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## WINTER ADVENTURES

Winter is a great time for Scouting! As temperatures drop, you can find adventures all around.



Photos by Robert Birkby

Whether it's a hike on a frosty morning or a cold weather campout with fellow Scouts and leaders, BSA's outdoor skills will show you what to do.



**Boy Scout Encyclopedia, 1956**

How about traveling on skis or snowshoes across mountain snows? With plenty of preparation, the right equipment, and good leadership, Scouts on winter journeys can build igloos and other snow shelters that are sturdy, windproof, and cozy inside.



**BSA winter campout, Wolf Creek Pass, Colorado**

Layers of clothing are important for staying warm on chilly days. Many Scouts button up red wool jackets that have the same sharp appearance today as they did long ago.



**Boy Scout Handbook 1959**

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## **SCOUTING'S RED JACKET**

The red jacket was adopted in the mid-1940s by the staff at Philmont Scout Ranch, the BSA's high adventure base in northern New Mexico. Scouts who had completed Philmont treks were soon wearing the jackets, too.



Photo courtesy of the Boy Scouts of America

Officially known as a *jac-shirt*, Scouting's red jacket is hard to miss in camp, at Scout meetings, and unit events. For everyday wear, the jac-shirt is a terrific way for you to show pride in your connection with the BSA.



A silhouette of a black bull sewn on the left shoulder of a red jacket shows that an older Scout has been to Philmont, a destination many younger Scouts hope to reach soon. That's as true today as it

was for Scouts of long ago.

**New and Nifty**  
OFFICIAL EXPLORER JACKETS  
FOR FALL AND WINTER WEAR

You can choose either of them because they're both Official. And either will give you the kind of warmth and service you want this time of year whether you're out camping or ushering at a football game. Jackets are a vivid fire-red to make you stand-out wherever you are. Be the first in your town to see these exciting Explorer jackets.

**Official All-Wool Jac-Shirt** →  
Wonderfully warm and exceedingly smart, that's the story of this 20 oz. all-wool jac-shirt that is a vivid red, and tailored for comfort and good looks.  
No. 552 Sizes 12-20...\$10.95 No. 553 Sizes 28-48...\$11.95

**Explorer Poplin Jacket**  
This all-weather, all-season, red zipper jacket is made of durable cotton poplin. It's Sanforized to resist shrinkage and Impregnole-treated to repel rain.  
No. 550 Sizes 20-48.....\$4.95



Advertisements in 1950s issues of Boys' Life magazine featured several jackets for Scouts, including the all-wool red jac-shirt. Identical in style, today's jac-shirt is made of a wool blend that increases durability. Find yours at [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org).



The Order of the Arrow uses the jac-shirt as its official jacket and encourages members to identify themselves with a large, round OA jacket patch sewn on the back. Embroidered jacket patches can be worn by Scouts and Scouters who have completed certain other BSA programs and trainings, too, or have been to a high adventure base or jamboree.

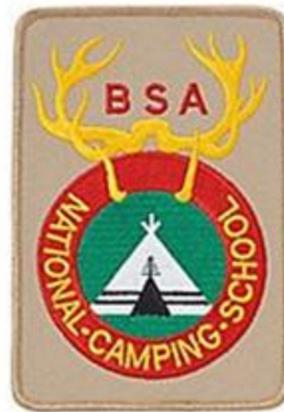
Here's a sampling of the jacket patches recognized by the BSA.



Order of the Arrow



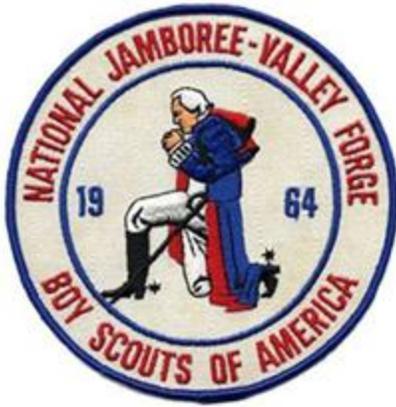
National Eagle Scout Association



National Camping School



High Adventure Base  
Jacket Patches



**Jamboree Jacket Patches**

In addition to the red jac-shirt, scoutstuff.org offers other Scouting outerwear that looks good and will help keep you warm around home, on your way to school, and during BSA adventures. Check out the washable wool jacket. Cut along the same lines as its famous red brother, the green jacket features a Scout emblem on the left pocket.



