

Troop 337
New Scout Handbook



This Handbook Belongs To

Welcome to the Wonderful World of Scouting!

Troop 337 was chartered in Broomfield in 1956. In our troop, Scouts take the lead in planning, decision-making, and running activities. This means that you have the opportunity to learn leadership skills, teamwork, and responsibility firsthand.

The purpose of this guide is to help you navigate your path through the early troop experience and to help you become comfortable in the outdoors. To do this, we will walk you through what you need to do during your first few months as a new Scout and we will help you prepare for your first outdoor adventures!

Getting Started

First, introduce yourself to your Scoutmaster and fellow Scouts. Don't be shy; everyone is friendly and welcoming. Scouts are organized into small groups called patrols. Each patrol has its own identity, leaders, and responsibilities. Your Scoutmaster will assign you to a "New Scout" patrol, where sometimes you will work together with your patrol members and sometimes you will work individually on various tasks and activities.

Uniform and Gear

If you haven't already done so, get your Class A Uniform and learn how to wear it properly. The Scouts BSA uniform is a symbol of pride and belonging. In addition to your new uniform, we will help you learn about your *Scouts BSA Handbook* and the essential gear that you will need for camping and outdoor activities.

Troop Meetings and Activities

Attend troop meetings regularly. This is where you'll plan upcoming activities, work on advancements, and have fun with your friends. You will also learn essential outdoor skills such as camping, cooking, first aid, navigation, and knots. We encourage you to actively participate in outdoor activities and our troop's community service projects. These are the heart of Scouting and where you'll make some of your best memories.

Your Troop Guide & New Scout Patrol

Your Senior Patrol Leader has assigned a Troop Guide to your new patrol. Your Troop Guide is a senior Scout that will lead your patrol for six months, teach you basic Scouting techniques and, answer any questions you have about our program. Your Troop Guide is the first person you go to with questions or if you need help.

Advancements

You will advance through ranks by completing requirements, which are listed in your *Scouts BSA Handbook*, and by demonstrating ability in various skills. Advancement is self-paced, and you are encouraged to set personal goals and work toward them with the support of your Troop Guide, fellow patrol members, and troop leaders.

Merit Badges

You earn merit badges by learning about different subjects and skills. They're like badges of honor that show what you've accomplished during your journey in Scouting. They are also requirements for some of the higher ranks in Scouting.

Leadership Opportunities

As you gain experience, consider taking on leadership roles within your troop. Whether it's serving as a patrol leader, quartermaster, or scribe, you get the opportunity to interact with your troop's more senior Scouts, develop your leadership skills, and help your fellow Scouts understand how to get the most out of their Scouting experience.

Safety First

Follow the Scouts BSA safety guidelines and the instructions from your adult and senior Scout leaders, at all times. If you see a safety concern, immediately call it out to your troop guide, senior patrol leader, or an adult leader. Always prioritize safety during activities and outings.

Conclusion

Welcome again to the Scouts BSA and Troop 337! Embrace the adventure, get to know your new friends and most importantly, have fun. Our Scouting community is like a second family, and working together, you'll learn valuable life skills, explore the great outdoors, learn how to give back to your community and, create memories that will last a lifetime. And remember to always live by the Scout Oath and Law, which will guide you in your daily life and in all of your interactions with others.

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An Introduction to the Scouts BSA Program

Scouts BSA is a renowned youth program dedicated to fostering leadership, character development, and outdoor exploration. The Scouting movement was founded in Great Britain in 1908 by Lord Baden-Powell, who had written a book called *Scouting for Boys*. William D. Boyce brought the program to America in 1910. Now open to both boys and girls, Scouts BSA provides a structured yet adventurous platform where Scouts can learn valuable life skills and forge lifelong friendships.

Scouts engage in activities like hiking along nature trails, camping under the stars, cooking, first aid, and participating in service projects to benefit their communities. They also have the opportunity to earn merit badges in a wide range of subjects, from art and athletics to science and technology. Through these experiences and more, Scouts develop confidence, resilience, and a sense of responsibility, equipping them with the tools they need to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Scouting also provides opportunities to learn and practice important values, such as honesty, integrity, and doing a good turn for others. Scouts are taught to always do their best and to treat others with kindness and respect. You will find this and more in the guiding principles of the Scout Oath and Law, which are at the foundation of everything we do at Troop 337.

Our Scouting program is all about giving the Scouts a chance to learn cool stuff, become more independent, and form awesome friendships. From running troop meetings to planning epic camping trips, you're the leaders here.

That's right, Troop 337 is led by Scouts!

What is a Scout Led Troop?

The primary purpose of Scouting is to provide you with opportunities to learn valuable life skills, develop a sense of self-reliance, and build strong relationships with others. However, unlike Cub Scouts where adults lead the Den, in Scouts BSA, it's your time to shine!

That's right, you and your fellow Scouts are the ones calling the shots! At Troop 337 the Scouts develop a troop program and then take responsibility for figuring out how they will achieve their goals. From running patrols and troop meetings, to planning epic outdoor activities and camping trips, you're the leaders here!

