

Small Game (Rabbit/Squirrel) Hunting Checklist

Clothing

Add or remove insulation layers in different weather/hunting conditions to stay comfortable.

Base layer – tops and bottoms	These will help on cold mornings, but also help you wick sweat as the day heats up.
Mid-layer – tops and pants	Long-sleeve t-shirts, sweatshirts (multiple, thinner layers); jeans or nylon/wool pants; a fleece jacket or vest if weather necessitates more layers.
Outer layer – jacket/coat	Wind/waterproof.
Socks	Wool is a common choice.
Waterproof boots	Make sure to break them in before the season begins.
Hat	Hunter orange (firearm season only) if you don't have a hunter orange vest or jacket.
Hunter orange vest	Required by Michigan regulations (see page 18 of the Michigan Hunting and Trapping Digest for more details). You may also wear a cap, hat, jacket or rain gear of hunter orange.
Gloves	Make sure you can pull the trigger while wearing them.

Equipment

**Check [Michigan hunting regulations](#) to make sure your firearm complies.*

Firearm*	Shotgun or rimfire rifle.
Ammunition for firearm	#6 shotgun shells or caliber-specific rimfire loads
Firearm case	Soft-sided or hard-sided.
Gun-cleaning kit	Get a kit specific to your firearm.

Other hunting gear and items

Hunting license	Available online at E-License or at any license agent . Apprentice licenses are available for those who don't yet have a hunter safety certificate. See pages 8-10 of the Michigan Hunting and Trapping Digest for more information about license types and buying a license.
Knife	A sturdy fixed or folding blade of 3 inches is sufficient.
Flashlight	Along with carrying these items, for safety's sake, always make sure someone knows about your hunting plans – where you'll be hunting and when you're expected to return.
Map and compass	
Smartphone (fully charged)	
Game bag	For carrying your harvested game.