

HOW DO I EARN A MERIT BADGE?

To start and complete a merit badge, scouts should do the following:

1. Get a merit badge application, or “Blue Card.” You can get a Blue Card from the Scout Shop, or print one out from the Troop 697 website (see below). The Scoutmaster or Advancement Chair may have an extra one that they can give you.
(http://bsatroop697.com/forms/BSA_Merit_Badge_Blue_Card_Blank.pdf)
2. Complete the “Merit Badge Application” section of the Blue Card.
3. See the Scoutmaster (or designated Assistant Scoutmaster if the Scoutmaster is not available). When the Scoutmaster determines that you are qualified to begin working on the merit badge, he will sign your Merit Badge Application.
4. The Scoutmaster will then identify and assign a Merit Badge Counselor. If you are attending a District Advancement Day or similar event, a Merit Badge Counselor will be provided there.
5. Meet with your Merit Badge Counselor at an appropriate place and time to discuss your plans for completing the requirements.
6. As you complete the merit badge requirements, the Counselor will review and approve each one. When you have completed all requirements, the Counselor will approve your merit badge application. Tear off the “Counselor’s Record” section of the blue card and give it to the Merit Badge Counselor for his or her records.
7. Tear off and keep the “Applicant’s Record” section of the blue card. Give the completed and signed “Merit Badge Application” portion of the blue card to the Scoutmaster.
8. The Scoutmaster will report your completion of the Merit Badge to the Advancement Chair, and will present you with your Merit Badge at an upcoming Troop Meeting.
9. You will be recognized for completing the Merit Badge at the next Troop Court of Honor.

Merit Badges earned at summer camp:

If you work on merit badges at summer camp, camp staff will provide documentation to the Troop. You will be presented with merit badges you have completed at an upcoming Troop meeting, and be recognized at the next Court of Honor.

If you completed some but not all of the requirements for a merit badge at camp, fill out a blue card and follow the steps above for the remaining requirements.