**Washable Wool Jacket**

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## **PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES**

Winter can be an ideal season for you to review your first aid skills and advance your ability to the next level. You'll be better prepared for emergencies that might occur on the trail and ready to do your best if you come upon an accident in your community or home.



The appearance of the first aid merit badge has changed over the decades, but the importance of the subject has always been strong.

### First Aid Merit Badges



The badge as imagined in the 1911 BSA Handbook

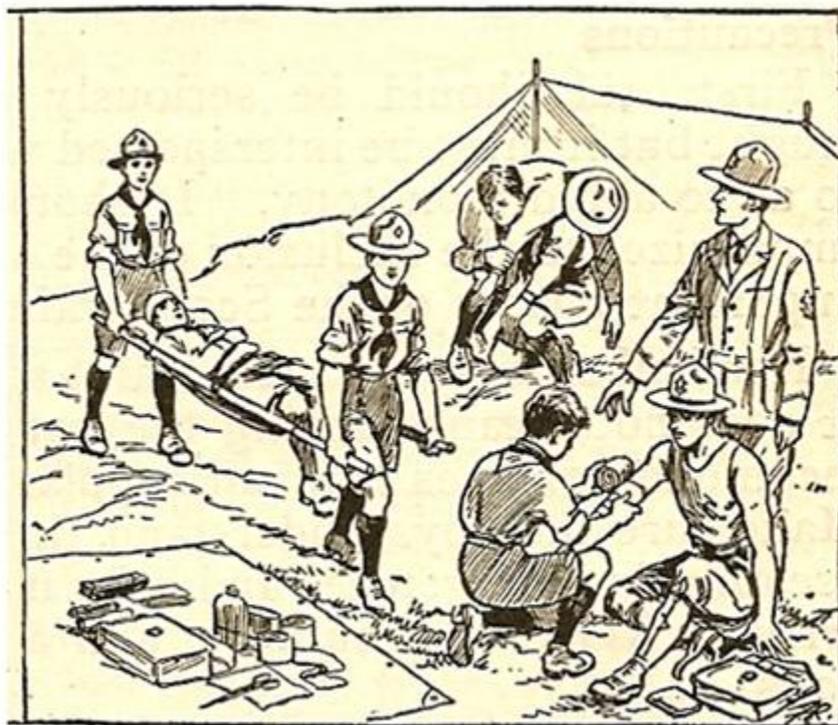


Early embroidered badge



First Aid merit badge today

Illustrations in vintage BSA manuals show that Scouts have always been learning and practicing the best first aid skills of the time.



