

# MERIT BADGE SERIES



# HOME REPAIRS



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

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# HOME REPAIRS



*"Enhancing our youths' competitive edge through merit badges"*



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# Requirements

1. Do the following:
  - a. Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards you may encounter while working on home repairs and what you should do to anticipate, mitigate and prevent, and respond to these hazards. Describe the appropriate safety gear and clothing that should be used when working on home repairs.
  - b. Discuss general precautions related to home repairs. Name at least 10 safe practices that every home repairer should exercise.
2. Under the supervision of your merit badge counselor, do FOUR of the following:
  - a. Maintain or recondition a yard tool and show that you know how to clean up and properly store this equipment.
  - b. Weather-strip a window or door.
  - c. Caulk cracks or joints open to the weather.
  - d. Waterproof a basement.
  - e. Repair a break in a concrete or asphalt surface.
  - f. Repair the screen in a window or door.
  - g. Replace a pane of glass.
  - h. Solder a broken wire or metal object.
3. Under the supervision of your merit badge counselor, do THREE of the following:
  - a. Install or build equipment for storing tools.
  - b. Build a workbench.

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Either a parent or the merit badge counselor may supervise the Scout's work on any Home Repairs requirements.

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- c. Repair a piece of furniture.
  - d. Paint or varnish a piece of furniture, a door, or trim on a house.
  - e. Repair a sagging door or gate.
  - f. Repair a loose step or railing.
  - g. Repair a fence.
4. Under the supervision of your merit badge counselor, do TWO of the following:
- a. Locate a main electrical switch box and know how to replace a fuse or reset a circuit breaker.
  - b. Replace an electrical cord or repair a plug or lamp socket.
  - c. Install a single-pole light switch.
  - d. Replace an electrical wall outlet.
5. Under the supervision of your merit badge counselor, do TWO of the following:
- a. Clear a clogged drain or trap.
  - b. Repair a leaky water faucet.
  - c. Repair a flush toilet.
  - d. Repair a leaky hose or connector.
  - e. Clean or replace a sprinkler head.
6. Under the supervision of your merit badge counselor, do THREE of the following:
- a. Paint a wall or ceiling.
  - b. Repair or replace damaged tile, linoleum, or vinyl flooring.
  - c. Install drapery or curtain rods and then hang drapes or curtains.
  - d. Replace window blind cords.
  - e. Repair or replace a window sash cord.
  - f. Reinforce a picture frame.
  - g. Mend an object made of china, glass, or pottery.

# Home Repairs Resources

## Scouting Literature

*Electricity, Electronics, Fire Safety, Painting, Plumbing, Welding, and Woodwork* merit badge pamphlets

Visit the Boy Scouts of America's official retail website at <http://www.scoutstuff.org> for a complete listing of all merit badge pamphlets and other Scouting resources.

## Books

Editors of Better Homes and Gardens. *Big Book of Home How-To*. Better Homes and Gardens, 2006.

Cassell, Julian, Peter Parham, and Theresa Coleman. *Do It Yourself Home Improvement: Step-by-Step Guide to Home Improvement*. DK Adult, 2006.

Editors of Creative Homeowner. *Ultimate Guide: Home Repair & Improvement*, 3rd ed. Creative Homeowner, 2011.

Editors of Creative Publishing. *Black & Decker: The Complete Photo Guide to Home Repair*. Creative Publishing International, 2008.

Editors of Family Handyman. *Family Handyman Home Improvement 2013*. Family Handyman, 2013.

———. *Reader's Digest Complete Do-It-Yourself Manual*, revised ed. Reader's Digest, 2005.

Editors of Reader's Digest. *Family Handyman Trade Secrets: Fix Your Home Like a Pro!* Reader's Digest, 2012.

———. *Family Handyman Whole House Repair Guide: Over 300 Step-by-Step Repairs!* Reader's Digest, 2013.

———. *Fix, Repair & Replace: Upgrade Your Home Like a Pro*. Reader's Digest, 2011.

———. *New Fix-It-Yourself Manual*. Reader's Digest, 2009.

———. *1001 Do-It-Yourself Hints and Tips: Tricks, Shortcuts, How-Tos, and Other Great Ideas for Inside, Outside, and All Around Your House*. Reader's Digest, 2008.

———. *Reader's Digest Complete Do-It-Yourself Manual*, revised ed. Reader's Digest, 2005.

Flexner, Bob. *Wood Finishing 101: The Step-by-Step Guide*. Popular Woodworking Books, 2011.

The Home Depot. *Home Improvement 1-2-3*, 3rd ed. The Home Depot, 2008.

Jackson, Albert, and David Day. *Popular Mechanics Complete Home How-To*. Hearst, 2009.

Kidd, James. *Popular Mechanics 75 Tools Every Man Needs: And How to Use Them Like a Pro*. Hearst, 2011.

Manfredini, Lou. *Lou Manfredini's House Smarts*. Ballantine Books, 2004.

Nagyszalanczy, Sandor. *The Homeowner's Ultimate Tool Guide*. Taunton Press, 2003.

Petersen, C.J. *Popular Mechanics When Duct Tape Just Isn't Enough: Quick Fixes for Everyday Disasters*. Hearst, 2013.

Ramsey, Dan. *The Home Owner's Manual: Operating Instructions, Troubleshooting Tips, and Advice on System Maintenance*. Quirk Books, 2006.

Wing, Charlie. *How Your House Works: A Visual Guide to Understanding and Maintaining Your Home, Updated and Expanded*, 2nd ed. RSMears, 2012.

### **Environmental Protection Agency**

1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
Telephone: 202-272-0167  
Websites: <http://www.epa.gov/iedweb00/asbestos.html>  
<http://www2.epa.gov/lead>

### **Family Handyman**

2915 Commers Drive, No. 700  
Eagan, MN 55121  
Toll-free telephone: 800-374-3515  
Website:  
<http://www.familyhandyman.com>

### **This Old House Online**

135 W. 50th St., 10th Floor  
New York, NY 10020  
Telephone: 212-522-9465  
Website:  
<http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/>

### **Toiletology 101**

Website: <http://www.toiletology.com>

### **Underwriters Laboratories Inc.**

333 Pfingsten Road  
Northbrook, IL 60062-2096  
Telephone: 847-272-8800  
Website: <http://www.ul.com>

## **Organizations and Websites**

### **Ask the Builder**

Website: <http://www.askthebuilder.com>

### **Creative Homeowner**

One International Blvd., Suite 400  
Mahwah, NJ 07495  
Toll-free telephone: 800-631-7795  
Website:  
<http://www.creativehomeowner.com>