


Genealogy

From MeritBadgeDotOrg

Resources include the Genealogy merit badge worksheet , links, and cross-references to related badges and awards. [◀Prev](#) - [Next▶](#)

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“ Exploring your roots—where your family name came from, why your family lives where it does, what your parents and grandparents did for fun when they were your age—can be fascinating. Discovering your ancestors back through history ” is what genealogy is all about.

Genealogy merit badge




Status:	Elective
Created:	1972
Discontinued:	no
BSA Advancement ID:	056
Requirements revision:	2006
Latest pamphlet revision:	2013

Genealogy merit badge requirements



1. Explain to your counselor what the words genealogy, ancestor, and descendant mean.
2. Do ONE of the following:
 - a. Do a time line for yourself or for a relative. Then write a short biography based on that time line.
 - b. Keep a journal for 6 weeks. You must write in it at least once a week.
3. With your parent's help, choose a relative or a family acquaintance you can interview in person, by telephone, or by e-mail or letter. Record the information you collect so you do not forget it.
4. Do the following:
 - a. Name three types of genealogical resources and explain how these resources can help you chart your family tree.

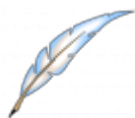
- b. Obtain at least one genealogical document that supports an event that is or can be recorded on your pedigree chart or family group record. The document could be found at home or at a government office, religious organization, archive, or library.
 - c. Tell how you would evaluate the genealogical information you found for requirement 4b.
5. Contact ONE of the following individuals or institutions. Ask what genealogical services, records, or activities this individual or institution provides, and report the results:
 - a. A genealogical or lineage society
 - b. A professional genealogist (someone who gets paid for doing genealogical research)
 - c. A surname organization, such as your family's organization
 - d. A genealogical education facility or institution.
 - e. A genealogical record repository of any type (courthouse, genealogical library, state or national archive, state library, etc.)
 6. Begin your family tree by listing yourself and include at least two additional generations. You may complete this requirement by using the chart provided in the Genealogy merit badge pamphlet or the genealogy software program of your choice.
 7. Complete a family group record form, listing yourself and your brothers and sisters as the children. On another family group record form, show one of your parents and his or her brothers and sisters as the children. This requirement may be completed using the chart provided or the genealogy software program of your choice.
 8. Do the following:
 - a. Explain the effect computers and the Internet are having on the world of genealogy.
 - b. Explain how photography (including microfilming) has influenced genealogy.
 9. Discuss what you have learned about your family and your family members through your genealogical research.




The *official* source for the information shown in this article or section is:
***Boy Scout Requirements*, 2019 Edition (BSA Supply SKU #641568**
 (https://www.scoutshop.org/nsearch/?q=641568)
)

View the change list (history) (<http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php?title=Template:Genealogy/req&action=history>) of these requirements. The text of these requirements may be locked. In that case, they can only be edited (<http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php?title=Template:Genealogy/req&action=edit>) by an administrator.
Please note any errors found in the above requirements on this article's Talk Page.

Notes



A FREE workbook for Genealogy is available here! 
with the maps, charts, links, diagrams, and checklists you need!
Or click here to print just the Genealogy requirements

meritbadge.org
 has PDF and DOC
 versions of
 Boy Scout merit
 badge workbooks,

(<http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php?title=Template:Genealogy/req&printable=yes>) .

Webelos workbooks, Cub Scout workbooks, and Nova Award workbooks.

- Per the BSA: *"You should read the merit badge pamphlet on the subject."* Pamphlets (books) are at local Scout Shops (<http://www.scoutshop.org/storelocator>) and online at ScoutShop.org (<http://www.scoutshop.org/books/for-scouts/merit-badge-pamphlets.html>) .
- *"Get a signed Merit Badge application from your Scoutmaster."* An online, printable Word doc file version is available.

1. Genealogy is a rare merit badge with 4,387 earned in 2007!

Requirement resources

- **6:** Make My Family Tree (<http://www.makemyfamilytree.com/>) A free site with step-by-step directions to make a family tree.

