◆ Midway Patch of the Month **World Crest**



**World Crest** This patch has been worn by Scouts since Scouting was founded in 1907. Lord Baden-Powell gave the Scouters on Brownsea Island in the U.K. an early version of this badge. The World Crest is worn by Scouters around the world. Lord Baden-Powell said, “Our badge we took from the ‘North Point’ used on maps for orienteering.” Lady Baden-Powell said, “It shows the true way to go” reminding Scouts to be as true and reliable as the compass. The crest is the fleur-de-lis, the symbol of scouting with the three points of the Scout Oath. The two stars stand for truth and knowledge. The crest is white on a purple background. White represents purity and purple represents leadership and help given to other people. The rope encircling the crest symbolizes unity and brotherhood of Scouters around the world. The rope is tied in a reef, or square knot to represent the strength of being united together and service. The “bond” was added by tying the three parts of the fleur-de-lis together to symbolize the family of Scouting. Every scout wears this patch to remind us Scouting is a world organization. It is a permanent patch worn centered above the left pocket. The BSA donates a small portion of the proceeds from the patch to the World Scout Foundation to help with the development of Scouting in emerging nations. (www.scouting.org; Wikipedia; Bryan on Scouting, February 25, 2015)



**FAQ -** If the World Crest may be worn by all youth and adults in the BSA, why isn’t the World Crest pre-sewn on BSA uniforms? In summary, Bryan's Blog's (http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/) answer to the question said: The fee paid by the BSA to WOSM for use of the emblem is based on the cost of the item sold. By selling the patches separately, the fee is a based on the cost of the patch. If it were presewn on a shirt, the fee would be a percentage of the cost of the shirt. Doing that would essentially double the cost of the patch to Scouts and Scouters.

Find the World Crests on these Scouts from other countries –

 

From United Kingdom From East Timor

 

From Papua New Guinea From Hong Kong

**SCOUT NERD FACT**

The BSA receives all its World Crest patches from the World Organization of the Scouting Movement (WOSM www.scout.org). WOSM sells these patches to all National Scouting organizations that are members. You can tell this because there are no BSA logos on the back of the World Crest.



Typical BSA patch with BSA logos on back



World Crest back with no BSA logo

**BSA WORLD CREST RINGS**

The BSA has authorized rings that may be worn around the World Crest emblem. **Only one ring may be worn at a time.**



*Current BSA World Crest ring*

In 2010 the BSA issued a 100th Anniversary (on the left) ring that all Scouts and Scouters could wear around the World Crest ring. This ring is no longer being sold by BSA. After the 100th Anniversary celebration was over, BSA replaced the100th Anniversary ring with the 1910 ring (above). This ring may be placed around the World Crest emblem by any Scout or Scouter. There are no requirements to wear either ring.