



Breaking Them In

Providing Resources to Support Units, Chapters, and Lodges

I'm holding a pair of boots. These old boots have taken me over a lot of miles of trail. They're really comfortable. Whoever coined the expression, "as comfortable as an old shoe," must have been talking about these old boots.

But once, a long time ago, they were brand new and stiff as a board. Oh, I softened them up with some polish and saddle soap, but mostly I broke them in by using them. One step at a time—that's the way good boots become good friends.

Good habits are like that, too. Your morals are tested on a daily basis. So-called friends will tempt you to betray the Scout Oath. They will test your resolution to the Scout Law. When this happens, you may feel as uncomfortable as a new boot. You might hesitate or waiver. But if you stick to the trail you're on, then you'll find it easier the next time, because, like these boots, good habits become more comfortable each time they're used.