



# Crime Prevention

## Merit Badge Workbook



This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor.

You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.

You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed, and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.

If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show", "tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

**Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.**

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Boy Scout Requirements (Pub. 33216 – SKU 621535).

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2006 • This workbook was updated in October 2016.

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor's Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

<http://www.USScouts.Org> • <http://www.MeritBadge.Org>

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: [Workbooks@USScouts.Org](mailto:Workbooks@USScouts.Org)  
Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: [Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org](mailto:Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org)

1. Discuss the role and value of laws in society with regard to crime and crime prevention.


Include in your discussion the definitions of "crime" and "crime prevention."

"Crime":	
"Crime prevention."	

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2. Prepare a notebook of newspaper and other clippings that addresses crime and crime prevention efforts in your community.

3. Discuss the following with your counselor:

a. The role of citizens, including youth, in crime prevention


b. Gangs and their impact on the community


c. When and how to report a crime


4. After doing EACH of the following, discuss with your counselor what you have learned.

a. Inspect your neighborhood for opportunities that may lead to crime.


Learn how to do a crime prevention survey.


- b. Using the checklist in this (*the merit badge*) pamphlet, conduct a security survey of your home and discuss the results with your family. (*A copy of the Home Safety Checklist can be found at the end of this workbook.*)


- 5. Teach your family or patrol members how to protect themselves from crime at home.
- 6. Help raise awareness about one school safety issue facing students by doing ONE of the following:
  - a. Create a poster for display on a school bulletin board.
  - b. With permission from school officials, create a page long public service announcement that could be read over the public address system at school or posted on the school's Web site.


- c. Make a presentation to a group such as a Cub Scout den that addresses the issue.

7. Do ONE of the following:

- a. Assist in the planning and organization of a crime prevention program in your community such as Neighborhood Watch, Community Watch, or Crime Stoppers. Explain how this program can benefit your neighborhood.


- b. With your parent's and counselor's approval, visit a jail or detention facility or a criminal court hearing. Discuss your experience with your counselor.


8. Discuss the following with your counselor:

- a. How drug abuse awareness programs, such as "Drugs: A Deadly Game," help prevent crime


- b. Why alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana are sometimes called "gateway drugs" and how "gateway drugs" can lead to the use of other drugs


- c. Three resources in your city where a person with a drug problem or drug-related problem can go for help


- d. How the illegal sale and use of drugs lead to other crimes


- e. How to recognize child abuse


- f. The three R's of Youth Protection


- 9. Discuss the following with your counselor:

- a. The role of a sheriff's or police department in crime prevention.


- b. The purpose and operation of agencies in your community that help law enforcement personnel prevent crime, and how those agencies function during emergency situations.


- c. Explain the role private security plays in crime prevention.


- d. Choose a career in the crime prevention or security industry that interests you.

Career

Describe the level of education required and responsibilities of a person in that position.

Education:	
Responsibilities:	

Tell why this position interests you.


**Requirement resources can be found here:**  
[http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Crime Prevention#Requirement resources](http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Crime_Prevention#Requirement_resources)

## **Crime Prevention Merit Badge Sample Home Security Checklist**

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Here are some things to consider with your parent or guardian and counselor. See your Crime Prevention Merit Badge Pamphlet for explanations about each item on the checklist.

