



Troop Code

A Troop Code is a way of expressing how members of our Troop are going to act, what acceptable behaviour is, and how the Troop will operate. Every section should have a Code developed annually by its members. A Troop Code is about:

- *How we treat each other*
- *Respecting our environment*
- *Looking after possessions and property – both ours and everyone else's*

In many ways, it's *how* we live by the Scout Law!

How to Develop Your Code

Plan:

- Read through this whole document; make sure you understand all of it.
- Decide how you're going to break up the task and make sure the Patrol Leaders and other people involved know what they're doing.

Do:

- Patrols meet and discuss the Troop Code. They should cover the key areas that are important to them and draft ideas for inclusion in the whole Troop's Code. You can tailor this step to suit your own Troop, but make sure that everyone has the opportunity to provide input.
- A foundation for the discussion could be based around the Scout Promise and Law. The following words might also assist:



- It may help to think about grouping your thoughts into **'What We Do'** and **'What We Don't Do'**, but remember that it is up to you how you present your Troop Code. Would pictures help? There are no right or wrong ways to do this!

Review:

- The Troop Council then come together to collate all of the teams' feedback. Don't forget, it's hard to follow a document that is too long or hard to remember! Make sure that your Troop Code covers the key areas –
 - **respecting each other,**
 - **building resilience against bullying and harassment,**
 - **the environment,** and
 - **possessions/property.**
- Present the document back to the whole Troop and make sure everyone is happy with what is included and there is a shared understanding of what it means.
- Have everyone, including the Leaders, sign the Code to say that they will live by it.
- Display your Troop Code up in your hall for everyone to see!
- Make sure that when new people (don't forget the Leaders!) join your Troop that someone explains your Troop Code to them.
- Review your Troop Code annually to keep it up to date.

Stuck?

Check out these resources to start you off, but remember to make your Troop Code your own!

- Examples on the *Breaking the Cycle: Bullying is not a part of Scouting* [website](#),
- Scout Environment Charter
- Bullying resources on the *Breaking the Cycle: Bullying is not part of Scouting* [website](#), [Facebook page](#) and [Scouts in Action Month](#) website
- Leader Code of Conduct (in Policy and Rules)