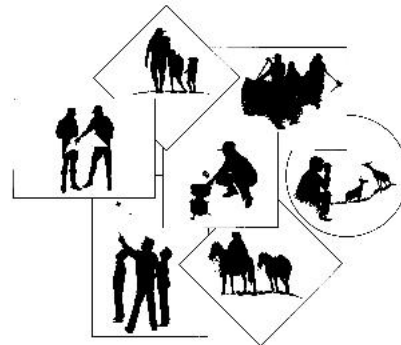


How to earn a Merit Badge

Pick a Subject. Find a merit badge that interests you and read the requirements of the merit badge. With more than 135 merit badges to choose from you are sure to find something that interests you. Maybe you need a Merit Badge for that next rank requirement. The Troop has many Merit Badge books to check out. Once you have selected a merit badge that you would like to earn, it's time to act!



Talk to your Scoutmaster. Talk to your Scoutmaster about your interests. Your Scoutmaster will give you the name of a person from a list of counselors. These individuals have special knowledge in their merit badge subjects and are interested in helping you. Get a blue card from the Advancement coordinator in the Troop. Once you have the counselor's contact information it's time to get started!

Work with the Merit Badge counselor. Now that you have contacted the counselor, you may begin working on the Merit Badge. If you have requirements you have already done go over those with the counselor to see if you can get credit for them. Using the Merit Badge book and other resources complete the work that is required. When you are done meet with the counselor to show your work and to get the Blue Card signed by them. Remember you always need another person with you any time you meet with your Counselor.



Get your Award. After you have completed the work on the badge and the counselor has signed it, present your Blue Card to your Scoutmaster. Your Scoutmaster will sign the card and give it back to you. Present the card to the Advancement coordinator. The Advancement coordinator will record your Merit Badge and present your Merit Badge to you! Remember: You are expected to meet the requirements as they are stated—no more and no less. You must do exactly what is stated in the requirements. If it says "show or demonstrate," that is what you must do. Just telling about it isn't enough. The same thing holds true for such words as "make," "list," "in the field," and "collect," "identify," and "label."

Remember. It is the responsibility of the scout to:

- Pick a badge to work on.
- Keep track of his progress
- Turn in his blue card for credit and to save it after he receives it.
- **HAVE FUN!**