- 1. Do you keep a list of all valuable property? Is at least one copy kept outside your home?
- 2. Do you have a list of the serial numbers of your valuable property (watches, cameras, computers, TVs, etc.)?
- 3. Do you have descriptions/photographs of valuable property from each room in your home (and closets)?
- 4. Do you keep excess cash and other valuables in a bank? Consider renting a safe deposit box for important papers.
- 5. Do you plan so that you don't need to "hide" a house key under the doormat or in a similar location?
- 6. Do your family members know what to do if they discover a burglar in your home? Don't go in! Dial 911!
- 7. Do family members know to leave everything undisturbed and call the sheriff or police if they discover a burglary?
- 8. Are trees and shrubs trimmed to eliminate hiding places?
- 9. Do you have a security closet with a solid-core door, non-removable hinges, and a deadbolt lock? For items of value.
- 10. Do you have emergency telephone numbers listed on your phone? In most areas of the country it is 911.
- 11. Is the outside of your home well lit? Do you have working porch lights? Is your yard well illuminated?
- 12. Is your house number easily visible from the street at any hour? Police need to see your number in an emergency.
- 13. Are ladders locked up and trellises and drainpipes eliminated that can be used as ladders to reach upper floor?
- 14. Are your exterior doors of solid-core construction? Hollow core wood doors offer little protection from break in.
- 15. Do your entry doors have wide-angle viewers? Needed so you can see out before opening the door.
- 16. Are your door's locks secure from being opened if a burglar breaks out a pane of glass or a panel of lightweight wood?
- 17. Do exterior doors have cylinder-type deadbolt locks with at least a one-inch throw and a beveled cylinder guard?
- 18. Do doors without cylinder locks have a heavy deadbolt or similar security that can be operated only from the inside?
- 19. Can all of your doors (basement, porch, sliding, French, balcony) be securely locked?
- 20. Do your basement doors have locks that allow you to isolate that part of your home?
- 21. Are all of your locks in good repair?
- 22. Are the door strike-plates installed with three-inch screws? Three-inch screws will reach the stud inside the wall.
- 23. Do you know everyone who has a key to your home? Did you change the locks when you moved in?
- 24. Do all out-swinging doors in your home have non-removable pins?
- 25. Do sliding doors have a lock that locks both the door panels together or locks the active side to the frame?
- 26. Is the garage door secured with a padlock, hasp, or other good lock? Even doors with electric openers need locks.
- 27. Do you lock you garage door at night?
- 28. Do you make sure your garage door is locked when you're away from home?
- 29. Do you lock your car and take out the keys even when it is parked in your garage?
- 30. Are all windows in your home equipped with key locks, or pinned?
- 31. Are your window locks properly and securely mounted?
- 32. Do you keep your windows locked when they are shut?
- 33. Do you use locks that let you lock a window that is partly open?

## **Crime Prevention Merit Badge Sample Home Security Checklist**

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- 34. Have you replaced or secured louvered windows?
- 35. In high-crime areas, do you use window bars or ornamental grilles? Make sure bars or grilles don't block fire escape.
- 36. Do you have secure locks on garage windows?
- 37. Do you cover garage windows with curtains or shades?
- 38. Are you as careful to secure basement and second-story windows as you are to secure windows on the first floor?
- 39. Do you use good telephone security procedures?
  - Never give personal information (name, age, address, etc.) to a stranger on the telephone.
  - Never let a stranger know that you are home alone.
  - Never let a stranger on the telephone know when you will or will not be home.
- 40. When planning a trip, do you secure your telephone? Consider call forwarding or at least check messages daily.
- 41. When you go on a trip, do you arrange for friends or neighbors to pick up newspapers, mail, packages, etc.?
- 42. Do you arrange to make your home look lived-in while you are away? Ask friends to pick up newspapers, mail, etc. daily. Consider light timers. Ask neighbors to park in your driveway and to put out your trash cans on garbage day.
- 43. Do you notify a neighbor that you'll be gone? Leave a key with a friend. Ask that your home be checked every so often.
- 44. Do you notify you police or sheriff that you'll be gone?
- 45. Do you store all your valuables in a secure place while you're gone, such as a safe deposit box in a bank?



## **Important excerpts from the Guide To Advancement - 2015, No. 33088 (SKU-620573)**

### **[1.0.0.0] — Introduction**

The current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* is the official source for administering advancement in all Boy Scouts of America programs: Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting, Venturing, and Sea Scouts. It replaces any previous BSA advancement manuals and previous editions of the *Guide to Advancement*.

### **[Page 2, and 5.0.1.4] — Policy on Unauthorized Changes to Advancement Program**

**No council, committee, district, unit, or individual has the authority to add to, or subtract from, advancement requirements.** There are limited exceptions relating only to youth members with special needs. For details see section 10, "Advancement for Members With Special Needs".

### **[Page 2] — The "Guide to Safe Scouting" Applies**

Policies and procedures outlined in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, No. 34416, apply to all BSA activities, including those related to advancement and Eagle Scout service projects.

### **[7.0.3.1] — The Buddy System and Certifying Completion**

A youth member must not meet one-on-one with an adult. Sessions with counselors must take place where others can view the interaction, or the Scout must have a buddy: a friend, parent, guardian, brother, sister, or other relative—or better yet, another Scout working on the same badge—along with him attending the session. If merit badge counseling or instruction includes any Web-based interaction, it must be conducted in accordance with the BSA Social Media Guidelines (<http://www.scouting.org/Marketing/Resources/SocialMedia>). For example, always copy one or more authorized adults on email messages between counselors and Scouts.

