

Snow Sculpting Club Badges!

Some club members will be motivated to earn one or more of the 8 Snow Sculpting Club badges listed below.

To earn a badge, simply meet the requirements. You might proudly show off your work to bubble friends and family, or even people walking by at a good distance, but they are not required to evaluate your level of success. **You** evaluate whether you have met the requirements of the badge. You will enjoy the feeling of accomplishment while you build skills and confidence to attempt the next badge! Working through the badges sets you up for success as you tackle more demanding snow sculpting goals. On the main **Snow Sculpting Club** menu, slide down to the bottom for newly loaded videos that will support you having success with each badge!

1. First Tower Badge:

A good place to start. Your first tower! Make sure to watch the video on how to release the bucket to ensure a clean removal. Go for it! Someone in your bubble should really give you a high five for this first badge! If you have any trouble with your first tower, I encourage you think about what might have gone wrong and then try again! Two common issues include not packing in the snow enough or improper release of the pail. And don't forget to let it sinter for an hour or two before moving it or carving it! If you decide to carve, a plastic knife or spoon work well. An offset cake spatula, is a great option too. This is a also good opportunity to experiment with new tools. What other safe object can you carve with? A comb? A car window scraper? A piece of wood?

2. Two High Badge:

OK, it's time to stack a second tower on top of the first! If you have already experimented with carving on the first tower you will need to make another tower and leave it intact. That's ok though because you do need time for both towers to sinter—which is the whole trick here. They have to be sintered to be successful. Patience is required. When you lift one of the towers up, you want it to stay together. If you don't wait long enough for a good sinter, it may collapse. To finish this task, gently **place** the second tower on the first. That means don't drop it on--**place** it.



3. Three High Badge:

You've probably already earned the Two High Badge, but now it's time to go even higher! If stacking two was a challenge, it's ok to get help to lift the third tower on top. To increase your chances of success, make sure that the first tower is placed firmly on the ground in a level position. Let the three towers sinter together for a while prior to carving. What will you make? A CN tower? An apartment building with little windows? A face? But don't let me guide you here. It's time to experiment and try things. That's the great thing about snow. It's free! And you can always make more snow towers! Maybe you won't carve a thing, but just enjoy your amazing tower of snow! There is a great video that goes along with this badge. It could help!



4. Arch Badge:

A simple way to tackle this project is to put two towers next to each other with a **just an inch gap** between. Next, put a third tower on top so that it straddles the first two towers. You can now have fun shaping the arch. Your initial gap was minimal—can you carve it somewhat bigger now? Experiment. How thin can you carve the supports before it crashes to the ground? If it does crash down, celebrate your new understanding of how snow structures work and then start on your next project! Will you carve the 'key stone'? Check out the video that goes along with this badge!



Snowbank Productions

Matt Morris

Snow Sculptor

Email: mattjmorris@gmail.com

 [snowbankproductions](https://www.instagram.com/snowbankproductions)

 [Matthew_Morris](https://twitter.com/Matthew_Morris)

<https://snowbankproductions.weebly.com>



5. Hole in One Badge:

For this badge the task is to somehow create a hole in the middle of the tower. Maybe you will shave off the front and back first to reduce the amount of snow that has to be carved through. Use your cake decorating tool, or other tool such as a plastic knife, to slowly and carefully carve your way through. Short 'sawing strokes' with the tool is the best approach. And you can tackle this project from both sides! Once through, have some fun creating something. But what will it be? A donut standing on edge? The letter 'O'? Congratulations! You are developing new skills that you can use as you progress.



6. Build something with someone in your bubble Badge:

Work together. Maybe one person shovels and the other pounds. And then switch so you both experience both jobs. You will have to master the 'immediate bucket release' skill so that you can keep filling buckets before you take a break to let them all sinter. If you can't find someone to work with, that's ok—carry on! Allow yourself to be creative! What will you build? A fort? A wall? A bunch of towers?

7. Letter Badge:

You are now skilled at making mini-towers. Make one more! Next, carve the front flat to create a smooth surface. An offset cake spatula will be an ideal tool here as it will allow you to carve the surface flat without your mitten brushing the tower. Now that you have a smooth surface, your task is to carve the first (capital) letter of your name in the smooth surface. You can actually pick any letter you want! This task will help you practice your fine carving skills. One idea is to practice drawing the letter you have chosen on a piece of paper first. You will quickly note that what you are actually doing is creating a really thick version of the letter. At right is pictured the word SNOW I carved into a 6' tall tower. A serrated plastic knife will work well for some of the finer carving necessary during this task.



8. Penguin Badge:

Penguins are awesome. You can earn the badge with one, but why not make a colony, a rookery or a waddle? You will need two mini-towers stacked one on top of the other. One idea is to carve the penguin looking at the sky vs straight out. This way the penguin bill has a better chance of not breaking off. And be careful not to carve too much off the bill initially. You can fine tune it later. I usually print off some pictures from the internet, place them in a plastic Ziploc bag and take it outside with me for reference. A 'how-to' video appears within the **Snow Sculpting Club** menu. The first penguins I carved did not look much like penguins. But I persisted and got better. Also walking back (about 10') to look at progress is a great way to keep an eye on proportions and balance issues. For example, it will help you determine if your two wings are level with each other. I wish you success with your badges! Have fun!

