

MERIT BADGE SERIES



# MOVIEMAKING



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

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



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# Requirements

1. Discuss and demonstrate the proper elements of a good motion picture. In your discussion, include visual storytelling, rhythm, the 180-axis rule, camera movement, framing and composition of camera shots, and lens selection.
2. Do the following:
  - a. In a three- or four-paragraph treatment, tell the story you plan to produce, making sure that the treatment conveys a visual picture.
  - b. Prepare a storyboard for your motion picture. (This can be done with rough sketches and stick figures.)
  - c. Demonstrate the following motion picture shooting techniques:
    - (1) Using a tripod
    - (2) Panning a camera
    - (3) Framing a shot
    - (4) Selecting an angle
    - (5) Selecting proper lighting
    - (6) Handheld shooting

- d. Using motion picture shooting techniques, plan ONE of the following programs. Start with a treatment and complete the requirement by presenting this program to a pack or your troop, patrol, or class.
- (1) Film or videotape a court of honor and show it to an audience.
  - (2) Create a short feature of your own design, using the techniques you learned.
  - (3) Shoot a vignette that could be used to train a new Scout in a Scouting skill.
3. Do ONE of the following:
- a. With your parent's permission and your counselor's approval, visit a film set or television production studio and watch how production work is done.
  - b. Explain to your counselor the elements of the zoom lens and three important parts.
4. Find out about three career opportunities in moviemaking. Pick one and find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this career with your counselor. Explain why this profession might interest you.



# Resources

## Scouting Literature

*Digital Photo Magic; Architecture, Art, Communication, Journalism, Model Design and Building, Photography, Public Speaking, and Theater* merit badge pamphlets

## Books

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- Oxlade, Chris. *Movies*. Heinemann, 1997.
- Rickitt, Richard. *Special Effects: The History and Technique*. 2nd ed. Billboard Books, 2007.
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- Scott, Elaine. *Movie Magic: Behind the Scenes With Special Effects*. HarperCollins Publishers, 1995.
- Van Sijll, Jennifer. *Cinematic Storytelling: The 100 Most Powerful Film Conventions Every Filmmaker Must Know*. Michael Wiese Productions, 2005.
- Zettl, Herbert. *Video Basics*. Cengage Learning, 2012.

## Organizations and Websites

### Creative America

Website: <http://www.creativeamerica.org>

### Moving Image Collections

Website: <http://imtcdrupal.imtc.gatech.edu>

### Videomaker

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

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