Dog Care

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.
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.

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

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Boy Scout Requirements (Pub. 33216 – SKU 63768).

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2017 • This workbook was updated in January 2017.

Scout's Name:_____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Phone No.: _____

http://www.USScouts.Org • http://www.MeritBadge.Org

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

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***The activities used to fulfill the requirements for the Dog Care merit badge may not be used to help fulfill requirements for other merit badges.**

1. Do the following:
   a. Briefly discuss the historical origin and domestication of the dog.

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b. Describe some common characteristics of the dogs that make up each of the seven major dog groups.

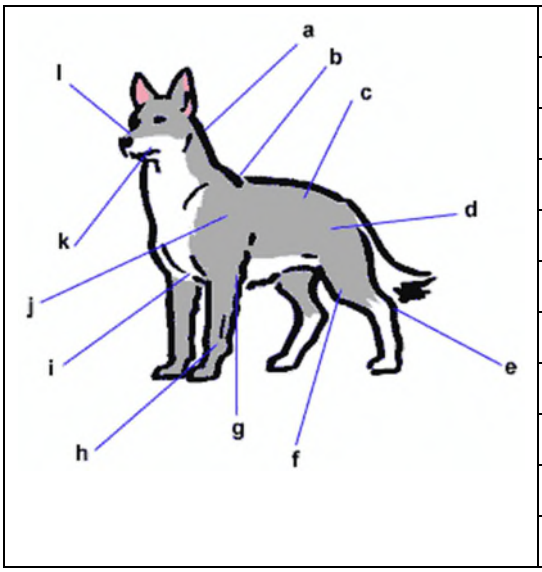
	Group	Breed(s)	Characteristics
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

c. Tell some specific characteristics of seven breeds of dogs (one from each major group),

	Breed	Group	Characteristics
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

OR give a short history of one breed.

2. Point out on a dog (or on a sketch) at least 10 parts. Give the correct name of each one.



a.	
b.	
c.	
d.	
e.	
f.	
g.	
h.	
i.	
j.	
k.	

3. Do the following:
   a. Explain the importance of house-training, obedience training, and socialization training for your dog.

House-training	
Obedience training	
Socialization training	

b. Explain what “responsible pet ownership” means.

c. Explain what issues (including temperament) must be considered when deciding on what breed of dog to get as a family pet.

4. For two months, keep and care for your dog.* Maintain a log of your activities during this period that includes these items: feeding schedule, types of food used, amount fed, exercise periods, training schedule, a weekly body weight record, grooming and bathing schedules, veterinary care, if necessary, and costs. Also include a brief description of the type of housing/shelter arrangements you have for your dog.

(Sample Blank Logs are located at the end of the workbook)

5. Explain the correct way to obedience train a dog and what equipment you would need.

Show with your dog any three of these commands:

☐ "Come," ☐ "Sit," ☐ "Down," ☐ "Heel," ☐ "Stay," ☐ "Take it," ☐ "Get it," ☐ "Drop it."

6. Do the following:

a. Discuss the proper vaccination schedule for a dog in your area from puppyhood through adulthood.

b. Discuss the control methods for preventing fleas, ticks, heartworms, and intestinal parasites (worms) for a dog in your area from puppyhood through adulthood.

Fleas	
Ticks	
Heartworms	

Intestinal parasites (worms)	

c. Explain the importance of dental care and tooth brushing to your pet's health.

d. Discuss the benefits of grooming your dog's coat and nails on a regular basis.

e. Discuss with your counselor any seasonal conditions (like hot summers, cold winters, or extreme humidity) where you live that need to be considered for your dog.

f. Discuss with your counselor the considerations and advantages of spaying or neutering your dog..

7. Do the following:
   a. Explain precautions to take in handling a hurt dog.

   b. ☐ Show how to put on an emergency muzzle
   c. Explain how to treat wounds.

