

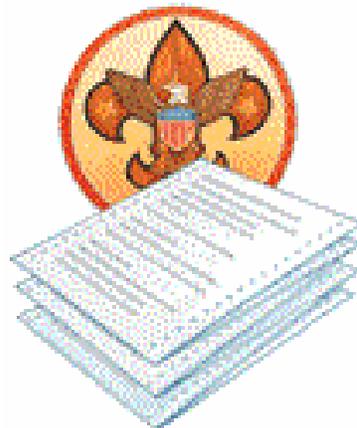
Working your way to an Eagle Scout not only entails all the rank advancements you must achieve, but also the leadership you demonstrate.



Skills of Leadership

- ❖ **Setting the Example-** What you do has a greater impact than what you say. Wearing your uniform encourages other scouts to wear theirs. If you are polite to others, other new scouts will think it is right and follow your ways. When you show a bad example, they will follow in your steps. The way you act should be in harmony with Scout ideals. Boys need a good model to copy, and why not it be you.
- ❖ **Communicating-** As a leader in charge of a group, you receive and give out information. You must do both of these well in listening and presenting it. Teach scouts to take notes when there is a major point or when in a lot of detail. Ask questions after receiving and giving instructions. Get feedback to make sure the message gets through. Discuss things that are going to happen. You measure your success by the degree of which instructions were followed.
- ❖ **Planning-** The core of a successful program is planning. It is crucial for any meeting or activity to know the agenda. You must have a board of leaders to plan activities and meetings. In that way, leaders are involved in planning and carrying out the troop's program.
- ❖ **Knowing the Resources-** You depend on what members can do, as well as what you can do for them. To use these resources, you must find out what they are. Check the scout's advancement, see them in action in what they have strengths and weaknesses in.
- ❖ **Understanding the Needs-** Scouts come from different backgrounds. Each scout has certain strengths and weaknesses. By getting to know and understand each boy's individual needs, everyone benefits. The senior scouts help apply this because they have experience and can help teach the material to everyone's needs.
- ❖ **Representing the Group-** The patrol method uses this skill. Patrol leaders take their patrol's ideas and problems to the senior boys and bring back the patrol decisions of the senior boys. You are succeeding in this area when everyone in the troop feels that he has a part in troop decisions.
- ❖ **Evaluating-** You do this both during and after everything your troop does. For this process to work, you must have a goal for each activity. Scouting's aims and methods are your guidelines. For events, have some topic to be learned by the scouts, and then see the feedback on how the event was.

- ❖ Controlling the Group- A controlled group can do its job and be happy while doing it. This means that the troop has good meetings, activities, and trips. Along the way, the members are in good spirits, and getting along with each other. Controlling the group can also mean stopping behavior that hurts the group. Having everyone's respect is crucial so you can run the meeting.
- ❖ Counseling- You must be able to counsel or coach other scouts in order to help them. Listen to each scout and respect them not only to help him with requirements, but also ask him what he hopes to be and do in the future, Give him facts, but not necessarily advice, he can think things through for himself.
- ❖ Effective Teaching- Never assume that others have learned something because you've done some teaching. Let them practice it on their own. The proof though lies in what they can do. The trick is to put them in a spot where they see the need for the skill or knowledge you taught. Then offer the help they need.
- ❖ Sharing Leadership- With leadership goes trust. You can and must share your leadership role, but you cannot give up your responsibility for the welfare of the troop. The secret is to let others share in making decisions without giving up your trust.



Arranged by:
Dan Wiechec

Source:
The Official Scoutmaster Handbook
Seventh Edition, Fourth Printing, 1983
Boy Scouts of America