



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



Explore and more...

Making the most of the links between
The Scout Association and the DofE

Doing your DofE

As a member of The Scout Association you can achieve the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) as well as Scouting Awards. This is done through being a member of an Explorer Scout Unit or the Scout Network.

This leaflet aims to outline the basic information you need to choose the best levels for you, get started on them and find out who can help you through them.

DofE programmes and Scout Awards

The Chief Scout's Platinum Award, the Chief Scout's Diamond Award and the Queen's Scout Award have similar requirements to the Bronze, Silver and Gold DofE Awards.

Choosing your level

Bronze (14+ years old)

To achieve your Bronze Award, you need to complete the following sections:



Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
3 months	3 months	3 months	Plan, train for and complete a 2 day, 1 night expedition

*You must also undertake a **further** three months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.*

Chief Scout's Platinum Award (14+ years)



In addition to the above you need to complete the following:

- Be a member of Explorer Scouts/Scout Network for at least six months.
- Complete six nights away, four of which must be camping.
- Also complete two activities as an Explorer Scout/ Scout Network member from the lists available on www.scouts.org.uk/ive (each should be from a different list).



Silver (15+ years old)

To achieve your Silver Award, you need to complete the following sections:



Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
6 months	One section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months		Plan, train for and complete a 3 day, 2 night expedition
<p><i>If you have not achieved your Bronze Award you must undertake a further six months in your Volunteering or the longer of your Physical or Skills sections.</i></p>			

Chief Scout's Diamond Award (15+ years)

In addition to the above you need to complete the following:



- Be a member of Explorer Scouts/Scout Network for at least 12 months (this can include time spent working on the Chief Scout's Platinum Award).
- Complete twelve nights away, eight of which must be camping (this can include nights away counted for the Chief Scout's Platinum Award).
- Complete two activities as an Explorer Scout/Scout Network member from the lists available in www.scouts.org.uk/ive (each should be from a different list and not the same activities as those undertaken for the Chief Scout's Platinum Award).

Gold (16+ years old)

To achieve your Gold Award, you need to complete the following sections:



Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition	Residential
12 months	One section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months		Plan, train for and complete a 4 day, 3 night expedition	Undertake a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights
<p><i>If you have not achieved your Silver Award you must undertake a further six months in either your Volunteering or the longer of your Physical or Skills sections.</i></p>				

Queen's Scout Award (16+ years)

In addition to the above you need to complete the following:



- Be a member of Explorer Scouts/Scout Network for at least 18 months (this can include time spent working on the Chief Scout's Platinum and Diamond Awards).
- Complete eighteen nights away, twelve of which must be camping (this can include nights away counted for the Chief Scout's Platinum and Diamond Awards).
- Complete two activities as an Explorer Scout/Scout Network member from the lists available in www.scouts.org.uk/ive (each should be from a different list and not the same activities as those undertaken for the Chief Scout's Platinum and Diamond Awards).
- On completion of the above a presentation should be made to a suitable audience, this should demonstrate your achievements so far in working towards the Queen's Scout Award.
- Further information and a participant's guide can be downloaded from www.scouts.org.uk/qsa

Getting started

Step 1	Decide which level of DofE programme you would like to do (this will depend on your age, time commitments etc).
Step 2	Talk to your County DofE Adviser (England) or Country Office (Scotland/ Wales/Northern Ireland) and receive your <i>Welcome Pack</i> . Your Explorer Scout Leader or Scout Network Leader will be able to point you in their direction.
Step 3	Decide with your leader what you are going to do for each section of your DofE programme.
Step 4	Get started on your DofE programme. When you have finished a section, make sure you get it signed off in your <i>Record Book/Keeping Track</i> booklet from your <i>Welcome Pack</i> by your instructor/assessor. Look after your pack – it is your responsibility.
Step 5	When you have completed all the sections hand in your <i>Record Book/Keeping Track</i> booklet to your DofE advisor who will arrange for you to receive your DofE Award. The Chief Scout's Platinum, Diamond and Queen's Scout Awards are assessed by arrangement with the District Explorer Scout Commissioner/Scout Network Leader. Just complete the form in the <i>Explorer Scout Membership Pack</i> or <i>Scout Network Membership Pack</i>

How long will it take?

This will depend on how much time you can commit to your DofE and the minimum number of months for each section is explained in this leaflet. For each activity in each section you will need to commit an average of about an hour per week. You have until your 25th birthday to complete any of the levels, but it takes at least 6 months at Bronze and Silver and 12 months at Gold. For direct entrants it takes a minimum of 12 months at Silver and 18 months at Gold.

Why do both?

Why not? By registering for the DofE and The Scout Association you can gain twice the recognition for the efforts you put in. The DofE is the world's leading youth achievement award. Both are recognised and highly respected by potential employers, colleges and universities. Should you move area, for university or work etc. you can continue with your DofE within Scouting in your new area.

Find out more...

Scouting Awards: Speak to your Explorer Scout Leader, Scout Network Leader or call 0845 300 1818. Take a look at: www.scouts.org.uk/dofe
www.scouts.org.uk/qsqa

The DofE: speak to your county DofE Advisor or take a look at www.DofE.org