But even in the best organizations, sometimes things won't go as planned and regardless of your training, and how hard you plan, sometimes things just don't work out. But guess what? That's all part of the fun and learning experience! Whether it's a meeting that goes off track or a campfire meal that turns into an eating adventure, every twist and turn is a chance to learn, grow, and have a blast with your Scout family.

It's a big responsibility, but don't worry, we're here to help you learn the ropes. The adult leaders understand that their role is to create a safe place where Scouts can take on responsibilities, learn from their disappointments, and achieve success! Scouts will make mistakes now and then, and that's ok. You can rely upon the adult leaders to coach and guide you when you need it.

To ensure that you are ready to lead, the Scouts BSA offers a variety of youth leadership training to help you prepare for these important roles. In addition, each troop has a group of adult leaders that are also trained and prepared to coach and mentor you, as needed.

Through formal training, informal coaching, and through your own personal experiences in the program, you will learn and practice how to lead others and manage activities. In the Scouts BSA program, every Scout will have an opportunity to lead.

A Note to Parents

Sometimes it can be hard to watch a process that is not working as planned but keep in mind, if a meeting does not go as planned, our Scouts will still have fun and will learn how to do it better next time. If a meal during a camping trip does not work out, it becomes a learning experience and a teachable moment, to show how a Scout can respond to mistakes, and still show respect for others. Good judgement grows out of personal experience and experience comes from making mistakes.

Within the bounds of a safe Scouting experience, the adult leadership will allow the youth leadership to make mistakes and learn from them. With this mind, remember that the only time a parent, guardian, or family member should step in and direct a Scout is if there is an immediate safety concern.

Working well with others is perhaps the most important life skill that Scouts can learn. Scouts gain confidence by being entrusted with planning, making decisions, and leading their peers. The leadership skills that they will learn from their mistakes and successes will benefit them throughout their lives.

You can help your Scout to be successful by encouraging their full participation in patrol and troop activities; ensuring proper wearing of the uniform; advocating for the regular use and upkeep of your Scout's BSA Handbook; helping with transportation; and perhaps most importantly, supporting your Scout in following the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Whenever possible, encourage your Scout to take the lead on individual tasks, requirements, and activities. Scouts learn best when given the opportunity to do it themselves. Parental oversight is obviously a good thing and needed, to ensure a Scout is properly prepared and staying engaged and active in the program.

Remember, Scouting is not just about earning merit badges and advancing in rank; it's about developing character, leadership skills, and a sense of responsibility. By supporting your Scout in their journey through a Scout-led troop, you are helping them build a foundation for success in all aspects of life.

Scouts BSA places the greatest importance on creating the most secure environment possible for our youth members. True youth protection can be achieved only through the focused commitment of everyone in Scouting. Scouts BSA takes great pride in the quality of its adult leadership. Being a leader is a privilege, not a right. Scouts BSA has a multilayered adult leader selection, including a process that includes criminal background checks administered by a nationally recognized third party.

To attend any Troop 337 activity such as service projects or nature hikes, parents must have their Youth Protection Training completed with a certificate of completion emailed

to the current Committee Chair. Furthermore, effective September 1, 2023, every adult present on overnight activities must be registered as an adult leader of Troop 337.

Finally, even if you are not a registered Scouting leader or volunteer, it is your responsibility as a parent or guardian to know and understand the Scouts BSA's youth protection guidelines. One of the best ways to do this is to take BSA's Youth Protection Training, commonly referred to as YPT.

You may take the YPT course online at <https://my.Scouting.org>.

If you have any questions or concerns, our troop leaders are here to assist you.

Parent's Quick Start Guide

At first, joining the Scouts BSA program and a new troop may feel a little overwhelming. However, we are confident that once your Scout settles in and gets to know our leadership team, they will find that the program and our Scouting community are worthwhile, and you will enjoy watching your Scout mature, become more resilient, and build strong relationships and memories that will last a lifetime.

To help your Scout get off to a good start, here is a checklist of what is needed.

- **Scouts BSA Handbook** - The *Scouts BSA Handbook* is one of the most important tools we have to help our Scouts understand how to navigate the Scouting program. Please write your Scout's contact information on the page provided at the front of the handbook.
- **Scouts BSA Handbook Canvas Cover** – Your Scout's handbook will take a beating over the years. In order to protect it, you will need a durable cover that zips shut. Also, please write your Scout's name on the cover to ensure it is easy to identify.
- **Scouts BSA Class A Uniform** – Please refer to the “Welcome to Troop 337!” email that you received when you joined our troop for a list of what is required.
- **Troop 337 T-Shirt** - also referred to as a Class B uniform. These can be purchased through the troop.
- **Daypack and the Scouts BSA 10 Essentials** – A list of the 10 Essentials can be found in your *Scouts BSA Handbook*, in our Campout Packing List, and on our Troop 337 website. A daypack should not be larger than 24-liters. Daypacks will stay with your Scout when traveling to and from campsites. Please see page for more information.
- **27 Gallon Black Tote with Yellow Lid** – Your Scout will use a tote to pack his camping gear. This is how we teach them how to pack for a weekend backpacking trip. All soft gear and totes must be stowed in the troop trailer. Totes are key to our ability to stack and load the trailer. You can find this style of tote at Home Depot, Lowes, and Costco. Please write your Scout's name in permanent marker on the lid and the base of the tote.
- **Camping Gear** – A detailed list of the equipment that will be needed will be provided in a separate document entitled “Troop 337 Camp Survival Guide.”
- **Program Fees** – Please ensure that your Scout's fees are paid on a quarterly basis. Program assistance is available for those that may need it. Please see our Committee Chair or Treasurer, who will be happy to have a confidential discussion with you.
- **Program Paperwork** – Please ensure your Scout's paperwork is turned in, in a timely manner. You can refer to the “Welcome to Troop 337!” for a list of what is required or see the addendum section at the back of this handbook.
- **Troop Communications** – Finally, we recommend that you familiarize yourself with our troop communications, starting with our weekly Circle Up email, which is where you will find the latest information on troop meetings, activities, service

