

PINWOOD DERBY DESIGN PREP CHECKLIST

(1) Which award would you like to compete for?

Speed Award

Design Award (Category _____)

Best Craftsmanship

Most Texan

Most Extreme

Best Sports Theme

Best TV or Movie Theme

Most Futuristic

Best Scout Theme

Best Use of Color

Judges' Favorite

Best Non-Car Design

(2) Rough Draft sketch of your car design

(3) Did you want to bake the block?

Yes* No

* Bake before the Cut Clinic

* 1-2 hrs at 250 F, watch closely and make sure it doesn't burn!

(4) Do you want to extend your wheel base?

Yes No

(5) Determine the wood weight after cuts

A) Maximum Weight 5.0 oz

B) Wheels and Axles _____

C) Decorations _____

D) Extra Weights _____

A – B – C – D = _____ oz

(6) Do you want to remove burrs & scratches from your axles and shape the head?

Yes No

(7) Do you want to balance your center of gravity $\frac{3}{4}$ " – 1" in front of the rear axle?

Yes No

(8) Do you have your rough draft sketched onto your block of wood as guidelines for the cut?

Yes No

In the interest of time for the Cut Clinic, please finish as much prep work as possible! Good luck!



PACK 97 PINWOOD DERBY INFO



What is the Pinewood Derby?

The Pinewood Derby is an optional activity (with very high participation) where Scouts transform blocks of wood into a miniature race car powered by gravity. Cars are judged for their speed and designs. The fastest cars and best designs get to take home awards!

Scouts should take the lead for their car so their creativity and ingenuity shows through the car's design and construction.

Adults can help scouts practice crafting skills, such as car design, sanding, and painting, and should take proper safety precautions when using power tools. Let your scout do as much as they can!

!! Important Dates !!

Inspection Day Jan 31, 2026 1 PM – 4 PM

Race Day Feb 1, 2026 1 PM – 4 PM

What Awards can the cars win?

Speed Awards

PACK LEVEL

1st Place

2nd Place

3rd Place

DEN LEVEL

1st Place

2nd Place

3rd Place

4th - 6th Place

Can win Speed Awards on the Den & Pack Level

Design Awards

Best Craftsmanship

Most Texan

Most Extreme

Best Sports Theme

Best TV or Movie Theme

Most Futuristic

Best Scout Theme

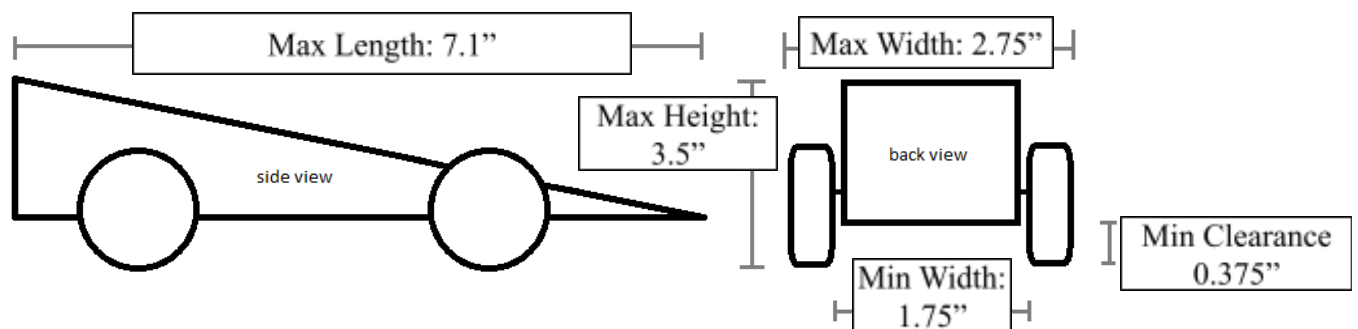
Best Use of Color

Judges' Favorite

Best Non-Car Design

Can only win 1 Design Award

Quick Summary of the Car Guidelines



- Fits within lane, dimensions above
- Maximum weight 5.0 oz
- Car cannot damage the track or other cars
- Wheels say BSA PINWOOD DERBY
- Has 4 Wheels (lifting 1 wheel & tilting OK)
- Only dry lubrication

Arrow of Light Scouts compete in the Outlaw Category – fewer rules for higher stakes competition!

- 10 oz max, don't damage the track or other cars, no Pack Level Speed Awards, no Design Awards

Full Rules on the website: <https://pack97.com/pinewood-derby-rules/>