

Digital Technology

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet. This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information. You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed, and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers. If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show", "tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do. No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found on Scouting.org/meritbadges/. The requirements were last revised on January 1, 2024 • This workbook was updated in January 2024. Scout's Name: _____ Date Started _____ Counselor's Name: Phone No.: Email: Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this workbook to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org Comments or suggestions for changes to the requirements for the merit badge should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org 1. View the Personal Safety Awareness "Digital Safety" video (with your parent or guardian's permission). 2. Do the following: a. Give a brief history of the changes in digital technology over time. Discuss with your counselor how digital technology in your lifetime compares with that of your parent's, grandparent's, or other adult's lifetime.

b. Describe what kinds of computers or devices you imagine might be available when you are an adult.

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- 3. Do the following:
- a. Explain to your counselor how text, sound, and pictures are digitized for storage.

	1		
	Text		
	Sound		
	_		
	Pictures		
□ b.	Docoribo t	e difference between lossy and lossless data compression, and give an exam	ala whara agab might ha
L D.	used.	e unierence between lossy and lossiess data compression, and give an examp	be where each highling be
	Lossy		
		Example:	
	Lossless		
_		Example:	
C .		o digital devices and how they are made more useful by their programming.	
	1.		

	2.

d. Discuss the similarities and differences between computers, mobile devices, and gaming consoles.

	similarities	differences
Computers		
Mobile devices		
UEVICES		
Gaming		
Gaming consoles		

Explain what a computer network is and the difference between a local area network (LAN) versus a wide area ∏ e network (WAN)

The difference between a local area network (LAN) versus a wide area network (WAN)

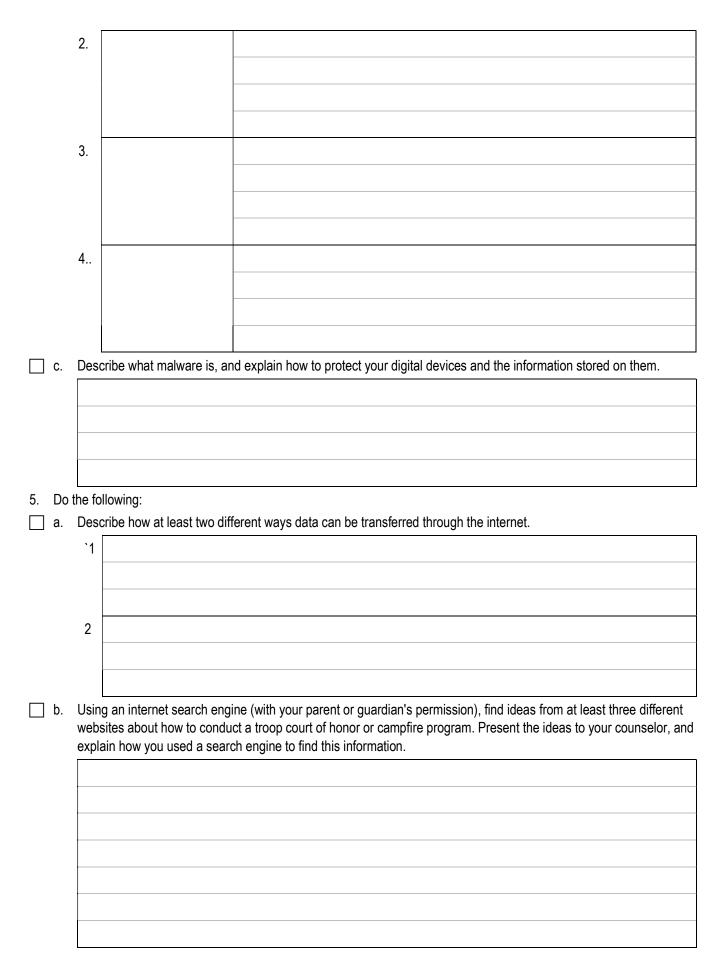
LAN	
WAN	

4. Do the following:

a. Explain what a program or software application or "app" is and how a computer uses a CPU and memory to execute it

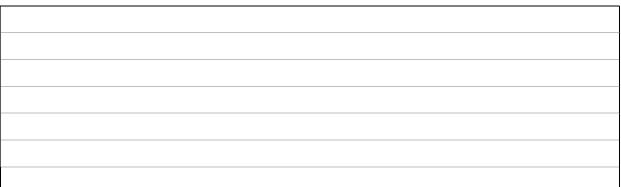
b. Name four software programs or mobile apps you or your family use, and explain how each one helps you.

