

Baden Powell said,

“The troop was divided up into “Patrols” the senior Scout in each being patrol leader. This organization was the secret of our success. Each patrol leader was given full responsibility for the behavior of his patrol at all times, in camp and in the field. The patrol was the unit to work or play, and each patrol was camped in a separate spot. The Scouts were put “on their honor” to carry out orders. Responsibility and competitive rivalry were thus at once established, and a good standard of development was ensured throughout the troop from day to day.”

Types of Patrols

- New Scout Patrol
- Regular Patrol
- Older Scout Patrol

New Scout Patrol

As the name implies, a new-Scout patrol serves Scouts who have just joined the troop. The patrol elects its own leader, just like other patrols, but usually for a shorter term—perhaps one month instead of six months. An older Scout called a **troop guide** works with the Scouts to help them get acclimated to Scouting and to reach the early ranks. Backing up the troop guide is an **assistant Scoutmaster** whose main responsibility is to work with new Scouts.

In some troops, Scouts join a patrol together and stay together throughout their time in the troop

Regular Patrol

Members of a regular or traditional patrol have similar interests and abilities. They enjoy spending time together and may well be friends outside of Scouting. Ideally, they have chosen to be in the same patrol.

The only time a Scout should be assigned to a patrol is when he first joins the troop. However, a new Scout should join a traditional patrol if there are not enough newcomers to form a new-Scout patrol or if he was invited to join the troop by a buddy.

Many troops assign an **assistant Scoutmaster**—called a patrol advisor—to each patrol. The patrol advisor advises and supports the patrol leader **but does not** take over his responsibilities in any way

Older Scout Patrol

Not to be confused with Venturing crews, older-Scout patrols serve older Scouts who want to pursue more challenging high-adventure outings and sports activities while remaining in the troop.

These Scouts often have a been-there-done-that attitude, so their patrol activities offer them new challenges while keeping them involved in troop leadership. You might think of the older-Scout patrol as a safety valve; it lets older Scouts blow off steam and then willingly re-engage with the troop.

An **assistant Scoutmaster** is assigned to the older-Scout patrol to help the members turn their outing ideas into action. He or she works to ensure that patrol activities complement, rather than conflict with, troop activities and may also guide the members along the trail to Eagle Scout rank.

Patrol Duty Roster

Camp Duty Roster

Patrol _____ Patrol Leader _____
Event _____ Date _____

Day 1

Head Cook			
Cleanup #1			
Fireman			
Waterman			
Cook #2			
Cleanup #2			
Off			

Day 2

Head Cook			
Cleanup #1			
Fireman			
Waterman			
Cook #2			
Cleanup #2			
Off			

Day 3

Head Cook			
Cleanup #1			
Fireman			
Waterman			
Cook #2			
Cleanup #2			
Off			

Troop and Patrol activity ideas

- [*100 Ideas For Troop Meetings*](#)
- [*Patrol Activities*](#)
- [*Scout Skill Challenge*](#)
- [*Patrol Method from the Scouts Perspective*](#)