Related awards

Personal development-related awards

- Boy Scout merit badges: American Cultures - American Heritage - **Citizenship in the Community** - **Citizenship in the Nation** - **Citizenship in the World** - **Communication** - Disabilities Awareness - **Family Life** - **Genealogy** - **Personal Fitness** - **Personal Management** - Public Speaking - Reading - Scholarship - Traffic Safety
- Venturing: TRUST Award - Quest Award - Ranger Award electives: Physical Fitness - Backpacking
- Webelos activity badges: Citizen - Communicator - Family Member - Fitness - Scholar; Other resources: Flag Ceremonies
- Cub Scout belt loops & pins: Citizenship - Communicating - Heritages - Language and Culture - Physical Fitness

Hobby-related awards

- Boy Scout awards: Complete Angler
- Boy Scout Merit Badges: Art - Basketry - Bugling - Chess - Coin Collecting - Collections - **Cooking** - Digital Technology - Dog Care - Fishing - Fly-Fishing - Gardening - **Genealogy** - Golf - **Hiking** - Home Repairs - Horsemanship - Indian Lore - Leatherwork - Metalwork - Model Design and Building - Music-Pets - Photography - Pioneering - Pottery - Radio - Railroading - Reading - Rowing - Sculpture - Stamp Collecting - Wood Carving
- Venturing: Ranger Award electives: Cave Exploration - Cycling - Equestrian - Fishing
- Webelos Scout Adventures:

See also

General Merit Badge information

- An Introduction to Merit Badges – how to get started, who chooses the counselor, etc.
- Merit Badge revision dates – latest revision dates of each merit badge pamphlet.
- Merit Badge Worksheets & Requirements – with the revision dates, diagrams, charts, checklists, logs, and links you need.
- Merit Badge Application – offers online resources to let you print "Blue Cards," etc.
- Merit Badge FAQ – answers dozens of questions like: Who can be a counselor? Can requirements be added or removed?
- Merit Badges Requiring Prior Approval – Certain requirements need prior approval. Most do not. Here is the list.
- Also see: List of how many boys have earned each Merit Badge – Merit Badge policies – Merit badges required for the Eagle Scout rank – Merit Badge Days
- Additionally: List of Merit Badges by Field of Study – Merit Badge Pamphlets & Libraries
- Merit Badge Counselors must complete Youth Protection Training, file an Adult Application (and Merit Badge Counselor Information Form); and be approved by the local council. (See the Guide for Merit Badge Counselors for additional details.)
- See Submitting New Merit Badge Ideas for guidance on how to submit suggestions for new merit badges to BSA.



Boy Scout portal



Venturing portal



Sea Scout portal

External links

- Julie's Genealogy - BSA Merit Badge (http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~julieann/genealogy_merit_badge.htm)
- Kindred Trails (http://www.kindredtrails.com/free_genealogy_stuff.html) A comprehensive genealogy site with free downloads, free forms, and free software.
- Beginner's Guide to Family History Research (<http://www.arkansasresearch.com/guide.html>)
- The Learning Center (<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/edu.cfm>) - National Genealogical Society
- Rubincam Youth Award (http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/rubincam_youth_award/nomination_form) - National Genealogical Society (Deadline for Submissions—31 January Annually)
- RootsWeb Genealogical Data Cooperative (<http://www.rootsweb.com/>)
- Ancestry HomeTown (<http://www.ancestry.com/>)
 - Ancestry.com - Genealogy Forms (<http://www.ancestry.com/trees/charts/ancchart.aspx>)
 - Ancestry.com - Family History Made Easy: Step by Step (<http://www.ancestry.com/learn/library/article.aspx?article=2082>)
- Genealogy: Free Advice for Effective Searches (<http://www.genealogy-search-advice.com/>)
- Family Tree Searcher (<http://www.familytreearcher.com/>)
- GenSite (<http://www.genealogy.org/>) - ranks genealogy sites by popularity
- Kindred Konnections Genealogy and Family History Home Page (<http://www.kindredkonnections.com/>)
- Daughters of the American Revolution Library (<http://www.dar.org/library/default.cfm>)
- The USGenWeb Project (<http://www.usgenweb.net/>)

- The WorldGenWeb Project (<http://www.worldgenweb.org/>)
- Genealogy: Ultimate Family Tree (<http://www.uftree.com/>) - several free databases available
- FamilySearch Internet Genealogy Service (<http://www.familysearch.org/>)
- Family Tree Maker's Genealogy Site: Genealogy Help (<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/gene-help.html>)
- Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet (<http://www.cyndislist.com/>) - hundreds of thousands of links

Retrieved from "<http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Genealogy>"

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