

Archery

Merit Badge Workbook

Merit badges are earned by doing: reading the pamphlet, practicing the skills, and showing your counselor what you have learned.
This workbook gives you a place to organize your notes and track your progress along the way.
Merit badge counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbook.
You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.
Use the space under each requirement to note what you have done and what you want to talk about, not to write out full answers.
When a requirement says discuss, show, tell, explain, or demonstrate, that is what you must do.
No one may add to or subtract from the official requirements found on scouting.org (Guide to Advancement 7.0.4.8).

Scouting America last updated this badge's requirements page on September 19, 2025.
Requirements change from time to time. Double-check scouting.org before you start.

Scout's name: _____ Unit: _____ Date started: _____

Counselor's name: _____ Phone no.: _____ Email: _____

Links marked "Scouting America resources" are the ones Scouting America shares on its official badge page.
Links marked "ScoutSmarts" open the matching part of Cole's guide. This workbook is unofficial and not endorsed by Scouting America.

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1. Do the following:

(a) Explain what a projectile is, and why any device that shoots a projectile at high speed must be handled with care and respect, and used only in approved locations.

Scouting America resources: High-Speed Collisions in Space - Experiments with a Carrot Gun (video)

What a projectile is, and why a device that shoots one needs care, respect, and an approved location

(b) Explain the five range safety rules.

Scouting America resources: Archery Range Rules (photo) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 1b explained

The five range safety rules

Rule	What it means and why it matters

(c) Explain the four whistle commands used on the range.

Scouting America resources: Archery Range Rules (photo)

The four whistle commands

Whistle command	What it means and what archers do

(d) Explain how to safely remove arrows from the target and return them to your quiver.

Scouting America resources: How To Safely Pull Your Arrows From The Target (video) · Retrieving Arrows (photo)

ScoutSmarts: Requirement 1d explained

How to safely remove arrows from the target and return them to my quiver

(e) Tell your counselor about your local and state laws for owning and using archery equipment.

Scouting America resources: Regulations by State (website) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 1e explained

My city or county _____ My state _____

Local and state laws for owning and using archery equipment

Requirement 1 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

2. Do the following:

(a) Name and point to the parts of an arrow.

Scouting America resources: Diagram of Arrow (photo) · How To Measure an Archer's Arrow Length (video)

ScoutSmarts: Requirement 2a explained

Date _____ Shown to _____

Parts of an arrow (sketch and label here if it helps)

(b) Describe three or more different types of arrows.

Scouting America resources: Different Types of Arrows and Uses (website) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 2b explained

Types of arrows

Type of arrow	Description

(c) Name the four principal materials for making arrow shafts.

Scouting America resources: Different Types of Arrows and Uses (website) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 2c explained

Material 1 | Material 2

Material 3 | Material 4

(d) Do ONE of the following:

ScoutSmarts: Requirement 2d explained

☐ **(1)** Make a complete arrow from a bare shaft using appropriate equipment available to you.

Scouting America resources: How To Make Wood Arrows in 5 Steps (video)

Date | Shaft material and equipment I used

☐ **(2)** To demonstrate arrow repair, inspect the shafts and prepare and replace at least three vanes, one point, and one nock. You may use as many arrows as necessary to accomplish this. The repairs can be done on wood, fiberglass, or aluminum arrows.

Scouting America resources: How To Replace the Nocking Point (video) · Basic Repair Kit (photo) How To Replace the Arrow Fletching (video) · How To Replace the Nock (video) · How To Replace the Target Point (video)

Date | Arrow type (wood, fiberglass, or aluminum)

- ☐ Inspected the shafts
- ☐ Replaced vane 1
- ☐ Replaced vane 2
- ☐ Replaced vane 3
- ☐ Replaced one point
- ☐ Replaced one nock

(e) Explain how to properly care for and store arrows.

Scouting America resources: How To Store Arrows (video) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 2e explained

How to care for and store arrows

Requirement 2 completed on | counselor initials

3. Do the following:

(a) Explain the proper use, care, and storage of, as well as the reasons for using tabs, arm guards, shooting gloves, and quivers.

Scouting America resources: How To Wear Your Archery Gear Correctly (video) · Arm Guard (photo) · Finger Tab on Hand (photo) Quiver (photo) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 3a explained

Tabs: why archers use them, and their use, care, and storage

Arm guards: why archers use them, and their use, care, and storage

Shooting gloves: why archers use them, and their use, care, and storage

Quivers: why archers use them, and their use, care, and storage

(b) Explain the following terms: draw length, draw weight, mechanical release, and barebow.

