

Stamp Collecting

Merit Badge Workbook



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

This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor. You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information. You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed, and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.

If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show",

"tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Scouts BSA Requirements (Pub. 33216 – SKU 653801).

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2007 • This workbook was updated in June 2020.

Scout's Name:____ Counselor's Name: Phone No.: Email: 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. Discuss how you can better understand people, places, institutions, history, and geography as a result of collecting b. Briefly describe some aspects of the history, growth, and development of the United States postal system.

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| Sta | mp Collec | cting Scout's Name: |
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| | | Tell how it is different from postal systems in other countries. |
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| 2. | Define to | opical stamp collecting. |
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| | Name a | nd describe types of stamp collections. |
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| 3. | Show at | 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 |
| | | Postal stationery (aerogramme, stamped envelope, and postal card) |

| Sta | ımp Coll | ecting Scout's Name: | | |
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| 4. Do the following: | | | | |
| | | Demonstrate the use of ONE standard catalog for several different stamp issues. Explain why catalog value can vary from the corresponding purchase price. | | |
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| | b | Explain the meaning of the term CONDITION as used to describe a stamp. | | |
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| | | Show examples that illustrate the different factors that affect a stamp's value. | | |
| 5. | | strate the use of at least THREE of the following stamp collector's tool: | | |
| | | Stamp tongs | | |
| | | Water and Tray | | |
| | | Magnifiers | | |
| | | Hinges and stamp mounts | | |
| | □ e | Perforation gauge | | |
| | ☐ f | Glassine envelopes and cover sleeves | | |

g. Watermark fluid

| Stam | p Colle | ecting | Scout's Name: |
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| 6. Do the follow | | | ring: |
| | a. | Sho | w a stamp album and how to mount stamps with or without hinges. |
| | | | Show at least ONE page that displays several stamps. |
| | b. | | cuss at least THREE ways you can help to preserve stamps, covers, and albums in first-class condition. |
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| 7 Г | ງບ at le | ast T | WO of the following: |
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| L | cting | | Scout's Name: | | | |
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| <u> </u> | Visit a post office, sta | amp club, or stamp sh | ow with an experie | nced collector. | Explain what you s | aw and learned. |
| | Location Visited: | | | | | |
| | Date: | | | | | |
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| □ c. | Write a review of an permission) | interesting article from | ı a stamp newspap | er, magazine, l | book or website (wit | th your parent's |
| c. | Write a review of an permission) | interesting article from | ı a stamp newspap | er, magazine, l | book or website (wit | th your parent's |
| C. | Write a review of an permission) | interesting article from | a stamp newspap | er, magazine, l | book or website (wit | th your parent's |
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| c. | Write a review of an permission) | interesting article fron | a stamp newspap | er, magazine, l | book or website (with | th your parent's |

| Sta | mp C | olle | cting Scout's Name: |
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| | | d. | Research and report on a famous stamp-related personality or the history behind a particular stamp. |
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| | | e. | Describe the steps taken to produce a stamp. Include the methods of printing, types of paper, perforation styles, and how they are gummed. |
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| | | f. | 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 | ınt a | nd show, in a purchased or homemade album, ONE of the following: |
| | | a. | A collection of 250 or more different stamps from at least 15 countries. |
| | | b. | A collection of a stamp from each of 50 different countries, mounted on maps to show the location of each. |
| | | C. | A collection of 100 or more different stamps from either one country or a group of closely related countries. |
| | | d. | 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. |
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When working on merit badges, Scouts and Scouters should be aware of some vital information in the current edition of the Guide to Advancement (BSA publication 33088).Important excerpts from that publication can be downloaded from http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf.
You can download a complete copy of the *Guide to Advancement* from http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf.