



STAMP COLLECTING MERIT BADGE WORK SHEET (BYU/UVU PowWow)

Scout's Name

Instructor's Name

Scout's Address

City

State

ZIP

Instructions

- 1) The Scout is to review the merit badge book before the first week of PowWow.
- 2) Bring this work sheet, paper, and pen or pencil each week.

Requirement Instructions*

- 1) **Prior to PowWow**, the Scout should complete requirement 2, collect items for requirement 3, and begin one of the options in requirement 8. Note that 8e coordinates well with requirement 3. Bring your collection to the PowWow.
- 2) Requirements 1, 3, 5, and 6 will be covered and should be passed off the **first** Saturday of PowWow.
- 3) Requirement 7 should be completed as **homework** in the time between the two sessions of PowWow. Requirement 8 should also be completed as **homework**. Both of these requirements may be passed off on the second Saturday of PowWow.
- 4) Requirement 4 will be covered and should be passed off the **second** Saturday of PowWow.

- Requirements not passed off the first Saturday may be passed off the second Saturday.

*All requirements may be subject to change by the merit badge counselor based on time constraints at the PowWow session. Please listen to all instructions given by the instructor to be aware of any changes.

Requirement 1

Initial

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

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

Initial

Define topical stamp collecting.

Name and describe three other types of stamp collections.

Requirement 3

Initial

Show at least one example of EACH of the following:

- Perforated and imperforate stamps
- Mint and used stamps
- Sheet, booklet, and coil stamps
- Numbers on plate block, booklet, coil, or marginal markings
- Overprint and surcharge
- Metered mail
- Definitive, commemorative, semipostal, and airmail stamps
- Cancellation and postmark
- First day cover
- Postal stationery (aerogramme, stamped envelope, and postal card)

Requirement 4

Initial

Demonstrate the use of ONE standard catalog for several different stamp issues.

Explain why catalog value can vary from the corresponding purchase price.

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

Initial

Demonstrate the use of at least THREE of the following stamp collector's tools. Describe the ones you use.

Stamp tongs:

Water and tray:

Magnifiers:

Hinges and Stamp Mounts:

Perforation gauge:

Glassine envelopes and cover sleeves:

Watermark fluid:

Requirement 6

Initial

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

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

Requirement 7

Initial

Do at least TWO of the following:

- A. Design a stamp, cancellation, or cachet. Show your counselor or attach the original or a copy to this work sheet.
- B. Visit a post office, stamp club, or stamp show with an experienced collector. Explain what you saw and learned on another piece of paper.
- C. Write a review of an interesting article from a stamp newspaper, magazine, book, or Web site (with your parent's permission). Attach a copy of the article and your review to this work sheet.
- D. Research and report on a famous stamp-related personality or the history behind a particular stamp. Attach a copy of your report.
- E. Describe on another piece of paper the steps taken to produce a stamp. Include the methods of printing, types of paper, perforation styles, and how they are gummed.
- F. 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. Present your display to your counselor.

Requirement 8

Initial

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, medicine, etc.) Stamps may be from different countries.
- E. A collection of postal items discovered in your mail by monitoring over a 30-day period. Include at least five different types listed in requirement 3 above.

Merit badge work sheets will not be accepted at the Council Office in place of the official Merit Badge Application Card. Those who do not complete all the requirements should take their partially completed merit badge work sheet and their official application card to their local merit badge counselors for completion.