

2010 Historical Merit Badges

Officially released on April 1, 2010. These merit badges must be completed by December 31, 2010.

http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/historical_mb_program.aspx

Historical Merit Badge Program

Merit badges have been a fixture of the Boy Scouts of America since its inception in 1910. The requirements that generations of Scouts have completed have taught lifetime citizenship lessons, personal fitness habits, and life skills. They have been the beginnings of countless careers and lifetime hobbies. In the last 99 years, there have been many changes in the merit badge offerings. As society has changed, the Boy Scouts of America has adapted by revising the requirements, implementing name changes, adding new merit badges, and in some instances, eliminating some badges altogether.

For the 100th Anniversary Celebration, four vintage merit badges are being released for the centennial celebration year only, giving Boy Scouts the hands-on opportunity to experience the exciting past of Scouting while learning how our world has changed in that 100 years.

Here are the basics of the 2010 Historic Merit Badge program.

- An overall goal of the program is for a majority of the BSA's registered Boy Scouts to earn one or more of the merit badges during the centennial year, 2010.
- The badges offered have a history that can be traced back to the origins of the BSA.
- The original requirements are being used, as well as supported by scanned pages of the early merit badge pamphlets so a Scout can view what a Scout 100 years ago used. Supporting the scanned pages of the original pamphlets are information guides for each merit badge that explain what a Scout of 1910 might have experienced, along with background information to assist a Scout in understanding what maybe unfamiliar terms.
- The contemporary merit badges closely resemble the original designs of their counterparts with the exception of the border, which is gold. The unique border will immediately identify it as a 2010 historic merit badge.
- The four historical merit badges may be used toward a Scout's rank advancement.
- The effective date for earning these new merit badges is April 1, 2010, and requirements must be completed no later than Dec. 31, 2010.
- The BSA will not reprint the pamphlets for these merit badges. Reprints of the original merit badge pamphlets are posted to www.scouting.org/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/MeritBadges.aspx.
- As with all merit badges, units, districts, and councils should recruit and register qualified counselors for these badges.

Badges may be earned by individual Scouts. District and council advancement committees are encouraged to offer opportunities for Scouts to work on at least some of these merit badges at resident camp, at camporees, or during special anniversary celebrations.



Carpentry - Historic Merit Badge

Link to BSA National's webpage for this Historical Merit Badge:

http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/MeritBadges/2010_mb_carpentry.aspx

Merit Badge pamphlet in .pdf: http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/historic_carpentry_new.pdf

Requirements

1. To obtain a Merit Badge for Carpentry, a Scout must:
2. Demonstrate the use of the rule, square, level, plumb-line, mitre, chalk-line and bevel.
3. Demonstrate the proper way to drive, set, and clinch a nail, draw a spike with a claw-hammer, and to join two pieces of wood with screws.
4. Show correct use of the cross-cut saw and of the rip-saw.
5. Show how to plane the edge, end and the broad surface of a board.
6. Demonstrate how to lay shingles.
7. Make a simple article of furniture for practical use in the home or on the home grounds, finished in a workmanlike manner, all work to be done without assistance.



Pathfinding - Historic Merit Badge

Link to BSA National's webpage for this Historical Merit Badge:

http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/MeritBadges/2010_mb_carpentry.aspx

Merit Badge pamphlet in .pdf: http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/historic_pathfinding_new.pdf

Requirements

To obtain a merit badge for Pathfinding, a Scout must:

1. In the country, know every lane, bypath, and short cut for a distance of at least two miles in every direction around the local scout headquarters; or in a city, have a general knowledge of the district within a three-mile radius of the local scout headquarters, so as to be able to guide people at any time, by day or by night.
2. Know the population of the five principal neighboring towns, their general direction from his scout headquarters, and be able to give strangers correct directions how to reach them.
3. If in the country, know in a two mile radius, the approximate number of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs owned on the five neighboring farms; or, in a town, know, in a half-mile radius, the location of livery stables, garages and blacksmith shops.
4. Know the location of the nearest meat markets, bakeries, groceries, and drug stores.
5. Know the location of the nearest police station, hospital, doctor, fire alarm, fire hydrant, telegraph and telephone offices, and railroad stations.
6. Know something of the history of his place; and know the location of its principal public buildings, such as the town or city hall, post-office, schools and churches.
7. Submit a map not necessarily drawn by himself upon which he personally has indicated as much as possible of the above information.



Signaling - Historic Merit Badge

Link to BSA National's webpage for this Historical Merit Badge:

http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/MeritBadges/2010_mb_signaling.aspx

Merit Badge pamphlet in .pdf: http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/historic_signaling_new.pdf

Requirements

To obtain a Merit Badge for Signaling, a Scout must:

1. Make an electric buzzer outfit, wireless, blinker, or other signaling device.
2. Send and receive in the International Morse Code, by buzzer or other sound device, a complete message of not less than 35 words, at a rate of not less than 35 letters per minute.
3. Demonstrate an ability to send and receive a message in the International Morse Code by wigwag and by blinker or other light signaling device at the rate of not less than 20 letters per minute.
4. Send and receive by Semaphore Code at the rate of not less than 30 letters per minute.
5. Know the proper application of the International Morse and Semaphore Codes; when, where, and how they can be used to best advantage.
6. Discuss briefly various other codes and methods of signaling which are in common use.



Tracking - Historic Merit Badge

Link to BSA National's webpage for this Historical Merit Badge:

http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/MeritBadges/2010_mb_tracking.aspx

Merit Badge pamphlet in .pdf: http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/historic_tracking_new.pdf

Requirements

(NOTE: Initial information on the BSA website did not include requirement #4, the tracking of a human being. However, the requirement was recently added back in the list and IS a requirement. The following are the proper requirements.)

To obtain a Merit Badge for [Tracking], a Scout must:

1. Demonstrate by means of a [tracking] game or otherwise, ability to [track] skillfully in shelter and wind, etc., showing how to proceed noiselessly and “freeze” when occasion demands.
2. Know and recognize the tracks of ten different kinds of animals or birds in his vicinity, three of which may be domestic.
3. Submit satisfactory evidence that he has trailed two different kinds of wild animals or birds on ordinary ground far enough to determine the direction in which they were going, and their gait or speed. Give the names of animals or birds trailed, their direction of travel, and describe gait and speed; or submit satisfactory evidence that he has trailed six different kinds of wild animal or birds in snow, sand, dust, or mud, far enough to determine the direction they were going and their gait or speed. Give names of animals or birds, their direction of travel, and describe gait and speed.
4. Submit satisfactory evidence that he has tracked a human being and deduced from the trail whether it was man or woman, young or old, the gait or speed, and also give any other information deduced.
5. Submit evidence that he has scored at least 30 points from the following groups:
Group (f) and 4 of the 5 groups (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) must be represented in the score of 30 and at least 7 points must be scored from (a), (b), or (c).
Make clear recognizable photographs of
 - (a) Live bird away from nest - 4 points each
 - (b) Live woodchuck or smaller wild animal - 3 points each
 - (c) Live wild animal larger than woodchuck - 4 points each
 - (d) Live bird on nest - 3 points each
 - (e) Tracks of live wild animal or bird - 2 points eachAND
 - (f) Make satisfactory plaster cast of wild animal or bird tracks with identification imprint on back of cast - 2 points each

(doc compiled 4/1/10 by Christy Brown Anderson, Mt Rubidoux District Merit Badge Counselor
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