



The Boy Scout Uniform Resource

*This is the uniform information resource guide for Troop 103. The information has been compiled and consolidated from many sources into this single guide.
This guide does include reference links to other sources.
The following includes excerpts from "A Guide for Parents and Scouts"*

Importance of the Uniform

- The uniform identifies the Scout as someone special and helps achieve the objectives of Scouting. The uniform by itself can't make a good Scout or a good Troop; but its use will improve both the Scout and the Troop because it is a visible sign of Scouting. The uniform should not be worn during Troop Fundraising events that are not sponsored by the District or Council.

Field Uniform (Class "A")

The field uniform (sometimes referred to as the Class "A") is the official uniform of the Boy Scouts of America as defined in the Boy Scout Handbook. **It includes pants or shorts, shirt (with patches properly sewn as described in the Uniform Inspection Sheet), belt, socks, neckwear, identification card, and Scout Handbook.** The Class "A" uniform is required for Troop meetings and at formal Scouting activities such as Courts of Honor, recognition dinners or similar functions.

Shirt:

The shirt is an Official long or short-sleeve shirt with green shoulder loops or epaulets. Placement of patches on the shirt is noted in the [Uniform Patches and Insignia Placement](#) section of this document.

(Photos of samples courtesy of <https://www.scoutshop.org>)



Men's/Youth Short-sleeve Cotton Rich Poplin Shirt

Belt:

Olive-green web with BSA insignia on brass buckle; or official leather with BSA buckle or other Scout related buckle of your choice, or Official black nylon web belt and buckle that accompanies the official switchback pants. An exception is if the belt is integrated with the pants.

(Photos of samples courtesy of <https://www.scoutshop.org>)



Socks:

Various versions of the BSA socks are shown below. Any version is acceptable other official scouts are available at the scout shop or online.

(Photos of samples courtesy of <https://www.scoutshop.org>)



Hats:

Hats are optional. If a hat is worn it must be either the Troop hat or an official BSA hat. The designated hat for functions is at the discretion of the Scoutmaster.



Shoes:

Shoes should be made of leather or canvas and are neat and clean.

Scout Pants:

Although "Official" BSA pants are highly recommended, the Troop accepts the wearing of alternate pants with the same green color and shade as the Official pants. If non-official pants are worn, it is strongly suggested that they be not made entirely of cotton since this material is not quick to dry and is quick to wrinkle. A description of Official pants is shown below.

(Photos of samples courtesy of <https://www.scoutshop.org>)



Switchbacks Uniform Pants

These are the perfect pants for all Scouting occasions. Developed specifically for the BSA, and now in forest green unisex sizes. Available in two fits. These pants have zippers to remove the leggings to convert the pants to shorts.

Classic Fit

The classic fit Switchbacks pants have traditional straight leg styling and come unhemmed so you can customize the length.

Relaxed Fit

The relaxed fit Switchbacks pants are cut a bit roomier through the seat and thigh and come unhemmed so you can customize the length.



Uniform Shorts

The design features deep front pockets as well as cargo pockets and a waterproof pouch to carry all your essentials i.e. compass, money, pocket knife, etc. The left cargo pocket also has black FDL embroidery. The short features a nylon mesh lining to accommodate swimming.

Neckwear:



- The Troop neckerchief is presented to each Scout after he has earned the rank of Scout. The neckerchief is to be returned to the Troop if the Scout leaves the Troop prior to reaching the rank of First Class. The Troop neckerchief is always to be worn by youth scouts with the Class "A" Field uniform unless otherwise directed by the Scoutmaster. The neckerchief is worn under the shirt's collar.

Activities Uniform (Class “B”)

- An optional activities uniform is available consisting of a red knit shirt containing the Troop logo, worn with official like shorts or long pants and official socks. Our Troop’s activities uniform (sometimes referred to as the Class “B”) consists of our Troop T-shirt, official Scout pants or shorts, official BSA socks and belt. The “Class “B” activities uniform is used when there will be a high level of physical activity such as work details, hikes and other outings.
- (Photos of samples courtesy of Boy Scout Handbook)



What Type to Wear and When to Wear It

- The type of uniform (Class “A” Field or Class “B” Activities) to be worn for activities and meetings will be determined by the Scoutmaster.
- At the option of the Scoutmaster, a uniform may not be required for certain activities.

Where and How to Get Your Uniform

- The purchase of uniforms is the responsibility of the Scout. Sometimes, a used uniform is available or a long term purchase can be arranged through the Troop Committee. The Scout Savings fund may be used toward the purchase of a Scout Uniform. Questions and other concerns may be addressed to the Scoutmaster.
- Wearing the complete designated uniform at Troop meetings earns points toward the Scout of the Year Program

Places to purchase a uniform:

- 1.) On-line Ordering Web Site - <https://scoutshop.org>
- 2.) New Birth of Freedom Council Office/Scout Shop.
See <https://newbirthoffreedom.org/> for locations and directions.

Uniform Patches and Insignia Placement

A visual and narrative depiction of patch placement on both sleeves and pockets is available on the **BSA Uniform Inspection Sheets / Official Placement of Insignia**. See the appropriate links below for these forms.

