

# The Scout Law and Cybersafety/Cyberbullying

Today ~~we~~ are online more than ever before. We use technology to save us time with research, connect with others, navigate, and have fun. Here are some ideas of how the digital world and the Scouting community can live side by side.

**Trustworthy.** Be truthful with others online, and be very careful of the information you share. Do the right thing when sharing other people's words or pictures. Make sure you have the owner's permission before using them.

**Loyal.** Share information about others only if you have their permission to share it. Uphold appropriate agreements you make with friends when you play games with them.

**Helpful.** Alert others to scams, cheats, and suspicious sites. Point them to reliable and accurate sources of information. Encourage people to report bad behavior online.

**Friendly.** Reach out to support others who are doing good things, like posting quality creative works. Support those who are bullied.

**Courteous.** Be polite and respectful. When you use other people's work, be sure to ask permission when necessary, follow fair use standards, and give credit to the people who created and own the work.

**Kind.** Treat people with respect when you are on social networks, playing games, talking or texting on a cellphone, or in other digital activities.

**Obedient.** When using digital devices, follow the rules set by your parents/guardians, teachers, and Scout leaders. Abide by the rules established by sites, services, devices, and games.

**Cheerful.** Use games, messaging tools, and social forums to build your relationships with others while having fun.

**Thrifty.** Be a smart consumer. Know your voice, text, and data plans and use them wisely. Be sure to study digital devices and services you want. Before buying them, make sure you're not overspending on functions and features you won't need. Be careful not to run up charges on apps and sites.

**Brave.** Stand up for what is right. Do not participate in mocking and bullying others, even if your friends are doing it. Report suspected abuse to a trusted adult, like your parent or leader; call 911 or call the Cyber Tip line at 1-800-843-5678. If the incident involves any part of the Scouting program, call your council Scout executive immediately or email [youth.protection@scouting.org](mailto:youth.protection@scouting.org).

**Clean.** Use clean language and discuss only appropriate topics when using digital devices to communicate with others.

**Reverent.** Respect the feelings of other people. Do not use digital devices to spread irreverent ideas.

Remember that life is a balance. In Scouting, we focus on a balanced life through our aims: character, physical fitness, and citizenship. Technology is a tool to help us. It is not there to take the place of family, friends, the Scout Law, and staying physically fit. Stay ScoutSTRONG!



Youth

Parent

Leader

100-055  
2012 Printing



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### **BSA Troop 390 & 7390 Cyber Family & Scout Pledge and Safety Plan:**

- 1. I will think before I post.** I agree not to post information and images that could put me at risk, embarrass me, or damage my future, such as – cell and home phone numbers, home address, sexual messages, and inappropriate pictures and videos.
- 2. I will respect other people online.** I will not post anything rude, offensive or threatening. I will not send or forward images and information that might embarrass, hurt, or harass someone. I will not take anyone's personal information and use it to damage his or her reputation.
- 3. I will be careful when meeting online friends in person.** I agree to ask my parent or guardian's permission before going. I will have a parent or guardian accompany me. I will meet in a public place.
- 4. I will protect myself online.** If someone makes me feel uncomfortable or if someone is rude or offensive, I will not respond. I will save the evidence. I will tell my parent, guardian, or another trusted adult. I will report it to the website, cell phone company, CyberTipline. com, or the police.

#### **Scout and Family pledge:**

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X \_\_\_\_\_ **Scout**

X \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent/Guardian**

X \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent/Guardian**