

2021 New Scout Checklist

It takes a lot of “stuff” to get started in Scouts. This checklist can help you make sure nothing gets overlooked.

Troop 97 BSA



Things to give to the Scoutmaster before we can register your new Scout:

- Completed Scout application form
- Completed “General Information” form
- Check for annual fee & summer camp (you are welcome to pay in several installments)

Things to get from the Scoutmaster:

- Troop 97 Annual Calendar
- Troop 97 T-shirt (\$14 each)
- Troop 97 fleece jacket (optional; \$45)
(T-shirts and fleece jackets are ordered once a year, in March/April)
- Troop 97 hat (included with annual fee)
- Troop 97 neckerchief (included with annual fee; presented on first campout)
- Scout Handbook, if you don't already have one (there are now separate handbooks for boys and girls, but with identical content)
- Shirt insignia (special one-piece numeral 97, “Journey to Excellence” quality troop badge; included with annual fee)
- Nametag (included with annual fee; we order these two or three times a year)



Official BSA uniform components to get from Scout Distributor:

- Complete Scout uniform (*see sewing template below and checklist on back*)

Hints for summer camp and general activities:

- Thoroughly read the parent & Scout information booklets for summer camp (available about March).
- Turn in camp medical form signed by parent & doctor to Scoutmaster (by 3 May 2021, if possible).
- Make sure you have the items on the summer camp checklist.
- Read the newsletters and the summer camp booklets thoroughly.
- Come to the new parents orientation meeting on **Monday, 26 April 2021**.
- Sign up for outings by turning in the **permission form** enclosed with each newsletter.
- Pay food money for *most* outings to your Scout's **patrol leader** (the newsletter indicates the *occasional* outing where food money is paid to the troop).

2021 ANNUAL FEE & SUMMER CAMP FEE

\$ 150 or 175 * ANNUAL FEE FOR 2021 (\$78 to \$103 goes directly to national BSA; see below)
\$ 350 SUMMER CAMP 2021 (Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch, Elbert, CO)

—Please make check payable to Troop 97 BSA and give it to the Scoutmaster.

—You may make several payments, if this is more convenient.

—Summer camp is July 10/11–17, 2021. The camp charges \$450/Scout, but Troop 97 pays \$100 of that.

ANNUAL FEE—The troop's standard annual fee of \$150/Scout covers this year's troop & BSA fees & expenses, including the \$66 BSA national registration fee and \$12 Boys Life/Scout Life magazine subscription. If your new Scout has never been in a troop or a Cub Scout pack, please add \$25 [* This is a new (mid-2020) BSA surcharge; if you have your child's BSA ID# or membership card from a previous Cub Scout pack or Scout troop, we can use that to avoid the \$25 surcharge].

Because of the Covid-related restrictions and financial issues faced by many families, we have tried to reduce our annual fee as much as possible. We are fortunate to have the profits from our 2020 Pasta Supper fund raiser (held less than two weeks before the Covid shutdowns began) to help reduce Scouting costs (especially because it is unlikely we'll be able to hold our annual supper in 2021).

SUMMER CAMP—Summer camp is important for all Scouts, especially new Scouts, and they will get to have fun adventures at a variety of BSA summer camps in several states while learning and accomplishing a year's worth of Scouting in one week. The success of our 2020 Pasta Supper will allow us to reduce camp cost by \$100/Scout.

BSA CAMP MEDICAL FORM—The BSA require that each Scout or adult attending summer camp have an annual physical, signed by a doctor. If you or your Scout have not had a physical within the year prior to camp (since 27 June 2020), you can get a walk-in (no appointment needed) physical for about \$35 at many Urgent Care Center and 'Little Clinic' locations. The BSA medical form needs to be turned in to the Scoutmaster by 3 May 2021. The current BSA form is on the troop website or available from the Scoutmaster.

Financial Assistance—Troop 97 BSA

Thanks to generous donations, the troop is able to provide financial assistance so that every Scout can afford Scouting. All we ask is that Scouts be active and help to pay their own way, especially by selling tickets to our annual Pasta Supper and by selling BSA popcorn in early fall and camp cards in the spring. *Please provide the Scoutmaster with a very rough estimate of how much you need to take care of annual fees and summer camp (info@troop97.net goes directly to Scoutmaster Jeff Snowden).* We also have a uniform exchange. We're glad to have your kid(s) in Troop 97!

