

History of Wood Badge

Lord Robert Baden-Powell founded Scouting early in the 20th century, and in just a few short years, the movement exploded. Baden-Powell quickly recognized the need for adult leaders to complete training in a hands-on outdoor environment.



On Monday, September 8, 1919, 20 men clad in shorts and knee socks gathered around a flagpole at Gilwell Field near London. Organized into three Patrols, these men launched the precursor for what eventually has become Wood Badge for the 21st Century.

Baden-Powell's *Scouting for Boys* and *Aids to Scoutmastership* were 'textbooks' for this outdoor classroom, and during the 11 day course, the Scouters learned the skills to pass on to their eager Scouts: Troop organization, campcraft, pioneering, woodcraft, signcraft, games, fieldwork, study circle work and pathfinding.

Upon completion of the course, Baden-Powell awarded each of the Scouters a hand-carved bead tied to a leather thong, the beads a prize he collected from Zulu Chief Dinizulu during the British' Ashanti Campaign in 1888.

The Boy Scouts of America conducted its first official Wood Badge course in the United States in 1948. Since that time, training professionals and volunteers have updated the Wood Badge syllabus to provide the best methods to adult Scouters for teaching leadership and program delivery.
Source: www.woodbadge.org



What is Wood Badge for the 21st Century?

Wood Badge is the premier adult leadership development course for the Boy Scouts of America. It teaches contemporary leadership and team-building skills in a comfortable outdoor setting, where learners become members of their own Troop.

Wood Badge's effectiveness as an effective leadership development experience has been applauded by industry training professionals. Its positive influence on graduates' individual unit-level program is unparalleled.

Take a look inside for more information!



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WOOD BADGE

for the 21st
Century



The Boy Scouts of America's
**LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT**
For All Adult Scouters



Longhorn Council BSA

What is the purpose of Wood Badge?

The ultimate purpose of Wood Badge is to help adult leaders deliver the highest quality Scouting program to young people to help them achieve their highest potential.

It models the best techniques for developing leadership and teamwork among both young people and adults.

How much time will Wood Badge take?

Wood Badge is conducted over two, three-day weekends scheduled about three weeks apart. Each weekend begins at 8 a.m. Friday. Your patrol will have one or two meetings scheduled at your convenience between weekend sessions.

When and where is Wood Badge?

The Longhorn Council offers three Wood Badge courses every year. The courses are held at Sid Richardson Scout Ranch near Bridgeport and Camp Tahuaya near Temple.

How will Wood Badge help me?

Wood Badge will teach you outdoor skills and leadership techniques in a 'living,' hands-on environment, and you will be able to apply all you learn to your Scouting involvement and your personal life.

You'll develop a Ticket, which is a written agreement outlining how you will apply your newly learned skills as you continue your involvement in Scouting.

Development of your Ticket is an exercise in goal-setting and includes creating a personal vision and mission statement and outlining individual steps to personal success.

How do I get my beads?

You're probably seen other Scouters wearing their Wood Badge beads. When you successfully complete your Ticket, some of your Wood Badge staff members will present you with your Wood Badge beads, a tan neckerchief with the famed MacLaren tartan, a leather 'woggle' (neckerchief slide) and a special Wood Badge certificate.

What are the qualifications?

Wood Badge is not just for Scoutmasters. It's for adult

Scouters at all levels: Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity, Venture, District and Council. Here are the qualifications:

- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
 - Complete basic training courses for your primary Scouting position (see *Scouting's Basic Leader Training Courses* at right).
 - Complete the outdoor skills training program appropriate to your Scouting position.
 - Be capable of functioning safely in an outdoor environment.
 - Successfully pass the BSA Class 3 physical.
- Graduates of previous courses are not eligible to participate.

What!? Indoor facilities?

Both camps offer multiple, private showers, dressing rooms (with electricity and mirrors!) and indoor restrooms with flush toilets. And you'll be able to enjoy air-conditioned Gilwell Hall, our indoor learning facility at Sid Richardson.

To help keep you in the Scouting spirit, you'll be sleeping on cots in platform-mounted wall tents.

What do I eat?

You'll be welcomed the first weekend with a delectable outdoor spread prepared by our friendly quartermaster staff.

The following weekend, your patrol will return the favor by hosting Wood Badge staff members in your campsite.

If you have any dietary restrictions, please tell your Wood Badge Course Director before the first weekend, and we'll be happy to accommodate your needs.

What do I wear?

Participants are encouraged to wear a full uniform.

What is the course registration fee?

The individual fee for attending Wood Badge is \$175, which includes all your meals, course materials, and those coveted Wood Badge beads.

How do I register?

Visit www.InteliScout.com, complete the online registration

form and use a credit card to make your payment. Or visit www.longhorn.org, click on 'Wood Badge' under 'Training,' and download an application. Wood Badge staff members and the Longhorn Council office also have applications.

When you complete your application, return it with a \$30 deposit or your full payment of \$175 to the Longhorn Council office. Your application must include at least a partial payment to be considered, and the first 48 fully paid Scouters who meet course requirements will be confirmed for the course.

What about refunds?

Be sure to check your individual course application for the refund schedule. Early cancellations will result in a full refund less the \$30 deposit. A \$100 refund will be given after the early deadline and the beginning of the course, and a \$50 refund will be given to those canceling between Week One and Week Two. No refunds will be given after the beginning of the second course weekend.

What are the Training Prerequisites?

New Leader Essentials

Leader specific training for all adult leaders:

- Den Leaders and Webelos Leaders
- Cubmasters
- Tiger Cub Leaders
- Pack Committee and Troop Committee Members
- District Committee Members
- Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters
- Varsity Scout Coaches and Assistant Coaches
- Venture Advisors and Associate Advisors

Commissioner Basic Training

- District Commissioners and Unit Commissioners

Previous versions of leader training courses completed prior to June 1, 2001, will be accepted.

Outdoor Skills Training

- Required for Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, Varsity Coaches and Varsity Assistants

All participants are encouraged to complete the Introduction to Outdoor Skills Training before attending Wood Badge, but it is not required.