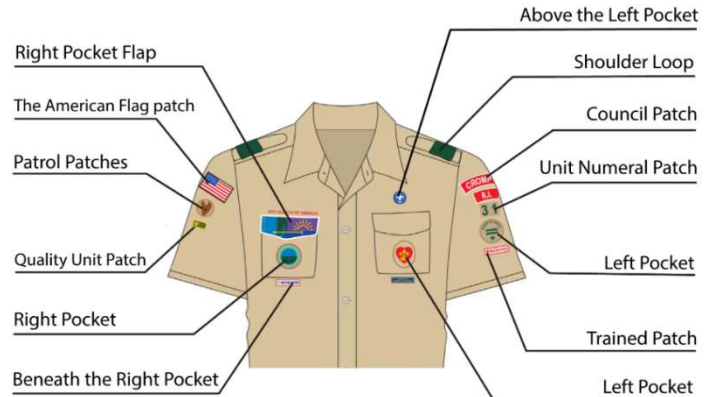


Troop 899 Patch Placement Guide

Getting all the patches sewn on in the right spots can seem like a daunting task for those who may not have Scouting experience, but it doesn't have to be! Follow along with this easy guide to make your uniform look as Scout-like as it should! Here is a little help from a 25 year Scouting veteran.



There are a lot of different patches that make up the Scouting uniform so it is understandable that it can be very confusing if this is the first time you are putting those patches on your uniform. A couple of quick tips!

Tip # 1: Don't use badge magic. Even though it seems like an easy route, if you ever need to remove the patches, the chances of damaging your uniform is very high. It also leaves dark marks from the glue you can't remove.

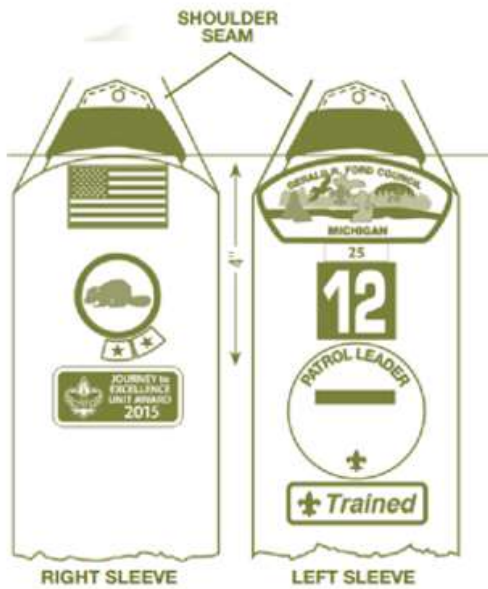
Tip #2: It doesn't have to be perfect! As a matter of fact, it is ok to let the Scout learn how to do it themselves.

Shoulder Loops

Let's start with shoulder loops! Our Troop wears hunter green loops to signify Scouts BSA. The loops fit over the epaulets on each shoulder. These loops should be plain hunter green and have no additional markings or lettering. The same color loop goes on both epaulets.



Sleeves



The sleeves are what give people the most trouble for new Scouts. The right sleeve is the easiest. To start, all that needs to be sewn on is the Patrol Patch. It is centered on the sleeve and the bottom of the patch is 4" from the shoulder seam. If a patrol earns the "Honor Patrol" award, the star would be sewn on directly beneath the patrol patch in the six o'clock position, any additional honor patrol emblems would then be sewn counterclockwise from the original award. All uniforms come with the American flag already sewn on. The right sleeve contains the council strip patch at the very top, right along the shoulder seam. Our troop has not yet reached a milestone necessary for a year designation, but you are required to leave approximately ½ inch between the council strip and the troop number. Our Troop wears green numbers with the tan background. You can purchase the "8" and two "9"s or you can find a solid piece that contains the full "899". If your Scout is holding a position in the Troop or

their Patrol, the position patch is placed just below the unit number. If your Scout has completed the required training to wear the "trained patch" (ILST or NYLT), that patch goes directly below the position patch.

Left Pocket

The pockets get a little more challenging. From the bottom up. If the Scout earned the Arrow of Light while a Cub Scout, they should proudly display it on their Scouts BSA uniform. It is placed at the bottom seam of the left shirt pocket, level to the top pocket seam and centered with the pocket. Next up is the rank patch. This patch is swapped out every time a Scout earns a new rank. It is sewn directly on the center of the pocket. There are no official patches that go onto the left pocket flap. It should remain empty. Above the flap seam, a Scout would sew any "square knot" awards they have earned. For example, the purple badge with a silver square knot indicating the Scout has earned a religious award, is sewn directly along the top pocket seam centered above the pocket. About the square knot, a scout can display their service stars. This can be done in different ways, a Scout can display a single star with their total amount of years served, or they can display the number of years served as a cub scout with a yellow backing as well as the number of years served in Scouts BSA with a green backing. Above the service stars, the World Crest patch gets centered in the space between the service stars and the top pocket seam. The 100 year crest is optional and could be swapped out with the messengers of peace crest if the Scout has earned it.



Right Pocket



The right pocket is a Scouts opportunity to show what they have done recently. From the bottom up: If the Scout has recruited another Scout, they can be awarded the Recruiter Strip. It is placed at the bottom seem of the right shirt pocket, level to the top pocket seem and centered with the pocket. Next is what we call a “temporary patch”. When Scouts attend district, council or NST events, they are typically given a patch to commemorate their participation in that event. It typically has a loop on the top of the patch and can be hung from the button since it is changed out frequently. The right pocket flap is used to display the Order of the Arrow Lodge that a Scout may have been honored to join. If the Scout is not an active member of their Order of the Arrow Lodge, this should be left empty. About the “Boy Scouts of America” or “BSA” embroidery, the Scout can display a strip signifying their ability to fluently speak a second language. If they so choose, they may then add a name tag above that. If no interpreter strip is worn, the name tag can be placed directly above the embroidery. Lastly, if a Scout has attended a World or National Jamboree, they may sew that patch centered in the space above the embroidery and the shoulder seam.

Merit Badge Sash

The merit badge sash is where a Scout gets to display all of the merit badges they have earned. Our Troop would prefer that you sew the Eagle Scout required badges (the ones with a white outline), down the middle of the sash. The sash is just wide enough for you to sew 3 badges across. I do recommend keeping them close together as your Scout does have the potential to earn up to 135 merit badges, and will have to earn a minimum of 21 merit badges to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. The merit badge sash is worn across the chest, draped across the right shoulder and resting at the left hip. If you are buying your Scout’s first sash, I strongly recommend getting a longer option so they don’t outgrow it.

