



Shotgun Shooting

Merit Badge Workbook



This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

The work space provided for each requirement should be used by the Scout to make notes for discussing the item with his counselor, not for providing the full and complete answers. Each Scout must do each requirement.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in **Boy Scout Requirements** (Pub. 33216 – SKU 34765).

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2013 • This workbook was updated in October 2013.

Scout's Name: _____

Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____

Counselor's Phone No.: _____

<http://www.USScouts.Org> • <http://www.MeritBadge.Org>

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org
Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org

1. Do the following:

- a. Explain why BB and pellet air guns must always be treated with the same respect as firearms.

- b. Describe how you would react if a friend visiting your home asked to see your or your family's firearm(s).

- c. Explain the need for and use and types of eye and hearing protection.

- d. Give the main points of the laws for owning and using guns in your community and state.

- e. Explain how hunting is related to the wise use of renewable wildlife resources.

- ☐ f. Successfully complete a state hunter education course, or obtain a copy of the hunting laws for your state, then do the following:

1. Explain the main points of hunting laws in your state and give any special laws on the use of guns or ammunition, and

2. List the kinds of wildlife that can be legally hunted in your state.

- g. Explain to your counselor the proper hygiene guidelines used in shooting.

- h. Identify and explain three shotgun sports.

1.	
2.	
3.	

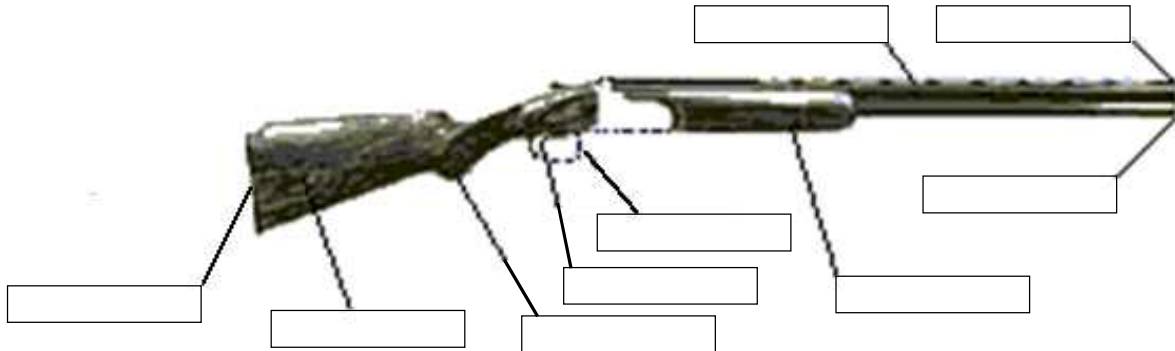
Identify places in your community where you could shoot these sports and explain how you can join or be a part of shooting sports activities.

- i. Give your counselor a list of sources that you could contact for information on firearms and their use.

2. Do ONE of the following options

OPTION A - Shotgun Shooting (Modern Shotshell Type)

- ☐ a. Identify the principal parts of a shotgun, action types, and how they function.

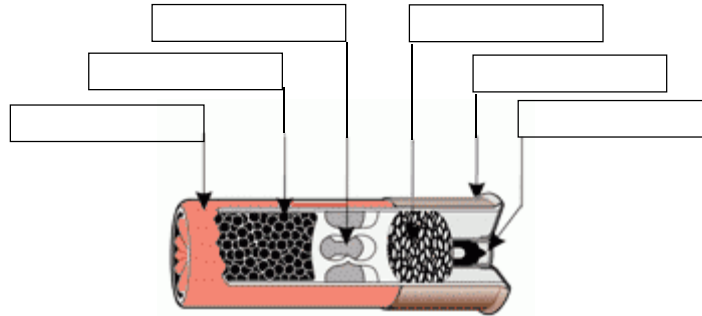
[illegible]

- ☐ b. Identify and demonstrate the rules for safely handling a shotgun.

[illegible]

- ☐ Demonstrate how to handle shotguns in a safe manner.

- ☐ c. Identify the parts of a shotgun shell and their functions.



Part name	Function

- ☐ d. Identify the various gauges of shotguns.

