



Stamp Collecting Merit Badge Workbook

SCOUTMASTER BUCKY

Scouts participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky merit badge opportunity, whether online or in person, should consider using the Stamp Collecting merit badge pamphlet for discovery and knowledge, along with the class preparation pages for clarifications, insights, and expectations.

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/stamp-collecting/stamp-collecting-pamphlet.pdf>

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/stamp-collecting/stamp-collecting-cpp.pdf>

REQUIREMENT 7c REQUIRES PARENT / GUARDIAN PERMISSION.

REQUIREMENT 1a: Discuss how you can better understand people, places, institutions, history, and geography as a result of collecting stamps.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 1b: Briefly describe some aspects of the history, growth, and development of the United States postal system.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 1b: Tell how it (the United States postal system) is different from postal systems in other countries.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 2: Define topical stamp collecting.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 2: Name and describe three other types of stamp collections.

Stamp Collecting Type 1:

Stamp Collecting Type 2:

Stamp Collecting Type 3:

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

- | | |
|--|--|
| a. perforated and imperforate stamps | f. metered mail |
| b. mint and used stamps | g. definitive, commemorative, semipostal, and airmail stamps |
| c. sheet, booklet, and coil stamps | h. cancellation and postmark |
| d. numbers on plate block, booklet, coil, or marginal markings | i. first day cover |
| e. overprint and surcharge | j. postal stationary (aerogramme, stamped envelope, and postal card) |

You will need to do some preparation work for this requirement – start gathering necessary items

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!



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REQUIREMENT 4a: Demonstrate the use of ONE standard catalog for several different stamp issues.

NOTE: The requirement states “**several**,” meaning more than 2 – consider online sources as well as printed catalogs

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

[Mystic Stamp Company](#) this is a catalog for purchasing stamps (you can also download it as a PDF)

[Colnect - Stamps US](#) also has worldwide stamp catalogs (and even other collection types) – not all listing have values but many offer items for sale

[StampWorld](#) one the largest on the internet – reference, buy, and sell

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 4a: Explain why catalog value can vary from the corresponding purchase price.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 4b: Explain the meaning of the term *condition* as used to describe a stamp.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 4b: Show examples that illustrate the different factors that affect a stamp's value.

You will need to do some preparation work for this requirement – start gathering necessary items

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Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 5: Demonstrate the use of at least THREE of the following stamp collector's tools:

a. stamp tongs	d. hinges and stamp mounts	g. watermark fluid
b. water and tray	e. perforation gauge	
c. magnifiers	f. glassine envelopes and cover sleeves	

Gather your tools!

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

REQUIREMENT 6a: Show a stamp album and how to mount stamps with or without hinges. Show at least ONE page that displays several stamps.

Mystic Stamp Company ([website](#)) has generously provided a FREE United States Historical Postage Stamp Album that you can print out. Simply [click here](#) to download.

The pages are intended to be printed double-sided. It is 331 pages in length and will require 166 pieces of 8-1/2 x 11 paper to print on both sides. Simply put these pages in a three-ring binder and you now have an impressive beginner's US Stamp Album.

If you would like a more formal stamp binder specific for these pages, [Mystic Stamp offers a specialized binder](#) as well as variety packs or specific stamps to collect.

Scoutmaster Bucky is referencing Mystic Stamp Company because of their generously offered and free stamp album pages and is not being compensated by or endorsing Mystic Stamp Company.

Gather your stamps!

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

REQUIREMENT 6b: Discuss at least THREE ways you can help to preserve stamps, covers, and albums in first-class condition.

Preservation Method / Practice #1:

Preservation Method / Practice #2:

Preservation Method / Practice #3:



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DO TWO OF THE FOLLOWING (7A, 7B, 7C, 7D, 7E, or 7F) FOR REQUIREMENT 7

REQUIREMENT 7a: Design a stamp, cancellation, or cachet.



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REQUIREMENT 7b: Visit a post office, stamp club, or stamp show with an experienced collector. Explain what you saw and learned.

Place Visited:

Visited with (person's name and title):

Date and Time Visited:

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 7c: Write a review of an interesting article from a stamp newspaper, magazine, book, or website (with your parent or guardian's permission).

Article to include from what publication and publication date:

PARENT / GUARDIAN PERMISSION: IS REQUIRED.

Parent's / Guardian's Name

Phone or Email

Parent's / Guardian's Signature

Date ☐ *permission*

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 7d: Research and report on a famous stamp-related personality or the history behind a particular stamp.

Stamp-related Personality or Stamp selected:

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 7e: Describe the steps taken to produce a stamp. Include the methods of printing, types of paper, perforation styles, and how they are gummed.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 7f: 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.

This will require some preparation work – and don't forget to bring your completed work to share

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

REQUIREMENT 8: Mount and 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 it over a period of 30 days. Include at least five different types listed in requirement 3.

Have fun with this – you may find a new hobby

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

