

The best way to recruit a new volunteer is to ask someone to do a specific job – but who should you ask?

It can be difficult to answer that question by yourself, but if you get together with some existing volunteers and some people you know from outside your Group you'll soon be able to think of people you could ask if they'd be willing to volunteer to do a specific job.

A name generation session is a good idea – getting together to think about who you know and who might be good for a specific job (see "[Recruiting Adults - running a name generation evening \(FS500010\)](#)").

When you get together, start with the obvious candidates – parents who you're already engaged with. These are the parents who come into the meeting place and talk to leaders, the ones who turn up twenty minutes before the end of every meeting or who might have said "if there's anything I can do to help...".

In some cases, people might like what they see of Scouting and might want to help, but don't want to push themselves forward. All they need is to be asked.

In other cases, people might not have known that you needed help or might never have thought to volunteer but asking the right person to do the right job might be all that's needed. More than 50% of people start to volunteer simply because they were asked personally to help.

Before you ask someone to help out, try and find out what they're good at. What are their hobbies? What is their job or what was their job? Do they like activities and the outdoors or are they good with paperwork or computers? Rather than make a general request for help, have a few jobs to suggest to them (see "[Identifying and Describing Your Adult Roles](#)").

If you can identify people to ask and can identify what they might be good at, or what they might like to do, they're much more likely to say 'yes'

It all starts with the names of people to ask and if you can get enough people together to suggest some names, you'll soon have a list of names which you can ask about specific jobs.

For more information on organising and running a name generation session see "[Recruiting Adults - running a name generation evening \(FS500010\)](#)".

KEY POINT: People are much more likely to volunteer if you ask them personally to help with a specific job, but you need to know who to ask!