

The Syllabus

Hill and Moorland Leaders should be competent in the following key areas, all of which will be covered, to a greater or lesser extent, during your three day training course.

- Walking and Route Finding
- Navigation
- Hazards and Emergency Procedures
- Equipment
- Responsibilities of the Leader
- Group Management
- Access, Conservation and Environmental Knowledge
- Weather

Detailed information on each of the above topics can be found in the Hill and Moorland Leader Handbook and the onus is on you to be competent in all of them by the time you come to assessment.



Consolidation

The period between training and assessment varies in length for each person and is an opportunity to develop your skills, paying particular attention to any weaknesses identified during the training course. You can use the excuse 'I'm preparing for assessment' to have as many adventures as you like; logging days has never been so much fun!

Assessment

Before you book onto a Hill and Moorland Leader assessment, make sure you have done the following:

- You must have attended a Hill and Moorland Leader training course (or have been granted exemption)
- You must be familiar with the syllabus

- You must have logged a minimum of 40 Quality Hillwalking Days in at least three different upland areas of the UK and Ireland
- You must hold a current first aid certificate, minimum 16 hours and relevant to your work as a Hill and Moorland Leader

The Hill and Moorland Leader assessment is 3 days long.

Assessments are run by one of our approved providers and a variety of cost packages are available, depending on what's included; food, accommodation etc. so you can choose one that's right for you.

[Find a course in Ireland](#)

[Find a course in the UK & Ireland](#)

Support and Development

Join the [Mountain Training Association](#) and be part of a community of like-minded people on our schemes. The Association offers a range of workshops for trainee and qualified leaders and coaches across the disciplines, as well as a quarterly magazine, gear deals/discounts, a monthly newsletter and an insurance deal. You can join the Association at any point after you have registered on one of Mountain Training's leadership/coaching schemes.



The Book - Hill Walking

Hill Walking is the official companion to the walking schemes and it includes essential tips and information for every walker as well as for those who wish to lead in the hills. The book is split into three parts: Getting Around in the Hills, The Upland Environment and Group Management. Its functional design with easy-reference pages, striking illustration and images make this book an indispensable guide to the skills required for summer hill walking.



[GET YOUR COPY OF THE BOOK - CLICK HERE](#)

Alternatively, from Ireland Click below

[Get your copy of the book](#)

The Scope of the Award

The Hill and Moorland Leader award offers the opportunity to gain experience and demonstrate technical competence in leading groups on hill walks in areas of the UK and Ireland that fall within the technical definition outlined below. Such areas may often be subject to hostile weather conditions and require an element of self-sufficiency and this is reflected in the syllabus of this scheme.

Suitable terrain for the Hill & Moorland Leader will meet the following four criteria:

- open, uncultivated, non-mountainous high or remote country known variously as upland, moor, bog, fell, hill or down
- areas enclosed by well-defined geographical or man-made boundaries such as classified roads (areas that merge with mountain regions and do not have well defined boundaries are excluded)
- areas of remoteness that are easily exited in a few hours, returning to a refuge or an accessible road
- areas where movement on steep or rocky terrain is not required (in either a planned or unplanned situation)

As with all Mountain Training awards, it is the combination of technical competence and leadership skills supported by a wide range of experience that forms the basis for effective group management. The scheme addresses all these elements. However, the employer or operating authority must ultimately decide whether a leader possesses the personal attributes needed to take responsibility for any particular group of people.