   Explain first aid for a dog bite.

   d. ☐ Show how to put on a simple dressing and bandage to the ☐ foot, ☐ body, or ☐ head of your dog.
   e. Explain what to do if a dog is hit by a car.

   f. List the things needed in every dog owner's first-aid kit.

g. Tell the dangers of home treatment of a serious ailment.

h. Briefly discuss the cause and method of spread, the signs and symptoms and the methods of prevention of rabies, parvovirus, distemper, and heartworms in dogs.

Rabies:

Cause:	
Method of spread,	
Signs and symptoms	
Methods of prevention	

Parvovirus:

Cause:	
Method of spread,	
Signs and symptoms	
Methods of prevention	

Distemper:

Cause:	
Method of spread,	
Signs and symptoms	
Methods of prevention	

Heartworms:

Cause:	
Method of spread,	
Signs and symptoms	
Methods of prevention	

8. Visit a veterinary hospital or an animal shelter and give a report about your visit to your counselor.

9. Know the laws and ordinances involving dogs that are in force in your community.

10. Learn about three career opportunities for working with dogs.

1.
2.
3.

Pick one and find out about the education, training, and experience required for this career, and discuss this with your counselor.

Career:

Education

Training:

Experience:

Tell why this profession interests you..

Requirement resources can be found here:
http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Dog Care#Requirement resources

Scout's Name: _____

SAMPLE DOG CARE LOG Month 1

Starting Date: ____/____/____ Ending Date: ____/____/____

Date	Feeding Schedule	Food Types	Food Amount	Exercise Periods	Training Schedule	Body Weight	Grooming	Bathing	Veterinary Care	Costs
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
13										
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28										
29										
30										
31										

Scout's Name: _____

SAMPLE DOG CARE LOG Month 2

Starting Date: ____/____/____ Ending Date: ____/____/____

Date	Feeding Schedule	Food Types	Food Amount	Exercise Periods	Training Schedule	Body Weight	Grooming	Bathing	Veterinary Care	Costs
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
13										
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Important excerpts from the Guide To Advancement - 2015, No. 33088 (SKU-620573)

[1.0.0.0] — Introduction
The current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* is the official source for administering advancement in all Boy Scouts of America programs: Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting, Venturing, and Sea Scouts. It replaces any previous BSA advancement manuals and previous editions of the *Guide to Advancement*.

[Page 2, and 5.0.1.4] — Policy on Unauthorized Changes to Advancement Program
No council, committee, district, unit, or individual has the authority to add to, or subtract from, advancement requirements. There are limited exceptions relating only to youth members with special needs. For details see section 10, "Advancement for Members With Special Needs".

[Page 2] — The "Guide to Safe Scouting" Applies
Policies and procedures outlined in the ***Guide to Safe Scouting***, No. 34416, apply to all BSA activities, including those related to advancement and Eagle Scout service projects.

[7.0.3.1] — The Buddy System and Certifying Completion
A youth member must not meet one-on-one with an adult. Sessions with counselors must take place where others can view the interaction, or the Scout must have a buddy: a friend, parent, guardian, brother, sister, or other relative—or better yet, another Scout working on the same badge—along with him attending the session. If merit badge counseling or instruction includes any Web-based interaction, it must be conducted in accordance with the BSA Social Media Guidelines (http://www.scouting.org/Marketing/Resources/SocialMedia). For example, always copy one or more authorized adults on email messages between counselors and Scouts.
When the Scout meets with the counselor, he should bring any required projects. If these cannot be transported, he should present evidence, such as photographs or adult verification. His unit leader, for example, might state that a satisfactory bridge or tower has been built for the Pioneering merit badge, or that meals were prepared for Cooking. If there are questions that requirements were met, a counselor may confirm with adults involved. Once satisfied, the counselor signs the blue card using the date upon which the Scout completed the requirements, or in the case of partials, initials the individual requirements passed.
Note that from time to time, it may be appropriate for a requirement that has been met for one badge to also count for another. See "Fulfilling More Than One Requirement With a Single Activity," 4.2.3.6.