projects, sign-up documents, fund raisers, and more. We also recommend that you check out our Troop 337 website at Troop337.org and our Facebook page at "Boy Scout Troop 337 Broomfield Colorado."

How is Troop 337 Organized?

Troop 337 is like any other organization (think of your school or a sports team) that is always reorganizing, growing, and improving. Each year as new Scouts join us, some of our more senior Scouts may age-out of the Scouting program (meaning, they reach the maximum age of 18) and several Scouts may reach the coveted honor of becoming an Eagle Scout!

To ensure that we can continue to grow and thrive, Troop 337 follows the Scouts BSA guidelines for how we are organized and function. To do this, our troop is made up of three main groups: the committee, the adult program leaders (Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters), and most importantly, the Scouts!

The troop committee is kind of like the principal at your school. The committee is made up of adult volunteers (primarily Scouters' parents) and is organized and led by a Committee Chair. This person and adult leader hold the most senior position in the troop. And, led by the Committee Chair, this wonderful group of volunteers manages our troop policies and handles all the necessary tasks and challenges (behind the scenes) to keep our troop running. This allows the troop Scoutmaster, and Assistant Scoutmasters, to focus on working directly with the Scouts.

The Scoutmaster is the most senior uniformed adult leader of our Scouting program that works directly with the Scouts. The Scoutmaster also leads a group of Assistant Scoutmasters, which are also adult uniformed leaders. Together, our adult leaders help you successfully navigate the Scouting program.

Our Scouts are separated into three different types of patrols: New-Scout patrols, regular-patrols, and older-Scout patrols. Each patrol is made up of approximately five to eight members and each patrol is led by Scouts who are elected by the members of that patrol.

Because you are a New-Scout, you have been assigned to a New-Scout patrol. As you learn about the Scouts BSA program, you will grow in your ability to do your part as a member of your patrol and the troop. And, as you develop knowledge and skills, you will be given opportunities to teach others; in this way, you will begin to develop your leadership skills and get more opportunities to lead others.

Your New-Scout patrol will have an older and more experienced Scout to help you get started. This senior Scout will be your Troop Guide. Your Troop Guide will help lead your patrol and coach you as you learn about the Scouting program. Remember, if at any time you need help or have a question, always go to your Troop Guide first! If your Troop Guide is not available, you can go to your Senior Patrol Leader. If both your Troop Guide and Senior Patrol leader are not available, or cannot satisfy your question, then ask an adult leader or the Scoutmaster.

Each regular patrol is led by a Patrol Leader and backed up by an Assistant Patrol Leader. Patrol Leaders assure that their patrols are prepared to participate in all troop activities, and they oversee and guide the members of their patrol so they can work together, share responsibilities, and get things done.

The Senior Patrol Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader are the highest-ranking members of the Scouts. The Senior Patrol Leader is responsible to provide valuable leadership in planning and carrying out the troop's program meetings, outdoor activities, and service projects.

The Senior Patrol Leader is also the senior member of the Patrol Leader Council (PLC). The PLC is a group of Scout leaders that typically meets once a month and is responsible for planning and conducting the troop's weekly meetings and monthly outings. You will learn more about the PLC, what it does, and how you can serve on it in the coming months.

All positions of responsibility have the same common duties, including:

- Setting a good example.
- Wearing the Scout uniform correctly and proudly.
- Living by the Scout Oath and Law.
- Showing your Scout spirit!
- Maintaining a high rate of attendance at meetings, activities, and service projects.



Troop Meetings & Activities

Troop meetings are the glue that hold the troop together. During meetings, patrols sit together, gather together in breakout sessions, participate in patrol activities and lead meeting activities like opening and closing flag ceremonies. In addition, individual Scouts may have the opportunity to get advancement requirements signed-off or to complete a Scoutmaster conference or Board of Review meeting, which you will learn more about as you work through the program.

There are three basic types of **Troop Meetings**. Specifically:

A **Program Feature** Meeting - this is where Scouts spend part of the troop meeting learning and practicing skills that they will need on upcoming outings or that will help them advance in rank or earn a merit badge.

