

BOY SCOUT IDEALS

The Scout Oath

On my honor, I will do my best:
To do my duty to God and my country,
 The Republic of the Philippines
And to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
 mentally awake and morally
 straight.

The Scout Law

A Scout is:
Trustworthy
Loyal
Helpful
Friendly
Courteous
Kind
Obedient
Cheerful
Thrifty
Brave
Clean
Reverent

The Scout Oath Explained ...

On My Honor...

Honor is your most precious and sacred possession in life. It includes your good name, your integrity and good reputation. When you commit yourself to the Scout Oath, you promise to live by its precepts in order to give meaning and idealism to your way of life.

I will Do My Best...

In everything you do, you promise to do the best you can. If anything worth doing is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well. Doing your best is your personal challenge. Always strive to do your best in everything you do.

To Do My Duty to God and My Country...

We, who belong to the Scout Movement, believe in God. We may not all worship Him in the same way, but we are one in our faith and belief that He is the Supreme Being, our Lord and Master. To do your duty to God, you must worship Him and follow His teaching according to your own religious beliefs. You will find happiness in life if you faithfully do your duty to God.

Our country, the Philippines, deserves our full love and dedication. The pages of our history are brightened by outstanding deeds of self sacrifice and love of country of great Filipinos like Jose Rizal, Marcelo H. del Pilar, Apolinario Mabini, Lapu-lapu, Andres Bonifacio, Fr. Jose Burgos, Jose Abad Santos, Graciano Lopez Jaena, Sultan Kudarat, Ninoy Aquino and others. They sacrificed their fortunes, their future,

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even their very lives – so that our country would continue to exist in freedom and dignity. We do our duty to our country by being good citizens, by following the laws of the land, by living up to its noble tradition and the culture of our people and by contributing to the building and development of our nation.

And to Obey the Scout Law...

In trying to live up to the Scout Oath – you will need the Scout Law to guide you. The twelve points of the Scout Law are our norm of conduct as we travel along the Scouting trail through life. Thus, you are asked to commit yourself to the Scout Oath and Law as your way of life.

To Help Other People at All Times...

One reason why Scouting has flourished in this country is because it has received the willing support of the public. Scouting merits this support because Scouts have demonstrated that they are useful members of society. This is evident when Scouts perform rescue work in case of disaster – fires, earthquakes, typhoons and floods. During emergencies anywhere, Scouts are always among the first to volunteer for service and perform tasks which are ordinarily belong to adults. In normal times, Scouts have shown that they are ready to participate and even initiate community and service projects that benefit the community. The spirit of service is in the heart of all true Scouts.

To Keep My Self Physically Strong...

By now, you have learned certain rules of health and hygiene in school which if observed will help you live a healthy and happy life. Sound minds dwell in sound bodies. If you want to have an alert mind and be always ready to serve others, you must keep yourself physically healthy and strong.

Mentally Awake...

Being mentally awake reflects mental alertness and mental health. It is not enough that a Scout is physically healthy; he must be mentally awake too. His reflexes, his responses, his movements must be ready to respond to his needs and the needs of the situation.

And Morally Straight...

A Scout always must be a model of moral uprightness. His norm of conduct must be beyond reproach. His thought, words and deeds should always reflect his high ideals and sound moral values.

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The Scout Law Explained...

A Scout is Trustworthy...

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

A Scout is Loyal...

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

A Scout is Helpful...

A Scout is concerned about other people. He willingly volunteers to help others without expecting payment or reward.

A Scout is Friendly...

A Scout is a friend to all. He is a brother to other Scouts. He seeks to understand others. He respects those with ideas and customs that are different from his own.

A Scout is Courteous...

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

A Scout is Kind...

A Scout understands there is strength in being gentle. He treats others as he wants to be treated. He does not harm nor kill any living creature needlessly but will strive to save and protect all harmless life.

A Scout is Obedient...

A Scout follows the rules of his family, school and troop. He obeys the law 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 disobey them.

A Scout is Cheerful...

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

A Scout is Thrifty...

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 his time and property.

A Scout is Brave...

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.

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A Scout is Clean...

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

A Scout is Reverent....

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

Sense of Honor

The Scout Oath is the foundation on which the whole of Scout training rests.

Its various clauses must be fully explained and made clear to the boys through practical and simple illustrations of its application in their every day life.

There is no teaching to compare with example. If the Troop Leader himself conspicuously carries out the Scout Oath and Law in all his doings, the boys will be quick to follow his lead.

This example comes with all the more force if the Troop Leader himself takes the Scout Oath and Law, in the same way as his Scouts.

The first point of the Law, namely, a Scout's honor is to be trusted (A Scout is Trustworthy) is one on which the whole of the Scout's future behavior and discipline hangs. The Scout is expected to be straight so it would be very carefully explained as a first step by the Troop Leader to his boys before taking the Scout Oath.

