

# The Meaning of the Boy Scout Law

Excerpted from page 47-54, *Boy Scout Handbook, 11th Edition*,  
(#33105), copyright 1998 by BSA, ISBN 0-8395-3105-2

---

A Scout is **Trustworthy**.

A Scout tells the truth. He is honest, and he keeps his promises. People can depend on him.

A Scout is **Loyal**.

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

A Scout is **Helpful**.

A Scout cares 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 offers his friendship to people of all races and nations, and respects them even if their beliefs and customs are different from his own.

A Scout is **Courteous**.

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

A Scout is **Kind**.

A Scout knows there is strength in being gentle. He treats others as he wants to be treated. Without good reason, he does not harm or kill any living thing.

A Scout is **Obedient**.

A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop. He obeys the laws 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 disobeying 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 own way and to help others. He saves for the future. He protects and conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time and property.

A Scout is **Brave**.

A Scout can face danger although he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him.

A Scout is **Clean**.

A Scout keeps his body and mind fit and clean. He chooses the company of those who live by high standards. 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 beliefs of others.