

Why take Wood Badge? 25 Scouters state their case

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The reviews are in, and Wood Badge gets top grades from your fellow Scouting volunteers.

They say it “made me a better leader,” “helped me turn my troop around” and is “one of the best training experiences I have had.”

One Scouter called it the “second-best decision you’ll make in Scouting.” The first, of course, was getting involved in Scouting in the first place.

Wood Badge is the BSA’s training course for adult leaders, and it’s for new and experienced Scouters alike.

Most councils offer the course at least once a year and hold it over two three-day weekends *or* one six-day week. You’ll leave as a better Scouter, guaranteed. But don’t take my word for it.

Here’s what 25 of your fellow Scouters had to say when asked “Why Wood Badge?”

Why take Wood Badge?

These answers are from our Facebook page. Find more there.

1. “Wood Badge is one of the best training experiences I have had since becoming involved in Scouting.” – Gary L.
2. “Take everything you think you know about leadership training, and throw it out the door!” – Jennifer F.
3. “Wood Badge is not just a Scouting leadership training. It’s life training at its best.” – David D.
4. “It’s the second-best decision you’ll make in Scouting. The first is getting involved!” – Doug T.
5. “Best training I’ve ever taken! I use the info for both Scouting and in my job as a teacher.” – Erin O.
6. “As a Scout, I always wondered where the great adult Scouters came from. Now I know, they’re made at Wood Badge.” – Robert W.
7. “It opens your eyes to all the possibilities that Scouting has for the youth.” – Ben T.
8. “By taking Wood Badge as a den leader, I now know about the programs my Scouts will join in the future. I can better prepare them to be Boy Scouts and can help their parents understand why we do the things we do in Cub Scouts.” – Ed D.
9. “It puts the whole of Scouting into perspective.” – Lee T.
10. “Wood Badge is a lot of fun! I’ve met some great friends during the course.” – Anthony S.

11. "It ... improved my ability to manage work and family balance overall, and made me a better leader." – Alan S.
12. "It's a great way to put yourself in a Scout's shoes and understand what they experience." – Francine B.
13. "As a Cub Scout leader for five years, I really didn't know much about the patrol system. Taking Wood Badge just as my oldest boy transitioned into Boy Scouts was extremely timely and prepared me to be a valuable adult leader in the troop." – Kimberly S.
14. "So much takeaway that you will be able to use in the future not only in Scouting but in everyday life." – Peter L.
15. "No matter how much you think you know, you will learn much more about Scouting and yourself." – Carl P.
16. "... helped me turn my troop around from an adult-centered to a boy-led troop." Ron G.
17. "I was promised leadership training I could use in Scouting and my professional life, along with new lifelong friends. I can say Wood Badge over-delivered." – Kimberly A.
18. "Do it. It changes your outlook on how to proceed with Scouting and to make Scouting better." – Larry B.
19. "Your Wood Badge experience will take what you already know and file it in your brain for easy organized access." – Sheila F.
20. "More importantly, the Scouts themselves will benefit from your decision to accept the challenge of earning your beads." – Nic C.
21. "It is money and time well spent." – Marv H.
22. "You will find things about yourself you never knew before." – Martin C.
23. "An excellent training course, even for someone like me, who doesn't love camping." – Sue M.
24. "I was fortunate to take Wood Badge at the same time my wife did. Aside from all of the great things it did for our unit, it also transformed our marriage." – Lee B.
25. "It's the Ph.D. of Scouting, you and your unit will very much benefit from having one or more leader Wood Badge trained." – Mike B.

Now what?

Matt S. says it best: "The next thing you should do after the first thought of taking Wood Badge is go to your council website and sign up." Your turn

NEIC Wood Badge Course (C7-129-16)	
Wood Badge Breakfast Saturday, February 27, 2016 from 8:00am to 10:00am	Holy Cross Lutheran Church 29700 N St Marys Rd Libertyville, IL 60048
Wood Badge: Pre-Course Meeting Saturday, August 6, 2016 from 10:00am to 12:00pm	Holy Cross Lutheran Church 29700 N St Marys Rd Libertyville, IL 60048
Wood Badge-1st Weekend Friday, August 19, 2016 at 7:00am to Sunday, August 21, 2016 at 5:00pm	Camp Crown 11651 304th Ave Trevor, WI 53179
Two Patrol Meetings, Location, Dates and Times determined by Patrol	
Wood Badge-2nd Weekend Friday, September 16, 2016 at 7:00am to Sunday, September 18, 2016 at 5:00pm	Camp Crown 11651 304th Ave Trevor, WI 53179
Visit our link at http://www.neic-woodbadge.org/	