A **Troop Planning** Meeting - during a troop planning meeting, the Scouts break up into patrols and create their plans for an activity, which may include things like meal planning, checking equipment, choosing tent mates, and handling any other details related to the upcoming activity or outing.

The third type of meeting is the **Patrol Leader Council (PLC)** Meeting – during a PLC meeting, only the elected Scout leaders, and other council positions, gather to plan out future meetings and activities. Scouts that are not elected leaders do not participate in PLC meetings. If you are not a member of the PLC and want to meet with an adult leader to get a rank advancement signed off, attending on the PLC evenings is ok; however, please do not interrupt the PLC meeting that will be taking place.

When the Senior Patrol Leader is ready to start a meeting, you will hear the senior leaders call out – “Patrol Lines.” This is your moment to line up as a patrol and to keep an eye on the Senior Patrol Leader. While in your patrol line, it is important to stay quiet and pay attention to what is happening. You do not want to miss out on any instructions that will be given out. And more importantly, you want to show respect for your fellow Scouts!

Scouts should always wear their Class-A Uniforms to troop meetings and while traveling to and from Scouting activities. Scouts should also bring their Scout handbook and a pen and paper to all weekly meetings and on all outings. The handbook will guide Scouts through many of the activities, and also contains lines where certain leaders can “sign-off” on completed requirements.

Scout leaders hold their positions for approximately six months. At that time, the troop will hold new elections, during which the Scouts’ will “vote in” their new Scout leaders and realign the patrols, if needed.

In addition to informal recognition sometimes offered during troop meetings, Troop 337 holds a **Court of Honor** ceremony every three months. This is a formal recognition ceremony with families and friends in attendance. Every Scout who has earned a badge of rank or merit badge since the last Court of Honor is called forward and recognized. If there are pins to be presented to the Scouts' parents, they also can be called up along with their Scout. After the ceremony, everyone will gather to eat snacks and to celebrate our Scouts' achievements!

Community Service has been at the center of Scouting since its very beginning, and is highlighted by the Scout Slogan, "Do a good turn daily." Scouts BSA service projects encompass a range of community-focused activities. Scouts often clean parks, organize donation drives, assist with clean-up work, and even aid the elderly. Each troop project not only benefits communities but also reinforces the Scouting values of service and learning. Every Scout needs to take part in, and even lead, numerous service projects before achieving the rank of Eagle. So, get ready to get your service boots on!

Rank Advancement & The Road to First Class

Scouts BSA has seven ranks available: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle. The requirements for these ranks are listed in your *Scouts BSA Handbook*.

Your Troop Guide will help you plan out what you need on your path to First Class and with some additional guidance and support from your parents and Scout leaders, you will get off to a great start! But always remember, you advance through the ranks at your own pace. Rank advancement is not based on your age, school grade, or the progress of your fellow Scouts. Scouting advancement is a wonderful journey — not a race.

As a friendly reminder, always bring your *Scouts BSA Handbook* with you to all Scouting meetings and activities. Most Scouting meetings and activities are designed to offer Scouts ways to complete rank requirements. And it is a great opportunity to sit down with a Scout leader to review your work and to get them to sign off on your requirements.

Here is a list of the people that can sign off on the requirements for each rank:

- Troop Guide - Scout
- Senior Patrol Leader - Scout & Tenderfoot
- Assistant Senior Patrol Leader – Scout & Tenderfoot
- Adult Leaders (Assistant Scoutmasters) – Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star & Life
- Scoutmaster – All ranks, including Eagle.
- Committee Members and other Scouts do not sign off on rank requirements.

Please note that Troop 337 does not allow parents to sign off on their own Scout's requirements, even if your parent is a Scout leader in the troop.

Once you have completed all the requirements for a specific rank, you will need to schedule a conference with your Scoutmaster as well as a Board of Review meeting with the Committee. Ask your parents to help you find the sign-up link in the latest version of the Circle Up email that is sent out each week.

Scoutmaster Conference

The **Scoutmaster Conference** usually takes place during a regular scheduled troop meeting; however, you may also get the opportunity to complete a Scoutmaster Conference during a camping trip, assuming the Scoutmaster is present and is available to meet with you.

During the Scoutmaster Conference, your Scoutmaster will sit down with you to ensure all necessary requirements have been completed, discuss how you are doing in the Scouting program, and help you set your goals for future rank requirements. Your Scoutmaster may also discuss your participation in the troop and talk to you about what you are learning in the program. The conference also gives the Scoutmaster an opportunity to ask for your feedback on the program and any challenges that you may be facing. The Scoutmaster Conference is not a test but is an important review for each Scout rank. You need to be prepared for it, but don't stress out about it.

Board of Review

After you have completed your Scoutmaster Conference, you will need to schedule a **Board of Review**. Once again, ask your parents to help you find the sign-up link in the latest version of the Circle Up email. Before your review starts, you will need to ask the troop Committee Chair for your Board of Review paperwork, which you will present to the committee when your review meeting starts.