Scoutmaster Handbook 1920 – First Aid Training

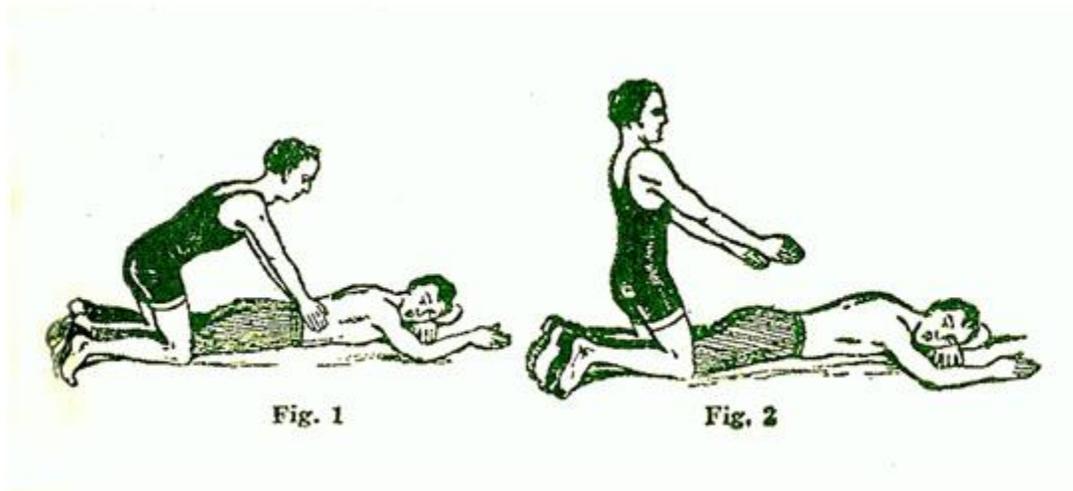
The 1940 Boy Scout Handbook illustrated several accidents that could require first aid...



...then showed a Scout practicing all his bandaging skills at once.



As medical knowledge has grown through the years, first aid treatments have dramatically improved. Much of what was presented in early Scout manuals is outdated now. Even a year or two can bring enough changes to certain first aid methods that regular refresher courses are important for keeping your knowledge current.



Artificial Respiration, 1940



### **Rescue Breathing, 2010**

First aid skills developed along the trail to Eagle build a solid foundation of expertise for approaching emergencies with confidence. Doing the best you can with the knowledge you have can almost always make situations better.

Just as first aid techniques have evolved, first aid kits have also become more useful. It is interesting to lift the metal lid of an antique BSA kit and see what's inside. This one from the 1920s contains ointments for treating burns and poison ivy, mercurochrome for cleaning wounds, and several bandages to use as dressings.



For the latest in first aid supplies, look to [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org) and a selection of kits just right for a single Scout to carry or for a group of Scouts on the trail for several days or more.



