

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

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. The requirements were last issued or revised in <u>2022</u> • This workbook was updated in <u>November 2023</u>.

Scout's Name:	Unit	Date Started

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

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this <u>workbook</u> to: <u>Workbooks@USScouts.Org</u> Comments or suggestions for changes to the <u>requirements</u> for the <u>merit badge</u> should be sent to: <u>Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org</u>

*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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1	

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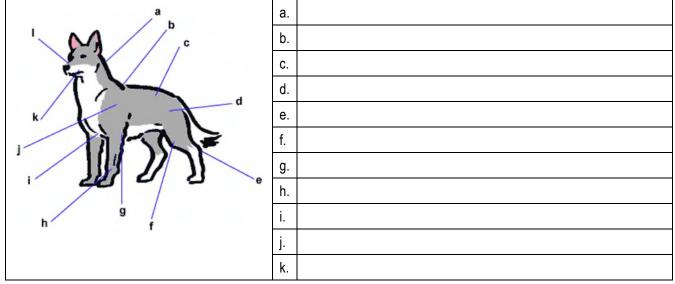
	Group	Breed(s)	Characteristics
1.			
2.			
•			
3.			
4.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

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.



- 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)

6.

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

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

 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,	
0. 1	
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,	
oprodu,	
Signs and symptoms	
Symptoms	
Methods	
of prevention	
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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..

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

Scout's	Name: _
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SAMPLE DOG CARE LOG Month 1

			Starting Date:	//	Enc	ling Date: _	//			
	Feeding Schedule	Food	Food	Exercise	Training Schedule	ling Date: _ Body			Veterinary	
Date	Schedule	Types	Amount	Periods	Schedule	Weight	Grooming	Bathing	Care	Costs
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
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Dog	Care
Duy	Care

	Scout's	Name:	
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			Starting Date: Food	SAMPLE DC //	Enc	JG Month	//		
Date	Feeding Schedule	Food Types	Food Amount	Exercise Periods	Training Schedule	Body Weight	Grooming	Veterinary Care	Costs
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
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