

SCOUT OATH OR PROMISE

On my honor I will do my best

**To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;**

To help other people at all times;

**To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.**

When you say "On my honor," that's like saying "I promise." It also means you are the kind of person who always tries to do what is right and you can be trusted to keep this promise. No one can take your honor from you, but you can throw it away by breaking your promise and doing what you know is wrong.

Your family and religious leaders teach you to know and serve God. By following these teachings, you do your duty to God.

Men and women of the past worked to make America great, and many gave their lives for their country. By being a good family member and a good citizen, by working for your country's good and obeying its laws, you do your duty to your country.

Obeying the Scout Law means living by its 12 points.

Many people need help. A cheery smile and a helping hand make life easier for others. By doing a Good Turn daily and helping when you're needed, you prove yourself a Scout and do your part to make this a better world.

Keeping yourself physically strong means taking good care of your body. Eat the right foods and build your strength. Staying mentally awake means learn all you can, be curious, and ask questions. Being morally straight means to live your life with honesty, to be clean in your speech and actions, and to be a person of strong character.

SCOUT LAW

A Scout is
trustworthy,
loyal,
helpful,
friendly,
courteous,
kind,
obedient,
cheerful,
thrifty,
brave,
clean
and reverent.

The Scout Law has 12 points. Each is a goal for every Scout. He does his best to live up to the Law.
It is not always easy to do, but a Scout always tries.

A Scout tells the truth. He keeps his promises. Honesty is part of his code of conduct.
People can depend on him.

A Scout is true to his family, friends, Scout leaders, school, nation, and the community of the world.

A Scout is concerned about other people. He does things willingly for others without pay or reward.

A Scout is a friend to all. He is a brother to other Scouts, and all the people of the world. He seeks to understand others. He respects those with ideas and customs other than his own.

A Scout is polite to everyone. He knows that good manners make it easier for people to get along together.

A Scout understands there is strength in being gentle. He treats others as he wants to be treated.
He is not cruel to living things.

A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop. He obeys the laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobeying them.

A Scout looks for the bright side of things. He cheerfully does tasks that come his way.
He tries to make others happy.

A Scout works to pay his way and to help others. He saves for the future. He protects and conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time and property.

A Scout can face danger even if he is afraid.

He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him.

A Scout keeps his body and mind fit and clean. He admires those who believe in living by these same ideals.
He helps keep his home and community clean.

A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others.

SCOUT MOTTO

The Scout motto is "Be Prepared."

Be Prepared

Someone once asked Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, "Be prepared for what?"
Baden-Powell replied, "Why, for any old thing." That's just the idea.

The Scout motto means that you are always ready to do your duty
and to face danger, if necessary, to help others.

SCOUT SLOGAN

This does not mean that you are supposed to do one *Good Turn* during the day and then stop.
On the contrary - it means you do at least one *Good Turn* a day.

Do a Good Turn daily.

It means looking for opportunities to help and then helping, quietly and without boasting.

Remember always that a *Good Turn* is an extra act of kindness,
not just something you do because it is good manners.

SCOUT SIGN



The Scout sign shows you are a Scout. Give it each time you recite the Scout Oath and Law. When a Scout or Scouter raises the Scout sign, all Scouts should make the sign, too, and come to silent attention.

To give the Scout sign, cover the nail of the little finger of your right hand with your right thumb, then raise your right arm bent in a 90-degree angle, and hold the three middle fingers of your hand upward. Those fingers stand for the three part of the Scout Oath.

Your thumb and little finger tought to represent the bond that unites Scouts throughout the world.

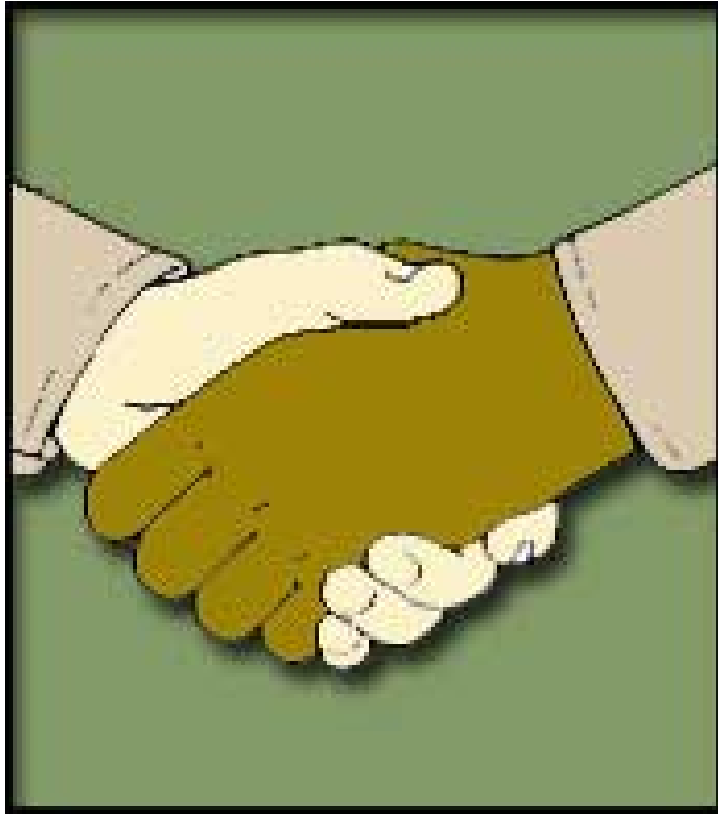
SCOUT SALUTE



The Scout salute shows respect.
Use it to salute the flag of the United States of America.
You may also salute a Scout leader or another Scout.

Give the Scout salute by forming the Scout sign with your right hand and then bringing that hand upward until your forefinger touches the brim of your hat or the arc of your right eyebrow. The palm of your hand should not show.

SCOUT HANDSHAKE



Our Scout salute and handshake are ancient signs of bravery and respect. During the colonial period of our country, many men carried weapons for protection.

Sometimes when they met one another, there was an uneasy moment as each man watched the others right hand. If it went to his sword or his gun, there might be a fight. but if it went to his hat, it was a salute of friendship and respect.

The left handshake comes to us from the Ashanti warriors whom Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, knew almost 100 years ago in West Africa. He saluted them with his right hand, but the Ashanti chiefs offered their left hands and said, "In our land only the bravest of the brave shake hands with the left hand, because to do so we must drop our shields and our protection."

When you use the Scout salute and handshake, remember that they are signs of respect and courage.

The left hand is also closer to the heart.

SCOUT OUTDOOR CODE

As an American, I will do my best to-

As a Boy Scout, you will spend a lot of time camping and hiking.
So it is important that you learn how to behave outdoors.

Be clean in my outdoor manners

I will treat the outdoors as a heritage. I will take care of it for myself and others.
I will keep my trash and garbage out of lakes, streams, fields, woods, and roadways.

Be careful with fire

I will prevent wildfire. I will build my fires only where they are appropriate.
When I have finished using fire, I will make sure it is cold-out.
I will leave a clean fire ring or remove all evidence of my fire.

Be considerate in the outdoors, and

I will treat public and private property with respect.
I will use low-impact methods of hiking and camping.

Be conservation-minded.

I will learn how to practice good conservation of soil, waters, forests, minerals,
grasslands, wildlife, and energy.
I will urge others to do the same.