accident and cancellation insurance. If you already have insurance cover, check that it covers you for the activity you are undertaking.

**Partnerships**[Mountain Training Association](http://www.mountain-training.org/associations/mountain-training-association) - The Mountain Training Association is a membership community that provide members with support and development opportunities, mentoring, resources, workshops and events to help those working towards their qualification, and keep skills and knowledge current for those already qualified.

[British Mountaineering Council](https://www.thebmc.co.uk/bmc-memorandum-and-articles-of-association) - The British Mountaineering Council (BMC) is the national representative body for England and Wales that exists to protect the freedoms and promote the interests of climbers, hill walkers and mountaineers.