

Troop 804  
Advancements Overview for Scouts

So, you are a Scout in Troop 804 and you want to advance. What do you do?

Just follow these easy steps:

1. **Find your Scout Handbook.** Yes, it may be under bed, or buried in your closet. You should be bringing it to every meeting anyway – so get it out.
2. Look at the requirements for your next rank. They're all in there.
3. If you read a requirement and think you may have done it, find an older Scout (at least the rank of *Life*). He will help you complete that requirement. A few requirements can only be signed by adult leaders (Tenderfoot 1, 9, 13, 14, and 15; 2<sup>nd</sup> Class 1b, 9a, 9b, 11, 12, and 13; 1<sup>st</sup> Class 5, 11, 12, 13, and 14). Sometimes the older Scout may ask you to show him something, or tell him something, or for you to do something. Even if you think you have already done that, go ahead and show your skills again. The older Scouts are holding you to a high standard so that you will be the best possible Scout.
4. If you read a requirement and think you have not yet done it, decide whether it is something you can learn on your own, usually by reading your Scout Handbook. If you can, study the section so that you can get it signed off. If it is not something you can learn on your own, talk to your Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, or another senior Scout to get help learning. We will make special "Advancement Time" available during most meetings and camping trips.
5. When you are done with all or almost all the requirements, contact the Scoutmaster to set up a Scoutmaster Conference. During this conference, the Scoutmaster will talk to you about your participation with the Troop and will assess your knowledge and skills to make sure you are ready for the next rank. You should wear a full class "A" uniform to this.
6. After you have finished the Scoutmaster Conference, you will attend a Board of Review with several adults from the Troop. They will talk to you about how you like the Troop, what kinds of things you have learned, and other things like that. You should wear a full class "A" uniform to your Board of Review.
7. Finally, you are done. Wait for the next Court of Honor to walk your mom (or another adult) up the aisle so that they can give you your rank! Congratulations!

The key points:

- It is your rank! You decide when you will earn it.
- If you have a question, talk to your Patrol Leader, your Troop Guide, or another senior Scout. They are here to help. Remember, they have a phone, just like you – so you can call them! Even in-between meetings!
- If you have a problem, feel free to talk to Mr. Dave. He is also here to help.
- Schedule an appointment for your Scoutmaster Conference early - you need to leave enough time to finish it before your Board of Review.
- Boy Scouts is different from Cub Scouts and your parents can't sign your requirements. Your first stop should usually be your Patrol Leader or another senior Scout.