Explain which one you would pick for use and why.

Gauge:

Use

Why?

Gauge:

Use

Why?

Gauge:

Use

Why?

Gauge:

Use

Why?

- ☐ e. Identify and demonstrate the fundamentals of safely shooting a shotgun.

Explain what a misfire, hangfire, and squib fire are, and explain the procedures to follow in response to each.

	What is it?	Procedure to follow in response
Misfire		
Hangfire		
Squib fire		

- ☐ f. Identify and explain each rule for shooting a shotgun safely.

- ☐ g. Demonstrate the knowledge, skill, and attitude necessary to safely shoot moving targets, using the fundamentals of shotgun shooting.
- ☐ h. Identify the materials needed to clean a shotgun.

- ☐ i. Demonstrate how to clean a shotgun properly and safely.
- ☐ j. Discuss what points you would consider in selecting a shotgun.

- ☐ k. Shooting score required - Hit at least 12 out of 25 targets (48%) in two 25-target groups. The two groups need not be shot in consecutive order. A minimum of 50 shots must be fired.

1st Group Score: _____2nd Group Score: _____**Shooting skill rules:**

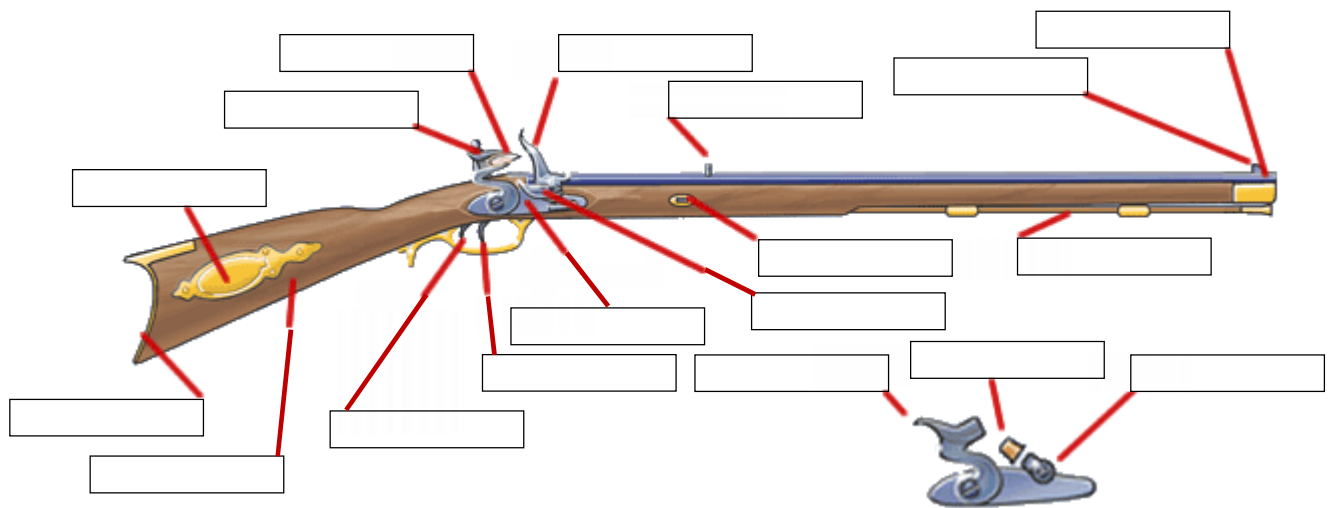
- ⊙ *Targets may be thrown by a hand trap, manual mechanical trap, or on any trap or skeet field. Note: If using a hand trap or manual mechanical trap, the trap operator should be at least 5 feet to the right and 3 feet to the rear of the shooter. If throwing left-handed with a hand trap, the trap operator should be at least 5 feet to the left and 3 feet to the rear of the shooter.*
- ⊙ *All targets should be thrown at a reasonable speed and in the same direction.*
- ⊙ *Targets should be generally thrown so as to climb in the air after leaving trap.*
- ⊙ *Scores may be fired at any time, either in formal competition or in practice.*
- ⊙ *Any gauge shotgun not exceeding 12 gauge may be used.*
- ⊙ *Only commercially manufactured ammunition may be used. Reloads may not be used in BSA shooting sports programs.*
- ⊙ *Shooters must shoot in rounds of 25. Rounds need not be shot continuously on the same day (the term "round" refers to a single series of 25 shots).*
- ⊙ *If using a trap field, shoot station 3 with traps set to throw straightaway targets.*
- ⊙ *If using a skeet field, shoot station 7 low house.*

