

Rank Advancement Sequence

Below is the sequence of ranks earned by a Boy Scout. Each rank has unique associated requirements that must be completed prior to the rank being awarded to the Scout. These requirements can be found in the Boy Scout Handbook, and at <http://www.ussscouts.org/advance/boyscout/bsranks.asp>. The requirements highlighted below for a particular rank are *included* in the other requirements for that rank, and have been isolated in the table below only because they entail extended amounts of time, tenure, and/or planning to complete.

Scout	
	There are no tenure, merit badge, service hour, or leadership requirements for this rank.
Tenderfoot	
	There are no tenure, merit badge, service hour, or leadership requirements for this rank.
Second Class	
	There are no tenure, merit badge, service hour, or leadership requirements for this rank.
First Class	
	There are no tenure, merit badge, service hour, or leadership requirements for this rank.
Star	
	<p>Tenure: At least 4 months of active participation in the troop as a First Class scout</p> <p>Merit badges: Total of 6 earned merit badges, including 4 Eagle-required*</p> <p>Service hours: Total of 6 service hours performed in service projects that do not benefit scouts**</p> <p>Leadership: At least 4 months of active service in a leadership position***</p>
Life	
	<p>Tenure: At least 6 months of active participation in the troop as a Star scout</p> <p>Merit badges: Total of 11 earned merit badges (5 more than those that have already been earned), including 3 Eagle-required*</p> <p>Service hours: Total of 6 service hours performed in service projects that do not benefit scouts**</p> <p>Leadership: At least 6 months of active service in a leadership position***</p>
Eagle	
	<p>Tenure: At least 6 months of active participation in the troop as a Life scout</p> <p>Merit badges: Total of 21 earned merit badges (10 more than those that have already been earned), including the remainder of the Eagle-required* badges</p> <p>Service project: Using established BSA procedures, the Eagle candidate must plan the project, organize the required personnel, secure the required materials, and direct the project</p> <p>Leadership: At least 6 months of active service in a leadership position***</p>
Eagle Palms	
	<p>Eagle Palms are awards, not ranks, that represent merit badges earned in addition to those earned in attainment of the Eagle rank. A Bronze Palm represents 5 merit badges; a Gold Palm represents 10 merit badges; and a Silver Palm represents 15 merit badges. The Bronze, Gold and Silver Palms are worn in the proper combination to denote the number of merit badges earned after the Eagle Rank was awarded.</p> <p>Tenure: At least 3 months of active participation in the troop since earning Eagle or last Palm</p> <p>Merit badges: 5 more merit badges earned beyond those required for Eagle or last Palm</p>

* "Eagle-required" refers to those merit badges that are required to be earned in order to attain the Eagle rank.

** Service hours performed in service projects other than those officially endorsed by Troop 640 must have prior Scoutmaster approval.

*** Leadership tenure is based on time served in "positions of responsibility." Assistant Patrol Leader does not count toward leadership tenure for the ranks of Star, Life, and Eagle. Bugler does not count toward leadership tenure for the Eagle rank.