During a Board of Review, you will have a conversation similar to the one you had at your Scoutmaster Conference with 3 members of the troop committee. The troop committee members, which may include your fellow Scouters' parents, will talk to you about what you have done, what you have learned, and how you are enjoying the Scouting program. This is your opportunity to relax and show everyone how comfortable you are talking with people about your Scouting experience. Remember, the committee members are very similar to the adult Scout leaders. All of us want to ensure that you are enjoying the Scouting program and advancing at your own pace.

After you have completed your Board of Review, your Scoutmaster will recognize you, and your rank advancement, during the next Circle Up at the close of a regular troop meeting. In addition, you will be awarded your rank patch, and any merit badges that you may have earned, during the next Court of Honor meeting!

Additional Awards

In addition to working on your rank advancements, you can work with your Troop Guide to figure out what is needed to earn the Totin Chip award and the Firem'n Chit award. Both of these awards can be earned during your first few months of Scouting!

The Totin Chip grants a Scout the right to carry and use wood tools.

The Firem'n Chit grants a Scout the right to carry fire-lighting devices (matches, lighters, etc.) to build campfires.

Merit Badges

Merit badges are an important part of rank advancement, and a Scout may begin earning merit badges at any time. However, at Troop 337, we recommend that new Scouts focus more on rank advancement, which is also referred to as the Road to First Class. You will have plenty of time to earn merit badges during summer camp, or at a local merit badge college or day and, at the Colorado Adventure Point (CAP) Scouts BSA facility in Lakewood.

The first step in earning a merit badge is to talk to your Troop Guide or Scoutmaster about what subjects interest you. You can also read the requirements of the merit badges you think you might enjoy, and then pick one to earn.

Once you select your first merit badge, your Scoutmaster will help you work through the rest of the process, which will require you to find a merit badge counselor that has special knowledge in the merit badge subject you selected, and will provide you with an Application for Merit Badge, which is also referred to as a “Blue Card” which you will use to enter your information and the name of the merit badge. After entering your information, the Scoutmaster will sign your blue card. After receiving a signed blue card, you can begin working on the merit badge requirements.

There are more than 135 merit badges, and any Scout may earn any of these at any time. For new Scouts, we recommend you start with something fun that is easier to complete. For example, you may want to start with Chess, Fingerprinting, Art, Music, Coin Collecting, Mammal Study, or Leatherworking. There is no time limit for starting and completing a merit badge, but all work must be completed by the time a Scout turns 18.

Take pride in the merit badges you've earned! Merit badges are affixed (sewn or attached with badge-magic) to a merit badge sash and worn over the right shoulder or neatly folded and tucked into the right waistline.

Camping

Your first camping experience with Troop 337 will be during our annual **New Scout Campout**, which is held in April. Your parents are encouraged to join us for the day, but they will not be able to stay with you overnight. But, not to worry, your fellow Scouters and adult leaders will guide you, and support you, as you learn about the patrol camping methods and how to thrive in the outdoors! We will be talking more about this with your parents during our New Parent Meeting. You will also learn more about it in our Circle Up weekly troop email.

Summer is a time for sunshine, fresh air, and getting outdoors. The best place to do this is at a Scouts BSA **Summer Camp**! You will have a blast with your new Scouting friends as you learn new skills, earn merit badges, and explore the great outdoors. During summer camp, you will tent with your friends, eat meals together as a troop, and participate in outdoor activities like shooting sports, archery, climbing, hiking, robotics, arts and crafts, water sports and a lot more! As the day starts to wind down, you can gather around the evening fire and sing songs or maybe entertain your fellow Scouters by participating in a Scout skit. Summer camp is definitely a lot of fun and where friendships are forged, and lifelong memories are made!

Finally, at Troop 337 we do our best to **camp every month** of the year! This means you will get lots of opportunities to get out and explore the outdoors with your fellow Scouters. Whether its sleeping under the stars at the Colorado Sand Dunes, racing down the zip line at the McNeil Scout Ranch in Peaceful Valley, or hiking through nature trails at Tahosa High Adventure Base, you will get plenty of opportunities to pitch your tent, prepare and share meals with your friends, and enjoy everything the outdoors has to offer!

Closing Comments

In closing, we are excited that you chose Troop 337 and our Scouting community to partner with you on your Scouting journey. Remember, each Scout travels at his or her own pace. On behalf of our committee members, adult leaders, and fellow Scouters, we look forward to getting to know you and to helping you achieve all your Scouting goals!



Troop 337 Code of Conduct

Expectations: Scouts shall follow the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and Outdoor Code. These are the basis of expectations for all of Scouts' behavior and actions.

Youth Protection Policy Violations: Serious Youth Protection Policy violations or behaviors that put a youth's safety at risk must be reported to the Scout executive at the Greater Colorado Council. Examples of serious incidents and online reporting is available at: www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/incident-report/

Scouts First Helpline: Scouts BSA established a 24-hour helpline to receive immediate assistance in handling of a sexual abuse allegation, or filing reports of known or suspected abuse or behavior that might put a youth at risk.

1-844-SCOUTS (1-844-726-8871)

If someone has been harmed or is in danger, always call 911 first.

