



Eagle Project Selection

REQUIREMENTS AND TIPS FOR SELECTING AN EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

The process of **planning** and **carrying out** Eagle Scout projects is well documented in the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, No. 512-927. **Choosing** a project that fully complies with the requirements of an Eagle Scout project is sometimes a difficult task for scouts and their leaders. This short document will help guide scouts in identifying and selecting a quality Eagle Scout project.

////////// **Eagle Scout Requirement 5** //////////////////////////////////////

While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community. (The project must benefit an organization other than the Boy Scouts of America) A project proposal must be approved by the organization benefiting from the effort, your unit leader and unit committee, and the council or district before you start. You must use the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, No. 512-927, in meeting this requirement.

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Restrictions

- There are **no** required minimum hours for a project.
- Routine labor is not normally appropriate for a project. This might be defined as a job or service you may provide as part of your daily life, or a routine maintenance job normally done by the beneficiary (for example, pulling weeds on the football field at your school).
- While projects may not be of a commercial nature or for a business, this is not meant to disallow work for community institutions, such as museums and service agencies (like homes for the elderly, for example), that would otherwise be acceptable.
- A project may not be a fundraiser. In other words, it may not be an effort that primarily collects money, even for a worthy charity. Fundraising is permitted only for securing materials and facilitating a project, and it may need to be approved by your council.

Other Considerations

- “Give leadership to others...” means at least **two people** besides you. Helpers may be involved in Scouting or not, and of any age appropriate for the work.
- A project must be selected that gives you the best opportunity to succeed in **developing, planning,** and **providing leadership** to others.
- The project will be evaluated on the extent of benefit the project has to the religious institution, school, or community.
- The planning and development of the project must not take more effort than the project itself, as long as the project was well led, and resulted in an outcome acceptable to the beneficiary.
- The troop committee will assess the scope of your project based on your overall skill level. The project must be robust enough to stretch your ability to plan and lead others.

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Steps to Selecting a Good Eagle Scout Project

- STEP 1** → **Make a list of your favorite activities**
- Write down all of your hobbies, activities, clubs, sports, and community service organizations
- STEP 2** → **Identify issues with each activity**
- For each activity, think of issues or problems that you encounter
 - Brainstorm some improvements that can be made to make your activity more enjoyable
- STEP 3** → **Review your list with a troop mentor or scoutmaster**
- Discuss your top three issues, problems, or improvements with another Eagle Scout, mentor, or scout leader to determine if they meet the criteria listed above
- STEP 4** → **Meet with an organization representative**
- Start with your first project option and meet with an organization representative to see if they are receptive to your project idea
 - Continue through your list until you and an organization agree on a project
- STEP 5** → **Present your project to the troop committee**
- Complete the Service Project Proposal section of the Eagle Scout Project Workbook
 - Present your project to the troop committee and address any of their comments or concerns

Example

Activities:
Baseball, Surfing, Acting Club, National Honor Society, Thrift Shop, Cooking, Web Design

Issues:

- Baseball practices and games are canceled due to wet fields
- Dugouts are in disarray
- Beach trash cans are overflowing
- Stage microphones are broken
- Thrift shop can't keep up with pricing clothes so they throw some clothes away

Project Selected:
Reroofing dugouts; adding new safety fencing, helmet cubbies, and bat holders; repainting dugouts is the perfect scope for a project. Project is approved by city parks and rec as well as troop committee.