

# How to Thwart Scout Elves

**Use** Use this job aid to thwart scout elves.

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**What you need to know** According to *The Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Tradition*, scout elves hide throughout your home to watch your movements and report them back to the North Pole. These reports have an impact on the quantity and quality of Christmas presents you will receive.  
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Despite the title, scout elves do not restrict themselves to appearing on shelves. They may also appear:

- Above the fireplace, if you have one.
- In your closet.
- Behind the medicine cabinet in your parents' master bathroom.
- Next to the box of your favorite cereal.
- In the living room of your favorite dollhouse or fortress.
- In your underwear drawer.
- On your preferred method of transportation, such as your bicycle, scooter, or skateboard.

The primary goal of scout elves is to reinforce the importance of a strong surveillance state post 9/11 so when you are old enough, it is instilled in you that you are rewarded for good behavior at the high cost of your personal liberty.

**What you need to do** Follow these steps to thwart scout elves.  
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Step	Action														
1	Do you still believe in Santa?														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>If ...</th> <th>Then ...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>Go to step 2.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>Go to step 4.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	If ...	Then ...	Yes	Go to step 2.	No	Go to step 4.								
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Yes	Go to step 2.														
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2	Have you recently provided your Christmas wish list to a mall Santa?														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>If ...</th> <th>Then ...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>When did the scout elves appear?</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>If ...</th> <th>Then ...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>BEFORE</b> you visited Santa</td> <td>Go to step 4.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>AFTER</b> you visited Santa</td> <td>Go to step 3.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>Go to step 3.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	If ...	Then ...	Yes	When did the scout elves appear?		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>If ...</th> <th>Then ...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>BEFORE</b> you visited Santa</td> <td>Go to step 4.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>AFTER</b> you visited Santa</td> <td>Go to step 3.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	If ...	Then ...	<b>BEFORE</b> you visited Santa	Go to step 4.	<b>AFTER</b> you visited Santa	Go to step 3.	No	Go to step 3.
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# How to Thwart Scout Elves, Continued

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What you need to do (continued)

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Step	Action						
3	<p data-bbox="360 439 1383 472">Refer to the table below to best identify what your last experience with Santa was like.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="360 499 1383 1205"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="360 499 954 533">If ...</th> <th data-bbox="954 499 1383 533">Then ...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="360 533 954 987"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You heard Santa’s lungs wheeze,</li> <li>• You felt Santa fart while you sat on his lap,</li> <li>• Santa’s breath smelled like your father’s after a sporting event or a funeral,</li> <li>• Santa could not remember the names of his reindeer,</li> <li>• Santa threatened to not give you what you want that year,</li> <li>• You saw Santa threaten another child to not give him or her what s/he wanted that year,</li> <li>• You saw Santa get out or into a car, <b>OR</b></li> <li>• You saw Santa kissing a woman who did <b>NOT</b> look like Ms. Claus,</li> </ul> </td> <td data-bbox="954 533 1383 987">Go to step 4.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="360 987 954 1205"><b>NONE</b> of the above apply.</td> <td data-bbox="954 987 1383 1205">                     Tread carefully. The scout elves hidden throughout your home may actually be elves. Swallow every negative feeling or intention you have until December 26.   <b>END OF PROCEDURE</b> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	If ...	Then ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You heard Santa’s lungs wheeze,</li> <li>• You felt Santa fart while you sat on his lap,</li> <li>• Santa’s breath smelled like your father’s after a sporting event or a funeral,</li> <li>• Santa could not remember the names of his reindeer,</li> <li>• Santa threatened to not give you what you want that year,</li> <li>• You saw Santa threaten another child to not give him or her what s/he wanted that year,</li> <li>• You saw Santa get out or into a car, <b>OR</b></li> <li>• You saw Santa kissing a woman who did <b>NOT</b> look like Ms. Claus,</li> </ul>	Go to step 4.	<b>NONE</b> of the above apply.	Tread carefully. The scout elves hidden throughout your home may actually be elves. Swallow every negative feeling or intention you have until December 26.  <b>END OF PROCEDURE</b>
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4	Say nothing to your parents.						
5	Behave as you would normally behave.						
6	After your parents fall asleep, find <b>ALL</b> the scout elves hidden throughout the house or apartment.						
7	Feed the scout elves to the household animals or the garbage disposal.  <b>END OF PROCEDURE</b>						

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