OPTION B - Muzzle-Loading Shotgun Shooting

- ☐ a. Discuss a brief history of the development of the muzzle-loading shotgun.

[illegible]

- ☐ b. Identify principal parts of percussion and flintlock shotguns and discuss how they function.

[illegible]

Part Name	Function

- ☐ c. Demonstrate and discuss the rules for safely handling a muzzle-loading shotgun.

- ☐ d. Identify the various grades of black powder and their proper and safe use.

- ☐ e. Discuss proper safety procedures pertaining to black powder use and storage.

- ☐ f. Discuss proper components of a load.

- ☐ g. Identify proper procedures and accessories used for safely loading a muzzle-loading shotgun.

- ☐ h. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a muzzle-loading shotgun on a range, including range procedures.

Explain what a misfire, hangfire, and squibfire are, and explain the procedures to follow in response to each.

	What is it?	Procedure to follow in response
Misfire		
Hangfire		
Squib fire		

- ☐ i. Shoot a moving target with a muzzle-loading shotgun using the five fundamentals of firing the shot.

- ☐ j. Identify the materials needed to clean a muzzle-loading shotgun properly and safely.

- ☐ k. Demonstrate how to clean a muzzle-loading shotgun safely.

- ☐ l. Identify the causes of a muzzle-loading shotgun's failure to fire and explain or demonstrate proper preventive procedures.

- ☐ m. Discuss what points you would consider in selecting a muzzle-loading shotgun.

- ☐ n. Shooting skill required -- Hit at least 5 out of 15 targets in each of two 15-target groups. The two groups need not be shot in consecutive order. A minimum of 30 shots must be fired.

1st Group Score: _____

2nd Group Score: _____

Shooting skill rules:

- ⊙ *Targets may be thrown by a hand trap, manual mechanical trap, or on any trap or skeet field. Note: if using a hand trap or manual mechanical trap, the trap operator should be at least 5 feet to the right and 3 feet to the rear of the shooter. If throwing left-handed with a hand trap, the trap operator should be at least 5 feet to the left and 3 feet to the rear of the shooter.*
- ⊙ *All targets should be thrown at a reasonable speed and in the same direction.*
- ⊙ *Targets should be generally thrown so as to climb in the air after leaving trap.*
- ⊙ *Scores may be fired at any time, either in formal competition or in practice.*
- ⊙ *Any gauge shotgun not exceeding 10 gauge may be used.*
- ⊙ *Standard clay targets customarily used for trap and skeet are to be used.*
- ⊙ *On a standard trap field, the shooter should be positioned 8 yards behind the trap house. The trap should be set to throw only straightaway targets*
- ⊙ *On a skeet field, shoot station 7 low house.*

Requirement resources can be found here:

http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Shotgun_Shooting#Requirement_resources

Important excerpts from the [Guide To Advancement - 2013](#), No. 33088 (SKU-618673)

[1.0.0.0] — Introduction

The current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* is the official source for administering advancement in all Boy Scouts of America programs: Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting, Venturing, and Sea Scouts. It replaces any previous BSA advancement manuals, including *Advancement Committee Policies and Procedures*, *Advancement and Recognition Policies and Procedures*, and previous editions of the *Guide to Advancement*.

[Page 2, and 5.0.1.4] — Policy on Unauthorized Changes to Advancement Program

No council, committee, district, unit, or individual has the authority to add to, or subtract from, advancement requirements. There are limited exceptions relating only to youth members with special needs. For details see section 10, "Advancement for Members With Special Needs".

[Page 2] — The "Guide to Safe Scouting" Applies

Policies and procedures outlined in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, No. 34416, apply to all BSA activities, including those related to advancement and Eagle Scout service projects.