Code of Conduct Violations: Potential violations range from minor offenses derived from a lack of understanding to premeditated acts that compromise the safety of other Scouts or violate laws. Examples of violations of varying severity include, but are not limited to:

- Not following the buddy system, leaving the camp premises, or otherwise putting oneself or buddy at risk.
- Any usage of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
- Inappropriate language (e.g., cursing, name calling) or discussion topics.
- Misuse of an item or equipment (e.g., showing nudity, violence, or self-harm images from a cell phone, fabricating a spear out of a stick, swinging in a hammock).
- Disrespect for property (e.g., intentional mishandling of a knife that inflicts marks on a cabin floor/walls, borrowing and returning another Scout's property without permission) or theft of property.
- Horseplay or rough housing ranging from minor to the level of physical attack.
- Touching of any kind unless it is part of a Troop-approved activity.
- Compromising the safety of another scout during an activity (e.g., intentionally not providing belay support, wielding, and threatening another Scout with a knife or axe).

Leadership Action: Troop leadership is prepared and required to take action to address violations promptly and communicate issues, both throughout the Program leaders and Committee members. Just as potential violations range in severity, Leadership Action is intended to scale appropriately with repeated violations receiving escalated actions.

Examples of Leadership Actions include, but are not limited to:

- Coaching by any level of Troop Leadership, often reminding the Scout of the Scout Oath and Scout Law, and expectations of Scouts.
- Confiscation of an item or equipment being used inappropriately (e.g., a knife being mishandled, cell phone being used without leadership approval or inappropriately).
- Removal from the current Troop Activity.
- Suspension from Troop Activities until the Scout has completed an agreed-upon consequence that is deemed acceptable by the Scoutmaster, Committee Chair, and when appropriate, the Charter Organization Representative and Scout Executive.
- Expulsion from the Troop.

Communication: Any violations of the Code of Conduct are to be communicated to any level of troop leadership (scout on patrol, leadership council, or registered adult leader). With the exception of minor, non-recurring violations, leadership shall communicate all violations to the Scoutmaster. The Scoutmaster will communicate any violations to the Committee Chair as soon as reasonably possible. Troop leadership (Scoutmaster and Committee Chair) will communicate both violations and Leadership Actions to the Assistant Scoutmasters and Troop Committee to ensure awareness relative to repeated violations. Troop Leadership will communicate both violations and Leadership Actions to the Scout's Parents. The formality and format of communications will vary based on the nature of the violation from a simple verbal conversation to formal written communications and meetings.

Scouts BSA Class A Uniform

If you do not already have one, you will need to purchase a Scouts BSA khaki shirt with the “World Crest” patch and a “Greater Colorado Council” patch. You will also need a green merit badge sash, which you will wear to Troop 337 Court of Honor meetings. We recommend purchasing the large sash as you will grow into it, and this will save you from transferring your merit badge patches from one sash to the another.

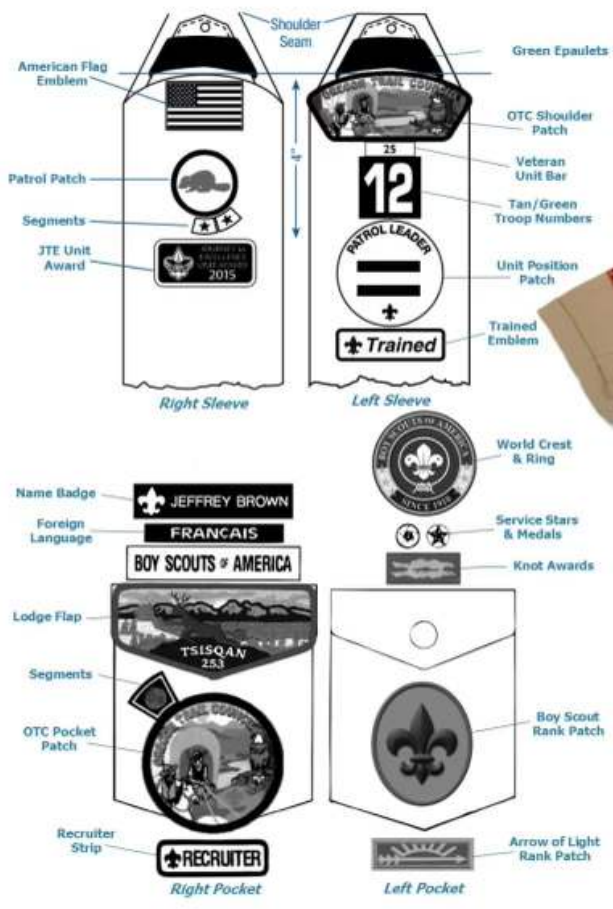
Our Troop’s “Class A” uniform consists of a Scouts BSA formal khaki shirt, neckerchief, slide, and scout pants or scout shorts. A Scouts BSA belt and hat is optional. You can substitute the formal Scouts BSA pants for a nice pair of khaki pants or jeans; however, we discourage our scouts from wearing pants with holes or tears in them, sport shorts, sweatpants, etc. We do understand that sometimes you may be coming directly from another event and at that point, we request that you at least wear your Class A khaki shirt, neckerchief, and slide.