Official Uniform Options

Troop 97 BSA

Each troop selects from among the many BSA uniform options. Here are details about Troop 97's options (prices are for youth sizes as of October 2020).



The troop newsletter shows which activities require uniform. We typically wear full uniform to most spring/summer/ fall outings and campouts, to most troop meetings, and whenever we are in the public eye. Scouts should dress for the weather for most winter campouts. For most June/July/August meetings, we wear T97 T-shirt instead of standard shirt, but Scouts will need both "full" uniform plus T97 T-shirt at summer camp.

We encourage you NOT to use the 'Badge Magic' adhesive kits, which tend to look ratty after the first washing and can damage fabrics.

WARNING!— *The Scout store likes to 'push' their stock of BSA T-shirts & hats. These are NOT Troop 97 uniform options, so do NOT buy them unless you want them for non-uniform wear.*

Uniform Checklist

From the Store

- BSA short-sleeved, tan-colored shirt** (\$21 & up)—*Note that the cotton poplin shirt costs less than other options.* Girls can wear the standard left-over-right buttoning shirt or the girls right-over-left buttoning shirt.
- BSA dark forest-green shorts** (\$20 & up) **or pants** (most with zip-off legs; \$45)—Shorts are acceptable year-round. Long pants can be worn in fall/winter/spring. Pant legs should be hemmed by folding & sewing inside the leg with no cuff. Girls can wear any boys or girls options. *Note that the girls capri-style roll-ups cost more than most other options. We do NOT recommend skorts.*
- BSA belt & buckle** (\$13)
- BSA dark forest-green socks** (\$8)—Either the low-cut socks or the crew socks are OK. Note that socks ARE a part of the uniform.
- BSA dark green shoulder loops** (\$4)
- BSA merit badge sash** (\$11)—Merit badges are sewn 3 across. Sash goes over the **RIGHT** shoulder and **LEFT** hip.
- Longs Peak Council shoulder patch** (\$4)—top of left sleeve; several variants available.
- Neckerchief slide ('woggle')** (\$6 or make your own!)
- World Scout crest** (\$2)—above left pocket about midway between top of pocket and shoulder seam.

From the Troop

- T97 hat** (free)—Note that wearing a hat is usually optional, but if a hat is worn, only the Troop 97 cap is allowed.
- T97 neckerchief** (free, presented on first campout with the troop)
- special one-piece numeral 97** (free)—below and touching the Longs Peak Council patch,
- nametag** (free)—Ordered a couple times/year by the troop. Sew immediately above the BSA or BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA embroidered lettering.
- patrol medallion** (free)—below and touching the US flag.
- "Journey to Excellence" (quality troop) badge** (free)—below and touching the patrol medallion (leave a 2-inch gap between the flag & the "JTE" patch if you don't yet have a patrol medallion). Note that the JTE patch is always one year behind the current year.
- Badge of Rank** (free)—Wear only the current rank, centered on left pocket.
- Arrow of Light patch** (free)—immediately below left pocket (if earned in Cub Scouts).
- T97 T-shirt** (\$14)—2 recommended for camp.
- T97 fleece jacket** (optional; \$45)—stays warm & works well in light rain.

Note on footwear—Any footwear with soles suitable for running and playing. **NO flip-flops, sandals, or 'croc's'.**

UNIFORM TERMINOLOGY—Most of the time Scouts wear **"full" ("Class A") uniform** as listed above—BSA tan shirt with appropriate insignia & T97 neckerchief; BSA shorts/pants & BSA belt; BSA socks; T97 hat; merit badge sash on formal occasions. Most of the summer, Scouts wear **"summer" ("Class B") uniform**—same as Class A uniform **except** Scouts wear a T97 T-shirt or polo shirt.

Unacceptable Items (applies to everyone on any Scout activity)—BSA policy forbids wearing any garment that displays pictures or messages that are inappropriate to youth activities. These include items with "adult" or sexual content or foul language, racial/ethnic/religious/etc stereotypes or slurs, or anything displaying the name or image of alcohol, smoking/vaping, or marijuana products. Clothing with political messages is also inappropriate.



right sleeve

right pocket

left pocket

left sleeve

Uniform Insignia