

# **Stamp Collecting**

# 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 <u>200</u>	17 • This workbook was updated in <u>January 2014</u> .	
cout's Name:	Unit:	
Counselor's Name:		
http://www.LISScouts.Org	<ul> <li>http://www.MeritBadge.Org</li> </ul>	
	ions about this workbook to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org	
Comments or suggestions for changes to the <u>requirements</u> fo	or the merit badge should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org	
. Do the following:		
stamps.	aces, institutions, history, and geography as a result of collecting	
b. Briefly describe some aspects of the history, growt	th, and development of the United States postal system.	

Sta	mp Colle	cting Scout's Name:
		Tell how it is different from postal systems in other countries.
2.	Define t	opical stamp collecting.
	Name a	and describe types of stamp collections.
2	Charre	A location of a calculation of a calculation of the fall actions.
3.		t least ONE example of each of the following:  Perforated and imperforate stamps
		Mint and used stamps
		Sheet-booklet and coil stamps
		Numbers on plate block, booklet, coil, or marginal markings
		Overprint and surcharge
		Metered mail
	_	Definitive, commemorative, semipostal, and airmail stamps
		Cancellation and postmark
		First day cover

Stamp Colle	cting Scout's Name:
4. Do the f	
	Demonstrate the use of ONE standard catalog for several different stamp issues. Explain why catalog value can vary from the corresponding purchase price.
b.	Explain the meaning of the term CONDITION as used to describe a stamp.
	Show examples that illustrate the different factors that affect a stamp's value.
	strate the use of at least THREE of the following stamp collector's tool:
	Stamp tongs
	Water and Tray
	Magnifiers Hinges and stamp mounts
	Perforation gauge

g. Watermark fluid

☐ f. Glassine envelopes and cover sleeves

Stamp Collecting	Scout's Name:
6. Do the follow	
	ow a stamp album and how to mount stamps with or without hinges.
	Show at least ONE page that displays several stamps.
b. Dis	cuss at least THREE ways you can help to preserve stamps, covers, and albums in first-class condition.
1.	
2.	
3.	
7. Do at least <sup>-</sup>	LΓWO of the following:
	sign a stamp, cancellation, or cachet.

Stamp Collecting	Scout's Name:
□ b. Visit a post office, s	tamp club, or stamp show with an experienced collector. Explain what you saw and learned.
Location Visited:	
Date:	
c. Write a review of ar permission)	interesting article from a stamp newspaper, magazine, book or Web site (with your parent's
<u> </u>	

Sta	mp C	olle	ting Scout's Name:
		d.	Research and report on a famous stamp-related personality or the history behind a particular stamp.
		e.	Describe the steps taken to produce a stamp. Include the methods of printing, types of paper, perforation styles, and how they are gummed.
			Prepare a two-to-three page display involving stamps. Using ingenuity, as well as clippings, drawings, etc., tell a story about the stamps and how they relate to history, geography, or a favorite topic of yours.
8.	Mou		nd show, in a purchased or homemade album, ONE of the following:
			A collection of 250 or more different stamps from at least 15 countries.
			A collection of a stamp from each of 50 different countries, mounted on maps to show the location of each.
			A collection of 100 or more different stamps from either one country or a group of closely related countries.
		u.	A collection of 75 or more different stamps on a single topic. (Some interesting topics are Scouting, birds, insects, the Olympics, sports, flowers, animals, ships, holidays, trains, famous people, space, and medicine). Stamps may be from different countries.
		e.	A collection of postal items discovered in your mail by monitoring over a period of thirty days. Include at least five different types listed in requirement 3.
			Requirement resources can be found here:

http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Stamp Collecting#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.