The investiture of the Scout is purposely made into something of a ceremony, since a little ritual of that kind, if carried out with strict solemnity, impresses the boy. Considering the great importance of the occasion, it is only right that he should be impressed as much as possible. Then, it is of great importance that the Scout should periodically renew his knowledge of the Law. Boys are apt to be forgetful, and it should never be allowed that a boy who has made his solemn promise to carry out the Scout Law should, at any time, not be able to say what the Law is.

Once the Scout understands what his honor is and has, by his initiation, been put upon his honor, the Troop Leader must entirely trust him to do things. You must show him by your action that you consider him a responsible person. Give him charge of something, whether temporary or permanent, and expect him to carry out his charge faithfully. Don't keep prying to see how he does it. Let him do it his own way, let him come a howler over it if necessary, but in any case leave him alone and trust him to do his best. Trust should be the basis of all our moral training.

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Giving responsibility is the key to success with boys, especially with the rowdiest and most difficult boys.

The object of the Patrol System is mainly to give real responsibility to as many of the boys as possible with a view to develop their character. If the Troop Leader gives his Patrol Leader real power, expect a great deal from him; leaving him a free hand in carrying out his work, he will have done more for the boy's character expansion than any amount of school training could ever do.

The Scout Motto Explained...

"Laging Handa" (Be Prepared)

The motto reminds the Boy Scouts of the meaning and purpose of his membership and the training he is getting in Scouting.

A Scout is being prepared and trained for responsible citizenship. As he requires the necessary knowledge and skills in Scouting, his mind is conditioned and he is able to offer the same knowledge and skills not only for himself but in the service of others. Scouting therefore, is a preparation and readiness to serve others, hence the motto "Laging Handa."

The Scout Slogan Explained:

"Do a Good Turn Daily" (Gumawa ng Mabuti Araw-Araw)

The Scout Slogan serves as a daily reminder and challenge to the Scout to look for opportunities to render a good turn to somebody, be at home, in school, in the community or elsewhere. This positive reminder to render service to others complements the Scout Motto of "Laging Handa."

The Scout Sign

How Executed. The Scout Sign is made with the right hand palm forward with forefinger, middle and ring pointed upward, the thumb folded over the little finger. The forearm forms a right angle with the upper arm which is horizontally in line with the shoulder.

Its meaning. The three fingers pointing upward indicate the three components of the Scout trefoil. They also signify that a Scout reaches upward to bigger and nobler Ideals. The thumb and little finger joined together represent the unity of the Scouting Movement and symbolize the bond of brotherhood of all Scouts all over the world.



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Its uses. The Scout Sign is used by Scouts when he makes a solemn pledge, while reciting the Scout Oath and Law, as well as the Panunumpa sa Watawat. It is also used as a greeting or recognition sign among Scouts and Scouts all over the World.

The Scout Salute

How Executed. The Scout salute is made with the right hand in the Scout sign. The hand is brought up smartly (taking the shortest distance) with the forefinger touching the edge of the right eyebrow. If wearing a brimmed cap or hat, the forefinger must touch the brim slightly to side of the right eye.



Its uses. When in uniform, the salute is rendered as a sign of respect to the flag and the National Anthem. It is also used between Scouts and Scouters as a sign of courtesy and respect.

The Scout Handshake

Scouts all over the world use the Scout Handshake. Scouts everywhere greet each other with a warm left handshake. Using it makes one feel that he belongs to the world brotherhood of Scouting and that he is one among the millions of Scout in various parts of the world dedicated to the same ideal of service.



The Scout Handshake

The Scout Badge

The Scout Badge is composed of the trefoil and the scroll with an overhand knot attached to it. Each point of the three pointed trefoil, which is the main part of the Scout Badge, represents the three points of the Scout Oath, namely – duty to God and Country, duty to Others and Duty to Self.

The single band joining the three points of the trefoil symbolizes Unity and Universal Brotherhood. The design and color inside the trefoil which is derived from our flag have the same symbolism and meaning. The stars further symbolize the ideals of faith, truth and knowledge, the foundation of Scout citizenship. The Scroll with the Scout Motto turned up at its end is a symbolic reminder of the eighth point of the Scout Law, "A Scout is Cheerful." The rope attached below the scroll serves as a reminder to the Scout to do a good turn to someone every day, the slogan Being "Do a Good Turn Daily."



Scout Spirit

The Scout Ideals as contained in the Scout Oath and Law present a code for living and a standard of conduct that must be observed by all members of the Scouting Movement. Scout spirit is living every day in accordance with our Scout Ideals. You show it in the way you act and the things you say and do in Scouting as well as in your daily life.