You should wear your Class A uniform to all Troop 337 meetings and while driving to and from camping trips.

The Scouts BSA Store is located in the Denver Area Council headquarters which in Lakewood. Below is the link for more information on the location as well as placing online orders.

<https://scoutingcolorado.org/home/scout-shop/>

Please see the illustration on the following page for a diagram of patch placement.



Scouts BSA



Merit Badge Sash, should be worn with a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturing uniform over the right shoulder. It may be worn under or over the epaulet.

Daypack & Backpack

Daypacks, and a second larger multiday backpack, are essential scouting items and should be selected with care. You want something that looks cool, holds all the necessary items that you need and, is comfortable to wear for an extended period of time. The majority of our camping trips fall into the trailer-camping category, so don't spend a bunch of money on a multiday backpack right now.

We recommend that you start with a daypack. Then, after you have gained enough experience, and are ready to head out on a more adventurous multiday hiking and camping trip, you can consult with your Patrol Leader, and fellow senior Scouts, as to which backpack would be best for you.

Remember, during all of our hiking trips, and camping trips, you will need to carry the **Scouts BSA 10 Basic Essentials**, which are listed below. You will also find information about the 10 Essentials in your *Scouts BSA Handbook*.

Carry these items in your daypack and keep your daypack with you while you are traveling. Doing so will help you "be prepared" for most situations that might arise.

- **Pocketknife and/or Multitool** - A clean, sharp pocketknife can come in handy for a variety of situations. However, you must earn your Totin Chip before you will be permitted to carry a pocketknife.
- **First-Aid Kit** - Whether it's a 3-mile hike in a local park or a week-long high-adventure trip, a first-aid kit should always be on your packing list.
- **Clothing** - Bring extra clothing to match the forecast and be ready for changes in the weather.
- **Rain Gear** - Besides protecting you from getting drenched, it can be used to block the wind.
- **Flashlight and/or Headlamp** - Finding your way in the dark is critical.
- **Trail Food** - Snacks like granola, dried fruits, and trail bars can give you the energy you need to complete your hike.
- **Water Bottle** - Staying hydrated is important. Bring water and drink it throughout the day!
- **Matches and/or Fire Starters** - You might not be planning to need a fire, but it might become critical in an emergency. Remember, you must earn your Firem'n Chit before you carry this item.
- **Sun Protection** - Includes a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses, and sunblock. Sun burns can happen quickly and even on cooler cloudy days.
- **Map & Compass** - Knowing where you are going and how to get back are absolutely critical. Your phone may not work in remote areas. Plan how you will communicate with emergency personnel in the event of an emergency.

When it is time to select a larger overnight backpack, there are several stores like REI that will measure you and help you select the right backpack for you.

Camping Gear

At Troop 337, our goal is to help our Scouts properly prepare for all types of camping experiences. From warm sunny days and cool evenings to the possibility of snowy cold days and even colder nights, we will help you plan for all the elements that you may encounter.

Troop 337 will provide each Patrol with a "Patrol Box" which will hold all the items needed to prepare and cook your meals. The troop will also provide any necessary cooking stoves and fuel.

Below you will find a list of items that you will need to bring with you. You will pack these items in your personal tote that your parents will help you find. On occasions, you may also bring a soft-sided bag to hold any additional items that may not fit into your tote.

- **Tent** - We recommend a 3-season, 2-person tent with a rain cover that has a vestibule to protect the entrance of your tent. This will give you enough room to tent with a buddy. We recommend that you tent with a buddy until you reach the age of 13 or First Class. We will assign tent buddies prior to leaving for camp.
- **Tent Footprint or Ground Cover** - To provide extra protection for the floor of your tent. You should be able to find one that is made for your tent's footprint.
- **Rubber Mallet** - To hammer your tent stakes into the ground.
- **Sleeping bag** - Pay attention to the bag's warmth factor. You may want to start with something that is rated from 15 to 25 degrees. When it is warmer, you can always open up the bag or sleep on top of it.
- **Sleeping Bag Liner** - Will provide extra warmth on cold nights and also helps protect your bag (it's easier to launder) so you don't have to clean your bag as often.
- **Pillow** - Small inflatable kind is best. Remember, you need to pack it!
- **Ground Pad** - A pad under your sleeping bag will make it more comfortable and also insulate you from the cold ground. We recommend you look for pads that are rated for 3 to 4 seasons, to ensure you have the right protection when it does get cold.
- **Packable Fold Up Camp Chair** - For sitting by the fire or hanging out around your tent with your buddies.
- **LED Lantern** - For inside your tent. Don't forget some extra batteries!
- **Mess Kit** - Look for a single collapsible bowl or plate, a spork (fork and spoon in one) and an insulated cup for hot chocolate! You will also need a ditty bag (a netted bag) with a drawstring to hold your mess kit.
- **Extra Daytime Clothes** - Avoid cotton clothing! Cotton does not dry out in cold weather. Always bring extra wool socks to keep your feet clean and dry.
- **Sleeping Clothes** - Warm sweats, socks, and a beanie style hat to keep your head warm. Change into these at night. Do not wear your day clothes as they will most likely be dirty and possibly wet, which will make for a long, cold night.
- **Hiking Boots** - Open toe shoes are not allowed.