[7.0.3.2] — Group Instruction
It is acceptable—and sometimes desirable—for merit badges to be taught in group settings. This often occurs at camp and merit badge midways, fairs, clinics, or similar events. Interactive group discussions can support learning. The method can also be attractive to "guest experts" assisting registered and approved counselors. Slide shows, skits, demonstrations, panels, and various other techniques can also be employed, but as any teacher can attest, not everyone will learn all the material.
There must be attention to each individual's projects and his fulfillment of *all* requirements. We must know that every Scout —actually and *personally*— completed them. If, for example, a requirement uses words like "show," "demonstrate," or "discuss," then every Scout must do that. It is unacceptable to award badges on the basis of sitting in classrooms *watching* demonstrations, or remaining silent during discussions.
It is sometimes reported that Scouts who have received merit badges through group instructional settings have not fulfilled all the requirements. To offer a quality merit badge program, council and district advancement committees should ensure the following are in place for all group instructional events.

- A culture is established for merit badge group instructional events that partial completions are acceptable expected results.
- A guide or information sheet is distributed in advance of events that promotes the acceptability of partials, explains how merit badges can be finished after events, lists merit badge prerequisites, and provides other helpful information that will establish realistic expectations for the number of merit badges that can be earned at an event.
- Merit badge counselors are known to be registered and approved.
- Any guest experts or guest speakers, or others assisting who are not registered and approved as merit badge counselors, do not accept the responsibilities of, or behave as, merit badge counselors, either at a group instructional event or at any other time. Their service is temporary, not ongoing.
- Counselors agree to sign off only requirements that Scouts have actually and personally completed.
- Counselors agree not to assume prerequisites have been completed without some level of evidence that the work has been done. Pictures and letters from other merit badge counselors or unit leaders are the best form of prerequisite documentation when the actual work done cannot be brought to the camp or site of the merit badge event.
- There is a mechanism for unit leaders or others to report concerns to a council advancement committee on summer camp merit badge programs, group instructional events, and any other merit badge counseling issues—especially in instances where it is believed BSA procedures are not followed. See "Reporting Merit Badge Counseling Concerns," 11.1.0.0.
- There must be attention to each individual's projects and his fulfillment of all requirements. We must know that every Scout—actually and personally—completed them.

It is permissible for guest speakers, guest experts, or others who are not merit badge counselors to assist in the counseling process. Those providing such assistance must be under the direction of a registered and approved counselor who is readily available onsite, and provides personal supervision to assure all applicable BSA policies and procedures—including those related to BSA Youth Protection—are in place and followed.

[7.0.3.3] — Partial Completions
A Scout need not pass all the requirements of one merit badge with the same counselor. It may be that due to timing or location issues, etc., he must meet with a different counselor to finish the badge. The Application for Merit Badge has a place to record what has been finished—a "partial." In the center section on the reverse of the blue card, the counselor initials for each requirement passed. In the case of a partial completion, the counselor does not retain his or her portion of the card. A subsequent counselor may choose not to accept partial work, but this should be rare. A Scout, if he believes he is being treated unfairly, may work with his unit leader to find another counselor. An example for the use of a signed partial would be to take it to camp as proof of prerequisites. Partials have no expiration except the Scout's 18th birthday. Units, districts, or councils shall not establish other expiration dates for partial merit badges.

[7.0.4.8] — Unofficial Worksheets and Learning Aids
Worksheets and other materials that may be of assistance in earning merit badges are available from a variety of places including unofficial sources on the Internet and even troop libraries. Use of these aids is permissible as long as the materials can be correlated with the current requirements that Scouts must fulfill. Completing "worksheets" may suffice where a requirement calls for something in writing, but this would not work for a requirement where the Scout must discuss, tell, show, or demonstrate, etc. Note that Scouts shall not be required to use these learning aids in order to complete a merit badge.