[7.0.3.1] — The Buddy System and Certifying Completion

A youth member must not meet one-on-one with an adult. Sessions with counselors must take place where others can view the interaction, or the Scout must have a buddy: a friend, parent, guardian, brother, sister, or other relative—or better yet, another Scout working on the same badge—along with him attending the session.

When the Scout meets with the counselor, he should bring any required projects. If these cannot be transported, he should present evidence, such as photographs or adult verification. His unit leader, for example, might state that a satisfactory bridge or tower has been built for the Pioneering merit badge, or that meals were prepared for Cooking. If there are questions that requirements were met, a counselor may confirm with adults involved. Once satisfied, the counselor signs the blue card using the date upon which the Scout completed the requirements, or in the case of partials, initials the individual requirements passed.

Note that from time to time, it may be appropriate for a requirement that has been met for one badge to also count for another. See "Fulfilling More Than One Requirement With a Single Activity," 4.2.3.6.

[7.0.3.2] — Group Instruction

It is acceptable—and sometimes desirable—for merit badges to be taught in group settings. This often occurs at camp and merit badge midways or similar events. Interactive group discussions can support learning. The method can also be attractive to "guest experts" assisting registered and approved counselors. Slide shows, skits, demonstrations, panels, and various other techniques can also be employed, but as any teacher can attest, not everyone will learn all the material.

There must be attention to each individual's projects and his fulfillment of *all* requirements. We must know that every Scout—actually and *personally*—completed them. If, for example, a requirement uses words like "show," "demonstrate," or "discuss," then every Scout must do that. It is unacceptable to award badges on the basis of sitting in classrooms *watching* demonstrations, or remaining silent during discussions.

It is sometimes reported that Scouts who have received merit badges through group instructional settings have not fulfilled all the requirements. To offer a quality merit badge program, council and district advancement committees should ensure the following are in place for all group instructional events.

- Merit badge counselors are known to be registered and approved.
- Any guest experts or guest speakers, or others assisting who are not registered and approved as merit badge counselors, do not accept the responsibilities of, or behave as, merit badge counselors, either at a group instructional event or at any other time. Their service is temporary, not ongoing.
- Counselors agree not to assume prerequisites have been completed without some level of evidence that the work has been done. Pictures and letters from other merit badge counselors or unit leaders are the best form of prerequisite documentation when the actual work done cannot be brought to the camp or site of the merit badge event.
- There is a mechanism for unit leaders or others to report concerns to a council advancement committee on summer camp merit badge programs, group instructional events, and any other merit badge counseling issues—especially in instances where it is believed BSA procedures are not followed. See "Reporting Merit Badge Counseling Concerns," 11.1.0.0.
- There must be attention to each individual's projects and his fulfillment of all requirements. We must know that every Scout—actually and personally—completed them.

[7.0.3.3] — Partial Completions

A Scout need not pass all the requirements of one merit badge with the same counselor. It may be that due to timing or location issues, etc., he must meet with a different counselor to finish the badge. The Application for Merit Badge has a place to record what has been finished—a "partial." In the center section on the reverse of the blue card, the counselor initials for each requirement passed. In the case of a partial completion, the counselor does not retain his or her portion of the card. A subsequent counselor may choose not to accept partial work, but this should be rare. A Scout, if he believes he is being treated unfairly, may work with his unit leader to find another counselor. An example for the use of a signed partial would be to take it to camp as proof of prerequisites. Partials have no expiration except the Scout's 18th birthday. Units, districts, or councils shall not establish other expiration dates for partial merit badges.

[7.0.4.8] — Unofficial Worksheets and Learning Aids

Worksheets and other materials that may be of assistance in earning merit badges are available from a variety of places including unofficial sources on the Internet and even troop libraries. Use of these aids is permissible as long as the materials can be correlated with the current requirements that Scouts must fulfill. Completing "worksheets" may suffice where a requirement calls for something in writing, but this would not work for a requirement where the Scout must discuss, tell, show, or demonstrate, etc. Note that Scouts shall not be required to use these learning aids in order to complete a merit badge.