



EPIC BADGES

ONLINE MERIT BADGE ACADEMY



Photography

MERIT BADGE WORKBOOK

BUILT ON THE 2025 REQUIREMENTS · VERIFIED JULY 2026

epicbadges.com



BUILT ON THE 2025 REQUIREMENTS · VERIFIED JULY 2026 · REQUIREMENTS PARAPHRASED

How to use this workbook: it keeps your notes and evidence organized as you work with your EPIC Badges counselor — it is a companion, not a shortcut. Read the official merit badge pamphlet, and confirm the current official requirement wording at scouting.org/skills/merit-badges before you begin; the prompts below are summaries in our own words. When a requirement says show, tell, demonstrate, or discuss, you must do that with your counselor. Only submit this workbook once every requirement is complete.

Scout Information

SCOUT'S FULL NAME

UNIT / TROOP

Your counselor: EPIC Badges — a certified merit badge counselor reviews your work when you submit.

Requirement 1 — Safety

Discuss safety with your counselor, then view the Digital Safety video.

- (a) The most likely HAZARDS I may encounter in photography, and how I would anticipate, mitigate, prevent, and respond to each — including how I'd prepare for WEATHER, SUN, and WATER:

- ☐ Viewed the Personal Safety Awareness "Digital Safety" video (with my parent or guardian's permission) — date viewed:

Requirement 2 — The Elements of a Great Picture

Explain to your counselor how each element and term below affects the quality of a picture.

- (a) LIGHT — natural/ambient (existing) light, low light (such as at night), and artificial light (such as a flash) — how each affects a picture:

- (b) EXPOSURE — aperture (f-stops), shutter speed, and ISO — what each controls and how they work together:



(c) **DEPTH OF FIELD** — shallow vs. deep, and what each does to a photo:

(d) **COMPOSITION** — rule of thirds, leading lines, framing, and depth:

(e) **ANGLE OF VIEW** — how shooting from high, low, or straight on changes the image:

(f) **STOP ACTION and BLUR MOTION** — how fast vs. slow shutter speeds affect moving subjects:

(g) **The DECISIVE MOMENT** — capturing the peak of action or expression:

Requirement 3 — How a Camera Works

Explain the following to your counselor.

(s) **The basic PARTS of a camera and how it OPERATES** (lens, aperture, shutter, sensor/film, viewfinder/screen, controls):

(e) **How an EXPOSURE is made when I take a picture** (aperture opens, shutter opens for a set time, light reaches the sensor):

Requirement 4 — Shoot One Subject Different Ways (Do TWO)



Do **TWO** of the four options below on a single subject, then share your work with your counselor. Photograph your results.

- (e) The **SUBJECT** I chose and the **TWO** options I completed (a: two angles/perspectives · b: two light sources, artificial & natural · c: two depths of field · d: two composition techniques):

- ☐ First option — photos taken and what I changed between them (attached/labeled):
- ☐ Second option — photos taken and what I changed between them (attached/labeled):

- (e) What I noticed comparing my pairs, and what I shared with my counselor:

Requirement 5 — Photograph the World (Do **THREE**)

Photograph **THREE** of the six options below, then share your work with your counselor. Label each image.

- (e) The **THREE** options I chose (a: close-up of a person · b: 2–3 people interacting · c: action shot · d: animal shot · e: nature shot · f: person — candid, posed, or camera aware):

- ☐ Photo 1 — which option, and notes on how I made it (attached/labeled):
- ☐ Photo 2 — which option, and notes on how I made it (attached/labeled):
- ☐ Photo 3 — which option, and notes on how I made it (attached/labeled):

Requirement 6 — Editing and Enhancing (Do **ONE**)

Describe how software enhances a photo, then do **ONE** edit on a photo you took, and share the before and after with your counselor.

- (e) How editing **SOFTWARE** lets me enhance a photograph after it is taken (crop, exposure, color, sharpening, removing distractions, etc.):

- (e) The photo of **MINE** I selected, and the **ONE** edit I did (a: crop · b: adjust exposure or color-correct · c: another improvement for impact):



- ☐ Completed the edit and kept the ORIGINAL for comparison — before & after saved/attached, and what I shared with my counselor:

Requirement 7 — Produce a Visual Story

Use images OTHER than those from Regs 4, 5, and 6. Your counselor must approve your plan (7b) before you proceed.

- (a) My STORY (an event to document, or a topic that interests me) and my PLAN for the images I need to tell it (beginning, middle, end):

- ☐ Shared my plan with my counselor, got their input/approval BEFORE proceeding — date approved and any changes I made:
- ☐ Selected 8–12 images that best tell my story, arranged them in order, and presented them as mounted prints on poster board OR an electronic presentation — shared with my counselor (attached/photographed):

Requirement 8 — Careers in Photography

Discuss with your counselor.

- (e) THREE career opportunities in photography:

- (e) The ONE I chose — how to prepare for it, the EDUCATION and TRAINING required, and WHY this profession might interest me:



Finished Your Workbook?

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