MERIT BADGE SERIES
COLLECTIONS

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
COLLECTIONS

“Enhancing our youths’ competitive edge through merit badges”
Requirements

1. Prepare a short written report or outline for your counselor, giving a detailed description of your collection,* including a short history, why you enjoy your collection, and what you have learned from collecting. Be sure to include why you chose that particular type of collection/collecting method.

2. Explain the growth and development of your collection.

3. Demonstrate your knowledge of preserving and displaying your collection.
   a. Explain the precautions you need to take to preserve your collection, including
      (1) Handling
      (2) Cleaning
      (3) Storage
   b. Explain how best to display your collection, keeping in mind preserving as discussed above.
   c. Explain to your counselor the events available for a hobbyist of this collection, including shows, seminars, conventions, contests, and museum programs and exhibits.
   d. Explain to your counselor how you keep track of your collection. Describe your cataloging method.

4. Demonstrate your knowledge of collecting and investing. Discuss with your counselor:
   a. How investing and speculation would apply to your collection
   b. What you would look for in purchasing other collections similar to yours

*Stamp and coin collecting are excluded from eligibility for this merit badge.
c. What you would expect in return value if you decided to sell all or part of the collection

5. Do the following:

a. Discuss with your counselor at least 10 terms commonly used to describe your collection and be prepared to discuss the definition of each.

b. Show your counselor any two groups from your collection. Explain how you organized your collection and why you chose that method. (Note: If your collection is too large to transport and your counselor is unable to view your collection directly, photographs should be available to share.)

c. Explain the monetary value of your collection and where you learned about those values.

d. Explain how your collection is graded for value, physical defects, size, and age. Show the various classifications or ratings used in your collection.

e. List the national, state, or local association(s) related to or associated with your collection.

f. Explain to your counselor the purpose of and reason for the identification number (if applicable), series, brand name (if any), and any other special identification marks.

6. Discuss with your counselor the plans you have to continue with the collection in the future.

7. Find out about career opportunities in collecting. Pick one and find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you.
Resources for Collecting

**Scouting Literature**
Archaeology, Basketry, Coin Collecting, Fishing, Fly-Fishing, Geology, Graphic Arts, Indian Lore, Journalism, Leatherwork, Metalwork, Painting, Photography, Pottery, Pulp and Paper, Railroading, Reading, Scouting Heritage, Sculpture, Sports, Stamp Collecting, Textile, Theater, Wood Carving, and Woodwork merit badge pamphlets

With your parent’s permission, visit the Boy Scouts of America’s official retail website, www.scoutshop.org, for a complete listing of all merit badge pamphlets and other helpful Scouting materials and supplies.

**Books**


Resources for Collecting


Organizations and Websites

**Association of Collecting Clubs and National Association of Collectors**
18222 Flower Hill Way, No. 229
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
Website: http://collectors.org

**Ephemera Society of America**
P.O. Box 95
Cazenovia, NY 13035-0095
Telephone: 315-655-9139
Website: http://www.ephemerasociety.org

**International Scouting Collectors Association**
Website: http://scouttrader.org

**Lepidopterists’ Society**
Website: http://www.lepsoc.org

**Printed Ephemera Collection at Library of Congress**
Website: http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/rbpehtml/pehome.html

**Smithsonian Center for Education and Museum Studies**
P.O. Box 37012, MRC 508
Washington, DC 20013-7012
Telephone: 202-633-5330
Website: www.smithsonianeducation.org/idealabs/collection/

**Society of Illustrators**
128 E. 63rd St.
New York, NY 10065
Telephone: 212-838-2560
Website: http://societyillustrators.org

**United States Club List**
Website: http://www.rockhounds.com/rockshop/clublist.html

**Magazines and Publishers**

**Beckett Media**
Website: http://www.beckett.com

**Comics Buyer’s Guide**
Website: http://www.cbgxtra.com

**DC Comics**
Website: http://www.dccomics.com

**Gemstone Publishing**
Website: http://www.gemstonepub.com
Marvel Comics
Website: http://www.marvel.com

Panini Sports Trading Cards
Website: http://www.donruss.com

Rocks & Minerals
Website: http://www.rocksandminerals.org

Topps
Website: http://www.topps.com

Trading Card Central
Website: http://www.tradingcardcentral.com

Tuff Stuff (a multisports collectibles magazine)
Website: http://www.tuffstuff.com

Upper Deck
Website: http://www.upperdeck.com

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