

Becoming A Scout

To be invested as a Scout, you need to show your Patrol Leader that you know and understand three things:

1. Scout Promise and Law.
2. Scout Motto and Slogan.
3. Scout Handshake, Salute and Sign and the reasons Scouts use them.

You also must participate in at least one Scouting activity other than a regular weekly meeting.

Scout Promise

On my honour

I promise that I will do my best

To do my duty to God and the Queen,

To help other people at all times,

And to carry out the spirit of the Scout Law.

When joining Scouts you are voluntarily making the Scout Promise. After repeating the promise at your investiture, your fellow Scouts and Scout Leaders will expect you to live up to your promise.

The Scout Law

*A Scout is helpful and trustworthy,
kind and cheerful,*

*considerate and clean,
wise in the use of all resources.*

The Scout Law sets down in clear language the code of conduct expected from every Scout and forms the basis of good citizenship. As part of the Scout Promise, you accept the Scout Law as your code of conduct.

The Scout Motto

BE PREPARED.

What you learn as a Scout is designed to prepare you to be helpful to others and to take care of yourself in an emergency. “Be prepared” for what you may ask? B-P answered, “for any old thing.”

The Scout Slogan

Do a good turn daily.

This is not a duty or obligation. It simply means that you should be thoughtful and generous to others and freely give your help.

Scout Handshake



When Scouts greet each other they shake with their left hand. This is a sign of

brotherhood and trust that B-P took from a story of two feuding tribes in Africa. The warriors dropped their shield, which was normally carried in their left hand, and extended their now free left hand as a sign of trust and friendship.

Scout Salute and Scout Sign

Both the Scout Salute and Sign are made by first holding the three middle fingers of the right hand together upright with the palm facing forward and touching together the thumb and little finger. The three upright fingers represent the three parts of the Scout Promise. The joining of the thumb and forefinger represent Scouting’s ties in friendship.



For the Scout Salute the hand is brought up to the head until the forefinger touches the forehead. The Scout Salute is only made when in uniform as a sign of respect, courtesy and friendship.

For the Scout Sign, the hand is held straight up beside the head. The Scout Sign is used at the investiture ceremony, when the Promise is recited and when out of uniform.