



Coin Collecting

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet (book). No one can add or subtract from the Boy Scout Requirements #33215. Merit Badge Workbooks and much more are below: [Online Resources](#).

Workbook developer: craig@craiglincoln.com. Requirements revised: 2008, Workbook updated: August 2008.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Ph #: _____

1. Understand how coins are made, _____

and where the active U.S. Mint facilities are located. _____

2. Explain these collecting terms:

a. Obverse _____

b. Reverse _____

c. Reeding _____

d. Clad _____

e. Type set _____

f. Date set _____

Explain the grading terms

Uncirculated, _____

Extremely Fine, _____

Very Fine, _____

Fine, _____

Very Good, _____

Good, _____

and Poor. _____

Show five different grade examples of the same coin type. _____

Explain the term "proof" _____

and why it is not a grade. _____

Tell what "encapsulated" coins are. _____

4. Know three different ways to store a collection, and describe the benefits, drawbacks, and expenses of each method.

Method _____

Benefits _____

Drawbacks _____

Expense _____

Method _____

Benefits _____

Drawbacks _____

Expense _____

Method _____

Benefits _____

Drawbacks _____

Expense _____

Pick one to use when completing requirements. _____

5. Do the following:

a. Demonstrate to your counselor that you know how to use two U.S. or world coin reference catalogs.

b. Read a numismatic magazine or newspaper: _____
and tell your counselor about what you learned. _____

6. Describe the 1999-2008 50 State Quarters Program. _____

Collect and show your counselor five different quarters you have acquired from circulation. _____

7. Collect from circulation a set of currently circulating U.S. coins. Include one coin of each denomination (cent, nickel, dime, quarter, half-dollar, dollar).

For each coin, locate the mint marks, if any, and the designer's initials, if any.

cent, _____

nickel, _____

dime, _____

quarter, _____

half-dollar, _____

dollar _____

8. Do the following:

A. Identify the people depicted on the following denominations of current U.S. paper money:

\$1, _____

\$2, _____

\$5, _____

\$10, _____

\$20, _____

\$50, _____

and \$100 _____

B. Explain "legal tender." _____

C. Describe the role the Federal Reserve System plays in the distribution of currency. _____

9. Do ONE of the following:

a. Collect and identify 50 foreign coins from at least 10 different countries. _____

-OR- b. Collect and identify 20 bank notes from at least five different countries. _____

-OR- c. Collect and identify 15 different tokens or medals. _____

-OR- d. For each year since the year of your birth, collect a date set of a single type of coin. _____

10. Do ONE of the following:

a. Tour a U.S. Mint facility, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing facility, or a Federal Reserve bank, or a numismatic museum or exhibit, and describe what you learned to your counselor.

-OR- b. With your parent's permission, attend a coin show or coin club meeting, or view the Web site of the U.S. Mint or a coin dealer, and report what you learned. (Note: Per National, "parent's" means "parent's or guardian's".)

-OR- c. Give a talk about coin collecting to a group such as your troop, a Cub Scout pack, or class at school.

-OR- d. Do drawings of five Colonial-era U.S. coins.

Online Resources (Use any Internet resource with caution and only with your parent's or guardian's permission.)

Boy Scouts of America: ► scouting.org ► [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) ► [Age-Appropriate Guidelines](#) ► [Safe Swim Defense](#)
 ► [Scout](#) ► [Tenderfoot](#) ► [Second Class](#) ► [First Class](#) ► [Rank Videos](#) ► [Safety Afloat](#)

Boy Scout Merit Badge Workbooks: usscouts.org -or- meritbadge.org **Merit Badge Books:** www.scoutstuff.org

Coin Collecting History, Themes, etc.: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coin_collecting

Coin Grading: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coin_grading

US Paper Money History, Photos, Types, etc.: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Reserve_Note

What is the largest denomination US currency? http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Large_denominations_of_United_States_currency

Coin Terminology: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Numismatic_terminology

Magazines

Coin Prices: <http://www.coinpricesmagazine.net>

Coins Magazine: <http://www.coinsmagazine.net>

Numismatic News: <http://www.numismaticnews.net>

World Coin News: <http://www.worldcoinnews.net>

Associations and other links

American Numismatic Association: <http://www.money.org>

American Numismatic Society: <http://www.numismatics.org>

Federal Reserve Districts: <http://www.federalreserve.gov/otherfrb.htm>

National Numismatic Collection Smithsonian Institution: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/numismatics>

Numismatic Guaranty Corporation: <http://www.ngccoin.com/>

Professional Coin Grading Service: <http://www.pcgs.com/>

► [PCGS Coin Prices Online](#)

Society of Paper Money Collectors: <http://www.spmc.org>

Society of U.S. Pattern Collectors: <http://www.uspatterns.com>

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Scout's Name: _____

U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing: <http://www.moneyfactory.com>

U.S. Mint: <http://www.usmint.gov>