When the Scout meets with the counselor, he should bring any required projects. If these cannot be transported, he should present evidence, such as photographs or adult verification. His unit leader, for example, might state that a satisfactory bridge or tower has been built for the Pioneering merit badge, or that meals were prepared for Cooking. If there are questions that requirements were met, a counselor may confirm with adults involved. Once satisfied, the counselor signs the blue card using the date upon which the Scout completed the requirements, or in the case of partials, initials the individual requirements passed.

Note that from time to time, it may be appropriate for a requirement that has been met for one badge to also count for another. See "Fulfilling More Than One Requirement With a Single Activity," 4.2.3.6.

### **[7.0.3.2] — Group Instruction**

It is acceptable—and sometimes desirable—for merit badges to be taught in group settings. This often occurs at camp and merit badge midways, fairs, clinics, or similar events. Interactive group discussions can support learning. The method can also be attractive to "guest experts" assisting registered and approved counselors. Slide shows, skits, demonstrations, panels, and various other techniques can also be employed, but as any teacher can attest, not everyone will learn all the material.

There must be attention to each individual's projects and his fulfillment of *all* requirements. We must know that every Scout—actually and *personally*—completed them. If, for example, a requirement uses words like "show," "demonstrate," or "discuss," then every Scout must do that. It is unacceptable to award badges on the basis of sitting in classrooms *watching* demonstrations, or remaining silent during discussions.

It is sometimes reported that Scouts who have received merit badges through group instructional settings have not fulfilled all the requirements. To offer a quality merit badge program, council and district advancement committees should ensure the following are in place for all group instructional events.

- A culture is established for merit badge group instructional events that partial completions are acceptable expected results.
- A guide or information sheet is distributed in advance of events that promotes the acceptability of partials, explains how merit badges can be finished after events, lists merit badge prerequisites, and provides other helpful information that will establish realistic expectations for the number of merit badges that can be earned at an event.
- Merit badge counselors are known to be registered and approved.
- Any guest experts or guest speakers, or others assisting who are not registered and approved as merit badge counselors, do not accept the responsibilities of, or behave as, merit badge counselors, either at a group instructional event or at any other time. Their service is temporary, not ongoing.
- Counselors agree to sign off only requirements that Scouts have actually and personally completed.
- Counselors agree not to assume prerequisites have been completed without some level of evidence that the work has been done. Pictures and letters from other merit badge counselors or unit leaders are the best form of prerequisite documentation when the actual work done cannot be brought to the camp or site of the merit badge event.
- There is a mechanism for unit leaders or others to report concerns to a council advancement committee on summer camp merit badge programs, group instructional events, and any other merit badge counseling issues—especially in instances where it is believed BSA procedures are not followed. See "Reporting Merit Badge Counseling Concerns," 11.1.0.0.
- There must be attention to each individual's projects and his fulfillment of all requirements. We must know that every Scout—actually and personally—completed them.

It is permissible for guest speakers, guest experts, or others who are not merit badge counselors to assist in the counseling process. Those providing such assistance must be under the direction of a registered and approved counselor who is readily available onsite, and provides personal supervision to assure all applicable BSA policies and procedures—including those related to BSA Youth Protection—are in place and followed.

### **[7.0.3.3] — Partial Completions**

A Scout need not pass all the requirements of one merit badge with the same counselor. It may be that due to timing or location issues, etc., he must meet with a different counselor to finish the badge. The Application for Merit Badge has a place to record what has been finished—a "partial." In the center section on the reverse of the blue card, the counselor initials for each requirement passed. In the case of a partial completion, the counselor does not retain his or her portion of the card. A subsequent counselor may choose not to accept partial work, but this should be rare. A Scout, if he believes he is being treated unfairly, may work with his unit leader to find another counselor. An example for the use of a signed partial would be to take it to camp as proof of prerequisites. Partial completions have no expiration except the Scout's 18th birthday. Units, districts, or councils shall not establish other expiration dates for partial merit badges.

### **[7.0.4.8] — Unofficial Worksheets and Learning Aids**

Worksheets and other materials that may be of assistance in earning merit badges are available from a variety of places including unofficial sources on the Internet and even troop libraries. Use of these aids is permissible as long as the materials can be correlated with the current requirements that Scouts must fulfill. Completing "worksheets" may suffice where a requirement calls for something in writing, but this would not work for a requirement where the Scout must discuss, tell, show, or demonstrate, etc. Note that Scouts shall not be required to use these learning aids in order to complete a merit badge.