



# 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

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](mailto:Workbooks@USScouts.Org)

Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: [Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org](mailto: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 stamps.


- b. Briefly describe some aspects of the history, growth, and development of the United States postal system.


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Tell how it is different from postal systems in other countries.


2. Define topical stamp collecting.


Name and describe types of stamp collections.


3. Show at least ONE example of each of the following:

- a. Perforated and imperforate stamps
- b. Mint and used stamps
- c. Sheet-booklet and coil stamps
- d. Numbers on plate block, booklet, coil, or marginal markings
- e. Overprint and surcharge
- f. Metered mail
- g. Definitive, commemorative, semipostal, and airmail stamps
- h. Cancellation and postmark
- i. First day cover
- j. Postal stationery (aerogramme, stamped envelope, and postal card)



6. Do the following:

- a. Show a stamp album and how to mount stamps with or without hinges.
  - Show at least ONE page that displays several stamps.
- b. Discuss at least THREE ways you can help to preserve stamps, covers, and albums in first-class condition.

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7. Do at least TWO of the following:

- a. Design a stamp, cancellation, or cachet.

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