**So...You're A New Den Leader**

Welcome to the fun and adventure of Cub Scouts. Your time volunteering as a Den Leader will be both rewarding and fun.

Now, you may be asking yourself. “What Did I Get Myself Into?!?” Don’t worry, you’re not alone and we’re here to help! In fact, hundreds of thousands of adults just like you have done this before. So, we’re going to use their knowledge and some tips and tricks so you don’t have to “re-invent the wheel” as you plan for your den meetings.

So, what’s next? This video ( <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQNziVREFXE> ) will cover the top 5 things you need to know as a new den leader along with resources below to help you navigate the critical first month of Cub Scouting.

### How to Get Started

**STEP 1: Get Trained**

The BSA is a proven leader in developing training and policies designed to keep young people safe. The first thing any new leader must do is create a [my.scouting](https://my.scouting.org/) account and complete Youth Protection Training. Our council's University of Scouting is also a great in-person training option for all new leaders.

<https://my.scouting.org/>

**STEP 2: Know Your Den**  
Before you hold your first den meeting you need know who’s in your den and when and where it’s happening. Complete the den roster below to get started.

<https://www.hoac-bsa.org/Data/Sites/1/media/cub-scouts/new-membership-roster.pdf>

**STEP 3: Get the Uniform**  
The uniform is an iconic and important part of the Scouting experience. By putting on the uniform, you also set the example for all the Scouts in your den.

<https://www.scoutshop.org/uniforms-and-apparel>

**STEP 4: Follow the Guide**  
Den Leader Guides are your best resource along with online lesson plans through Scoutbook. Both contain detailed and specific meeting plans for all required and elective adventures.

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/den-meeting-resources/>

<https://www.scoutbook.com/>

**STEP 5: Conducting Your First Meeting**

The Scouts will be showing up for their first meeting soon. Here are a few tips to kick-off your first meeting right.

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/>

(This link, in particular, has a lot of information on Cub Scouting – beyond just conducting a meeting.)