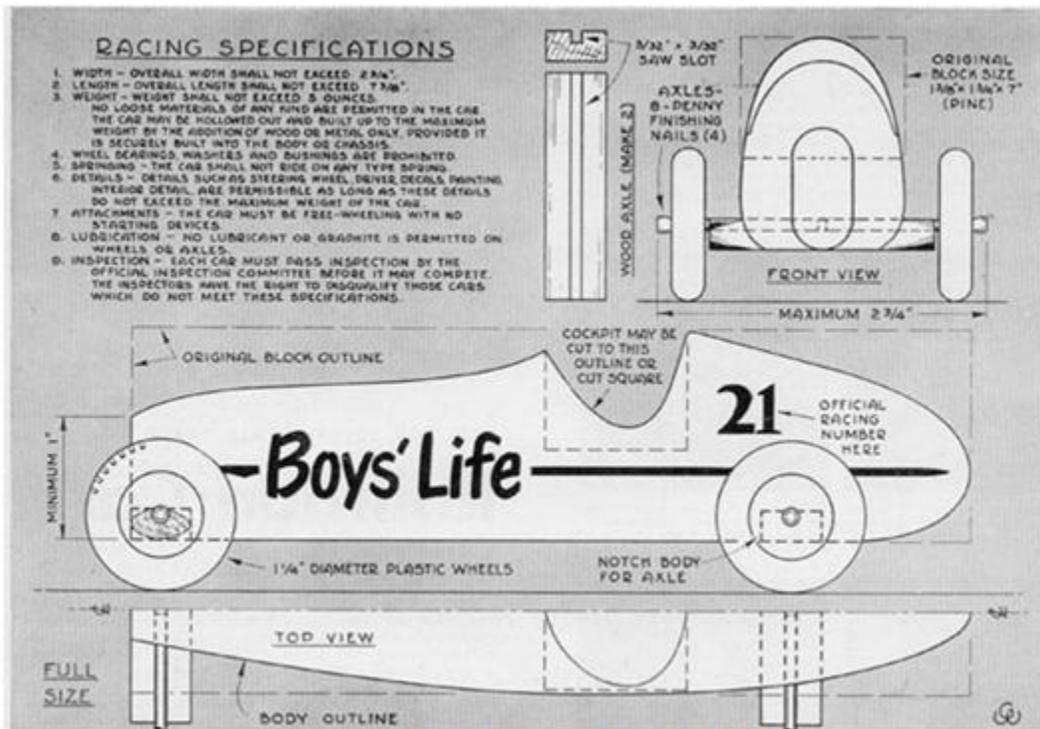
**First Aid Kit**



**Adventure Medical Weekender Kit**

## PLANNING FOR THE PINEWOOD DERBY®

Cub Scout packs across America are gearing up for this year's Pinewood Derby. The first derby was held in the spring of 1953 by a Cub Scout pack in Manhattan Beach, California. The next year Boys' Life Magazine published plans for a race car that looks very much like the cars of today.



**Boys' Life Magazine – October, 1954**

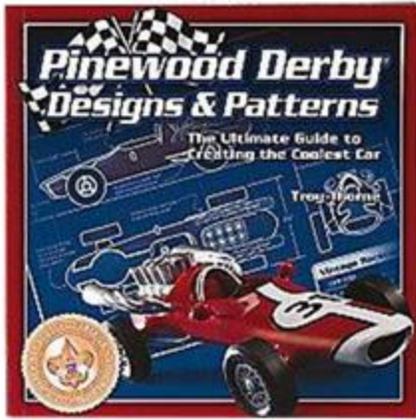
Since then, more than 100 million model cars have sped down tracks at pack Pinewood Derbies all across America. That's a lot of opportunities for Cub Scouts and their parents or guardians to share the joy of building racers together, experiences every bit as important as which car is the first to cross the finish line.



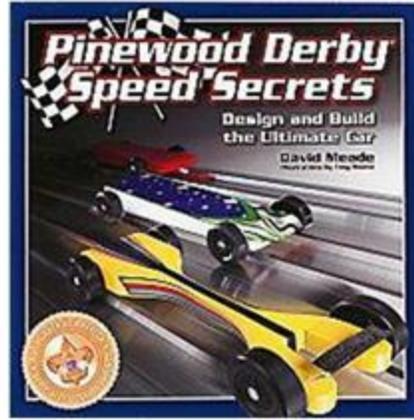
Start working on your racer with an official Pinewood Derby Car Kit from [scoutstuff.org](http://scoutstuff.org). You'll also find everything you need to tune up your car with good looks and speed. Publications offer design ideas and construction tips from the experts.



**Official Pinewood Derby® Car Kit**



**Pinewood Derby® Designs and Patterns Book**



**Pinewood Derby® Speed Secrets**

Personalizing your Pinewood Derby racer is one of the most enjoyable steps in building a car. Let your imagination go wild as you choose colors and designs. Stumped for ideas? Try these scoutstuff.org accessories and wraps.



**Cockpit Accessories**



**Thunderbolt Car Wrap**



**Bugged Out Car Wrap**



Infused with spirit and energy, your car will be one of a kind. To learn more, explore the BSA's own Pinewood Derby website:

<http://www.pinewoodderby.org/>

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## A BACKWARD GLANCE

As the calendar turns over to the year 2011, the Boy Scouts of America moves into a future full of opportunities built on Scouting's core values. It's also satisfying to remember the remarkable celebration of Scouting's 100th anniversary year. From local events to the 2010 National Jamboree, the Boy Scouts of America reintroduced itself to the nation as an exciting, meaningful program for the nation's youth.



**BSA Grand Centennial Parade – Washington, DC – July 25, 2010**

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(This edition of the *Be Prepared Newsletter* was developed and written by Robert Birkby, author of the Centennial edition of the *Boy Scout Handbook*.)