



**STAMP COLLECTING MERIT BADGE WORKBOOK**

This Scoutmaster Bucky Merit Badge Workbook is based off the 2021 Scouts BSA Requirements.

Consider also using the Stamp Collecting merit badge class preparation page for clarification and expectations when participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky merit badge opportunity (online or in-person).

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

Scout's Name:

**REQUIREMENT 1:** Do the following:

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

**REQUIREMENT 1B:** Briefly describe some aspects of the history, growth, and development of the United States postal system. Tell how it is different from postal systems in other countries.



**REQUIREMENT 2:** Define topical stamp collecting. Name and describe three other types of stamp collections.

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

**REQUIREMENT 3A:** Perforated and imperforate stamps

**REQUIREMENT 3B:** Mint and used stamps



**REQUIREMENT 3C:** Sheet-booklet and coil stamps

**REQUIREMENT 3D:** Numbers on plate block, booklet, coil, or marginal markings

**REQUIREMENT 3E:** Overprint and surcharge

**REQUIREMENT 3F:** Metered mail



**REQUIREMENT 3G:** Definitive, commemorative, semipostal, and airmail stamps

**REQUIREMENT 3H:** Cancellation and postmark

**REQUIREMENT 3I:** First day cover

**REQUIREMENT 3J:** Postal stationery (aerogramme, stamped envelope, and postal card)



**REQUIREMENT 4:** Do the following:

**REQUIREMENT 4A:** Demonstrate the use of ONE standard catalog for several different stamp issues. Explain why catalog value can vary from the corresponding purchase price.

**REQUIREMENT 4B:** 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.

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



**REQUIREMENT 5A: Stamp tongs**

**REQUIREMENT 5B: Water and Tray**

**REQUIREMENT 5C: Magnifiers**

**REQUIREMENT 5D: Hinges and stamp mounts**



**REQUIREMENT 5E:** Perforation gauge

**REQUIREMENT 5F:** Glassine envelopes and cover sleeves

**REQUIREMENT 5G:** Watermark fluid

**REQUIREMENT 6:** Do the following:



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

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

**REQUIREMENT 7:** Do at least TWO of the following:

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





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

**REQUIREMENT 7C:** Write a review of an interesting article from a stamp newspaper, magazine, book or Web site (with your parent's permission).

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

**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.



**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.

**REQUIREMENT 8:** Mount and show, in a purchased or homemade album, ONE of the following:

**REQUIREMENT 8A:** A collection of 250 or more different stamps from at least 15 countries.

**REQUIREMENT 8B:** A collection of a stamp from each of 50 different countries, mounted on maps to show the location of each.



**REQUIREMENT 8C:** A collection of 100 or more different stamps from either one country or a group of closely related countries.

**REQUIREMENT 8D:** 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.

**REQUIREMENT 8E:** 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.