1.



c. Use a Web browser to connect to an HTTPS (secure) website (with your parent's permission).

Explain to your counselor how to tell whether the site's security certificate can be trusted, and what it means to use this kind of connection.



- 6. Do THREE of the following. For each project you complete, copy the files to a backup device and share the finished projects with your counselor.
- a. Using a spreadsheet or database program, develop a food budget for a patrol weekend campout OR create a troop roster that includes the name, rank, patrol, and telephone number of each Scout. Show your counselor that you can sort the roster by each of the following categories: rank, patrol, and alphabetically by name.
- b. Using a word processor, write a draft letter to the parents of your troop's Scouts, inviting them to a troop event.
- c. Using a graphics program, design and draw a campsite plan for your troop OR create a flier for an upcoming troop event, incorporating text and some type of visual such as a photograph or an illustration.
- d. Using a presentation software program, develop a report about a topic approved by your counselor. For your presentation, create at least five slides, with each one incorporating text and some type of visual such as a photograph or an illustration.
- e. Using a digital device, take a picture of a troop activity. Send or transfer this image to a device where it can be shared with your counselor.
- f. Make a digital recording of your voice, transfer the file to a different device, and have your counselor play back the recording.
- g. Create a blog and use it as an online journal of your Scouting activities, including group discussions and meetings, campouts, and other events. Include at least five entries and two photographs or illustrations. Share your blog with your counselor. You need not post the blog to the Internet; however, if you choose to go live with your blog, you must first share it with your parents AND counselor AND get their approval.
- h. Create a Web page for your troop, patrol, school, or place of worship. Include at least three articles and two photographs or illustrations. Include at least one link to a website of interest to your audience. You need not post the page to the Internet; however, if you decide to do so, you must first share the Web page with your parents AND counselor AND get their approval.

- 7. Do the following:
- a. Explain to your counselor each of these protections and why they exist: copyright, patents, trademarks, trade secrets.

	What they do	Why they exist
Copyright		
Patents		
Trademarks		
Trade secrets		
Explain when it is perr	nissible to accept a free copy of a program f	rom a friend.

🗌 b.

c. Discuss with your counselor an article or (with your parent of guardian's permission) a report on the inter- recent legal case involving an intellectual property dispute.		
8.	Do 1	WO of the following:
		Describe why it is important to properly dispose of digital technology.
		List at least three dangerous chemicals that could be used to create digital devices or used inside a digital device.
		2.
		3.
	b.	Explain to your counselor what is required to become a certified recycler of digital technology hardware or devices.
	0	Do an Internet search for an organization that collects discarded digital technology hardware or devices for
		repurposing or recycling. Find out what happens to that waste. Share with your counselor what you found.

☐ d.		g center that disposes of digital technology hardware or devices. Find out what happens to that waste. u learned with your counselor.
🗌 e.		recycling center near you and find out what it does to recycle batteries. Share what you have learned uselor about the proper methods for recycling batteries.
9. Do	ONE of the follo	
a.	Investigate thr	ee career opportunities that involve digital technology
	2.	
_	3.	
		ind out the education, training, and experience required for this profession.
	Career: Education:	
	-	
	Training:,	
	i ruining.,	
	-	
	-	

	Experience:	
	Discuss this v counselor.	vith your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you. Report what you learn to your
☐ b.	Visit a husing	ss or an industrial facility that uses digital technology.
0.		
	Describe four	ways digital technology is being used there.
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	

Digital Technology

Share what you learned with your counselor.

You can download a complete copy of the Guide to Advancement from http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf.