

## **Troop Footwear Guidance**

A Scout is judged by character, effort, and growth—not by shoes, socks, or shirt completeness.

The Scout uniform exists to promote belonging, equality, and pride in Scouting. The uniform, including footwear, supports the program; it is not intended to be a barrier to participation or advancement.

Consistent with the Scouting America Guide to Awards and Insignia and official uniform inspection sheets:

- Footwear is expected to be appropriate, neat, and functional
- Shoes should be suitable for the activity and consistent with a smart, complete uniform appearance
- Footwear expectations are rooted in safety and practicality, not uniform policing

### **Examples of Acceptable Footwear**

#### **Troop Meetings**

- Athletic shoes
- Hiking shoes or boots
- Casual closed-toe shoes in good condition

#### **Campouts & Outdoor Activities**

- Hiking shoes or boots
- Waterproof trail shoes (as conditions warrant)

#### **Courts of Honor & Eagle Boards of Review**

- Hiking shoes or boots
- Casual closed-toe shoes in good condition

#### **Generally Inappropriate Footwear**

- Flip-flops or open-toe sandals
- Crocs or similar footwear
- Any footwear that presents a safety risk for the planned activity

#### **Guiding Principle**

Part of being Prepared is wearing safe, activity-appropriate footwear.

These expectations reflect national uniform guidance and are intended to support safety, participation, and a neat appearance—not to create barriers to Scouting or advancement.