

# Fun Projects

There are many fun and rewarding projects that you could do to fulfill requirement 7. Here are a few suggestions.

## Designing a Stamp

First determine what you would like your stamp to depict. Will it commemorate a person, place, or thing? Are there printed stamps you could use as references? Here are some examples of different stamp designs.




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As you design your stamp, keep in mind that it does not need to be an illustration. Use a favorite photo along with your own design elements.

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## Designing a Cancellation

Special cancellations usually focus on a special event, cause, or theme. They can have simple designs or have complex and detailed ones that relate to a stamp, cachet, or special event. You will need to check the *Domestic Mail Manual* at your local post office or on the internet for requirements on designing a cancellation.

With your parent's permission, visit the U.S. Postal Service online at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com).

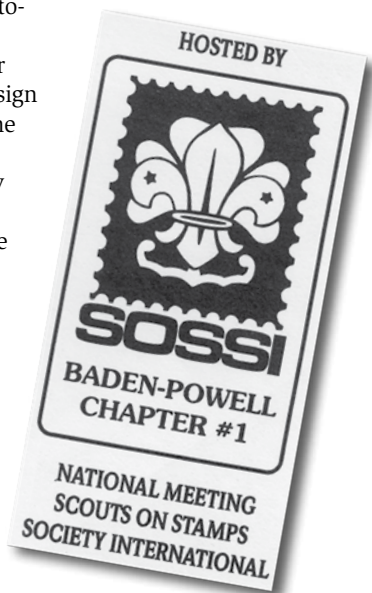


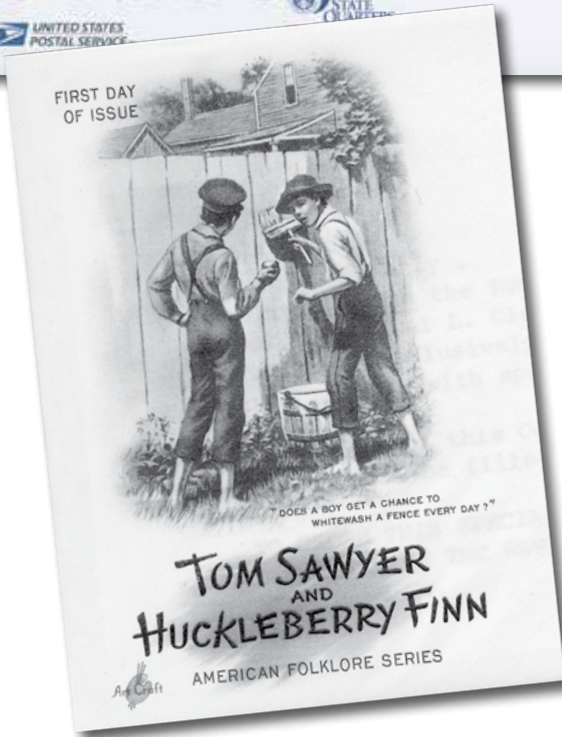
## Designing a Cachet

A *cachet* is a design that is usually hand-drawn, rubber-stamped, or printed on the left side of an envelope. Cachets are usually created to draw attention to the stamp on the envelope or to an event you are promoting.

To make a cachet on a photocopy machine, open a 6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-inch envelope completely. Using your imagination, draw your own design or select a picture to place on the open envelope. Make as many copies as desired. Cut each copy to envelope size, fold, and glue together to simulate an envelope (a filler card might be added before closing). Address the envelope, attach the correct postage, and have the envelope canceled by mailing it to yourself.

**Your stamp design can be as simple or as complex as you desire.**





Use cachets like these for inspiration as you design your own.

You can easily make a cachet using your computer and printer. Design the cachet using your own software, use the “page setup” to indicate the print specifications (size, format, and so on) of the envelope, and send it to print.