Boy Scout Inspection Sheet:

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34283.pdf>

Adult Leader Inspection Sheet:

<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34048.pdf>

Additional information about BSA Knots of Recognition is available at:

BSA Knots of Recognition Information:

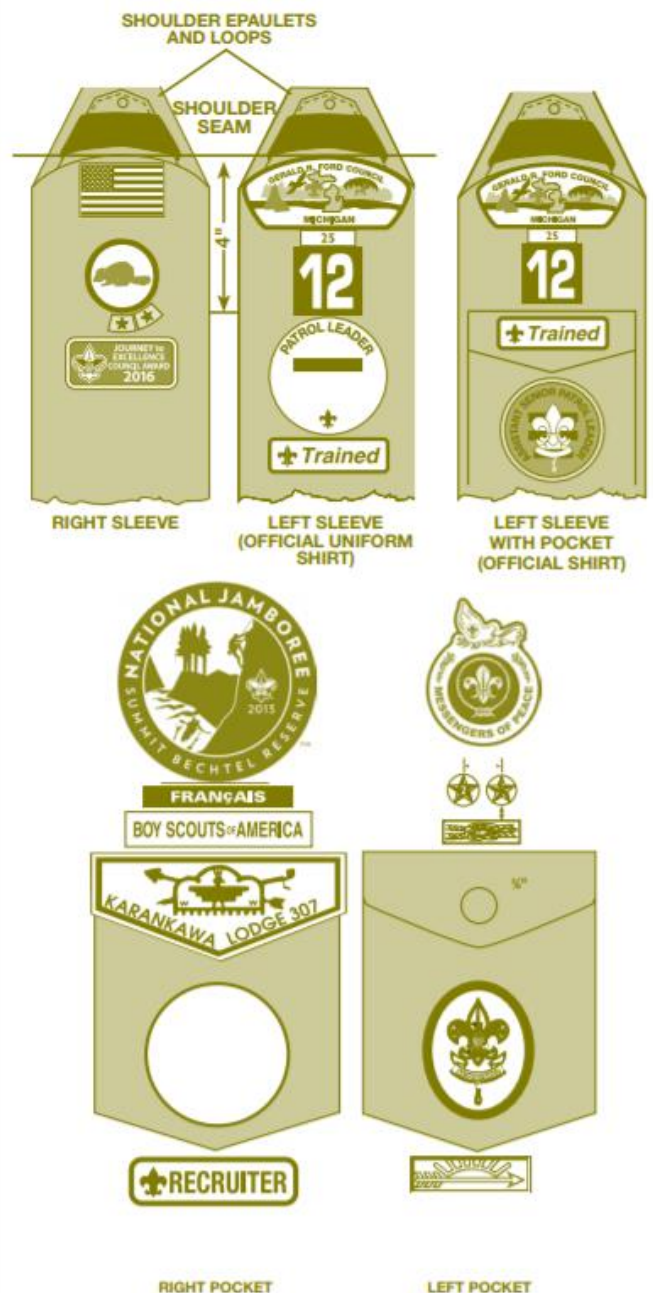
<http://knots.boy-scouts.net/>

Knots of Poster

http://www.bsatroup103.org/documents/knotposter_insignia.pdf

Insignia Guide

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/boy_scout_insignia.pdf



Merit Badges and Badge Sash



- Merit badges are worn in three columns on the merit badge sash.
- Merit badges may be worn on the front and back of the sash.
- Additionally, up to six merit badges may be worn on the official long sleeve shirt in rows of two starting 3 inches above the bottom edge of the sleeve cuff. No merit badges may be worn on a short sleeve shirt.
- Scouts may wear only one merit badge sash at a time.
- The sash is worn over right shoulder. May be worn under or over epaulet.
- A merit badge sash is never worn on the belt.
- Temporary patches may only be worn on the back of the sash.
- It should not be worn along with the Order of the Arrow sash.

- Merit badge sash pin, No. 14712; gold colored pin; can be worn on shoulder, parallel to the epaulet, to secure merit badge sash to the epaulet.

Order of the Arrow – Uniform and Insignia

The following are references from "Order of the Arrow Handbook" on pages 57-60. Additional information can be found in the "Order of the Arrow Handbook".

- "Only current registered members of the Boy Scouts of America and the Order may wear the insignia of the Order of the Arrow"

Arrow Sashes

- **"The sash is worn at Order of the Arrow functions and special Scouting activities, when members need to be identified as Arrowmen rendering special services."**
- The OA sash is NOT worn nor suspended from a belt during regular meetings, activities or unit/district/council camping events, Courts of Honor, church activities or parades unless Arrowmen are rendering special service.
- The OA sash is always worn with the official scout field uniform diagonally across the chest with the arrow pointing over the right shoulder. The only exception is for Elangomats who are not in uniform at an Ordeal, youth wearing ceremonial attire, and other instances approved by the Scout Executive.
- The OA sash should not be worn along with the merit badge sash.



Lodge Pocket Flap and Arrow Ribbon Pin



Members may only wear the lodge pocket flap of the lodge where their dues are paid. It is worn on the right pocket.

The Order of the Arrow Ribbon pin is a silver arrow suspended from a red and white ribbon. It is worn hanging from the button beneath the flap of the uniform's right breast pocket. (Photo courtesy of <http://scoutshop.org>)



Eagle Award Ribbon and Eagle Palms



- "Eagle Award: Worn pinned centered just above the left breast uniform pocket flap seam. This award is worn only on formal occasions."
- "Eagle Palms: Worn pinned horizontally to the ribbon of the ribbon of the Eagle badge, 1/8 inch apart."
- Eagle Scout knot insignia is worn by adult leaders. Only the highest palm earned is worn unless 20 additional merit badges were earned.