- **Rain Gear** - We recommend “Frogg Toggs” or a similar product. It will keep you warm during cold windy days and keep you dry when it rains!
- **Warm Jacket** - One that is waterproof is a good idea.
- **Beanie Hat and Warm Gloves** - For the cold mornings and cool days.
- **Microfiber & Antibacterial Bath Towel** - That is light and dries quickly.
- **Toiletries** - Toothbrush & toothpaste, deodorant, comb, travel soap and shampoo, and lots of ChapStick!

You may also want to consider bringing some wet wipes to clean up with when needed, hand sanitizer, a deck of cards is always fun when you have some downtime, and some insect repellent, which hopefully you will not need.

Remember, if you have any questions, your Troop Guide or Senior Patrol Leader are always happy to help you!

Troop 337 Campout Packing List

Be Prepared!

Location – High Altitude? Lakes or Rivers? Tall Grass & Stickers? Sand?

Duration – Overnight? Several Days? Changes the number of items to bring.

Weather – Hot or Cold? Dry or Wet? Determines types of clothes and sleeping gear.

Planned Activities – Swimming? Hiking? Working on Merit Badges? What's needed?

Start by Organizing Your Daypack

10 Basic Essentials

You May Also Want to Carry...

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Bottle	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Scouts BSA Handbook</i> & Pen
<input type="checkbox"/> Headlamp or Flashlight	<input type="checkbox"/> Warm Pullover or Hoodie
<input type="checkbox"/> Rain Gear	<input type="checkbox"/> Whistle
<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Food	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses
<input type="checkbox"/> First-Aid Kit	<input type="checkbox"/> Chap Stick!
<input type="checkbox"/> Sun Protection (Hat. Neck Gator. Lotion.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Insect Repellent
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Clothing (Match the Forecast)	<input type="checkbox"/> Wet Wipes
<input type="checkbox"/> Compass and Map	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand Sanitizer
<input type="checkbox"/> Pocketknife or Multitool & Totin Chip	<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Batteries
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Starters & Firem'n Chit	<input type="checkbox"/> Retractable Trekking Poles
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deck of Cards

Remember, always wear your Scouts BSA Class A Uniform while traveling.

Keep your Daypack with you while traveling.

Make sure you write your name on both the body and lid of your Personal Tote (and any soft-sided bags that do not fit into your tote) and place them by the back door of the Troop Trailer.

Personal Camping Equipment

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Tote – 27 Gallon <input type="checkbox"/> Tent <input type="checkbox"/> Tent Footprint or Ground Cover <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber Mallet or Stake Hammer <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag Liner <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Pad (Rated 3-4 Season) <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow (Small Inflatable Kind is Best) <input type="checkbox"/> LED Lantern for Inside Tent <input type="checkbox"/> Camp Chair (Fold Up & Packable) <input type="checkbox"/> Mess Kit & Ditty Bag <input type="checkbox"/> Carabiner Clips – Hang Lantern & Towel <input type="checkbox"/> Warm Blanket (For Cold Nights) <input type="checkbox"/> Hammock with Tree Friendly Tie Lines <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking Boots <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Wool Socks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Changes of Clothing (Weather Appropriate) <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Clothes & Nighttime Beanie Hat <input type="checkbox"/> Class B Troop T-Shirt(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Warm Pullover or Jacket <input type="checkbox"/> Daytime Beanie Hat & Warm Gloves <input type="checkbox"/> Swimsuit & Closed-Toed Aquatic Shoes <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Toiletries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush & Toothpaste <input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant <input type="checkbox"/> Comb <input type="checkbox"/> Bodywash (Body & Hair) <input type="checkbox"/> Shower Shoes (Plastic Flop-Flops) <input type="checkbox"/> Microfiber Antibacterial Towel <input type="checkbox"/> Trash Bag – For Dirty Cloths
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Things To Consider While Packing

- Label your clothes and valuables with your last name and Troop 337 number.
- Consider packing a day’s clothing in large zip-lock bags to keep them organized and dry.
- Avoid cotton. When cotton gets wet, it is difficult to dry it out.
- Choose moisture-wicking clothing that dries out quickly.
- Dress in layers – base layer, warm pullover, warm insulated jacket, hat, and warm gloves.
- Remember, wool socks keep your feet dry and comfortable, even in summer months.

While Setting Up Camp

- Choose a tent site according to Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly guidelines.
- Avoid water areas and visible water runoff paths and pay attention to what is above you.
- Use tent footprint or ground cover to shield tent floors from abrasion and ground moisture.
- If possible, place your tote inside your tent. Keep it closed tightly when not using it.
- Do NOT store any food inside your tent or tote. Label it and always leave it in the Troop trailer.
- Keep your tent area clean and orderly and pick up litter, even debris left by others.
- Finally, look for ways to “Do A Good Turn!” and help your fellow Scouters!

Need Help?

Ask your Troop Guide or Senior Patrol Leader!!!