Scouting America resources: Basic Archery Terms (video) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 3b explained

Archery terms

Term	What it means
Draw length	
Draw weight	
Mechanical release	
Barebow	

Requirement 3 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

4. Explain the following:

(a) The difference between an end and a round

Scouting America resources: NFAA Indoor: Fundamentals of an Indoor Round (video) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 4a explained

The difference between an end and a round

(b) The differences among field, target, and 3-D archery

Scouting America resources: How To Shoot: 3D, Field, and Outdoor Target Archery (website) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 4b explained

Kinds of archery

Kind	How it differs
Field archery	
Target archery	
3-D archery	

(c) How the five-color World Archery Federation target is scored

Scouting America resources: How To Score an Archery Target (video) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 4c explained

How the five-color World Archery Federation target is scored

(d) How the National Field Archery Association (NFAA) black-and-white field targets and blue indoor targets are scored

Scouting America resources: How To Score an NFAA Field Archery Target (video) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 4d explained

How the NFAA black-and-white field target is scored

How the NFAA blue indoor target is scored

Requirement 4 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

5. Working under the supervision of a certified USA Archery Level 1 Instructor or a certified long-term camp staff member (i.e., a National Camping School [NCS] Range Activities Director; or a Rangemaster over age 18 who is trained by an NCS Range Activities Director or by a USA Archery Level 1 Instructor), do ONE of the following options: Note:When using a Genesis bow, apply the requirements in Option A.

Scouting America resources: How Is a Compound Bow Different From a Recurve Bow? (video)

☐ **Option A—Recurve Bow or Longbow. Do ALL of the following:**

ScoutSmarts: Requirement 5A explained

(1) Name and point to the parts of the recurve or longbow you are shooting.

Scouting America resources: Recurve Bow Measurement Chart (photo) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 5A1 explained

Date _____ Shown to _____

Parts of my recurve bow or longbow (sketch and label here if it helps)

(2) Explain how to properly care for and store recurve bows and longbows.

Scouting America resources: How To Store a Recurve Bow (video) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 5A2 explained

How to care for and store recurve bows and longbows

(3) Demonstrate and explain USA Archery's 11 Steps of Shooting for the bow you are shooting.

Scouting America resources: Steps of Shooting (video) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 5A3 explained

Date _____ Shown to _____

USA Archery's 11 Steps of Shooting

Step	Name of the step and what I do
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	

USA Archery's 11 Steps of Shooting (continued)

Step	Name of the step and what I do
10	
11	

(4) Demonstrate the proper way to string a recurve bow or longbow.

Scouting America resources: How To String a Recurve Bow (video)

Date _____ Shown to _____

(5) Using a bow square, locate and mark with dental floss, crimp-on, or other method, the nocking point on the bowstring of the bow you are using.

Scouting America resources: How To Mark a Nock on a Recurve Bow (video)

Date _____ How I marked it (floss, crimp-on, or other) _____

(6) Do ONE of the following:

☐ **(a)** Using a recurve bow or longbow and arrows with a finger release, shoot a single round of ONE of the following:

☐ **(1)** An NFAA field round of 14 targets and make a score of 60 points

ScoutSmarts: Requirement 5A6a1 explained

Date _____ Where _____ Supervisor _____ My score _____

☐ **(2)** A Scouting America field round of 14 targets and make a score of 80 points

Date _____ Where _____ Supervisor _____ My score _____

☐ **(3)** A World Archery/USA Archery indoor round and make a score of 80 points (Indoor rounds may be shot outdoors if this is more convenient.)

Date _____ Where _____ Supervisor _____ My score _____

☐ **(4)** An NFAA indoor round and make a score of 50 points (Indoor rounds may be shot outdoors if this is more convenient.)

Date _____ Where _____ Supervisor _____ My score _____

☐ **(b)** Shooting 30 arrows in five-arrow ends at an 80-centimeter (32-inch) five-color target at 10 yards and using the 10 scoring regions, make a score of 150 points.

Date _____ Where _____ Supervisor _____ Total score _____

My scorecard (six five-arrow ends at 10 yards)

End	Arrow 1	Arrow 2	Arrow 3	Arrow 4	Arrow 5	End total
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						

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☐ **Option B—Compound Bow. Do ALL of the following:**

(1) Name and point to the parts of the compound bow you are shooting.

Scouting America resources: compound_bow.png (photo)

Date _____ Shown to _____

Parts of my compound bow (sketch and label here if it helps)

(2) Explain how to properly care for and store compound bows.

How to care for and store compound bows

(3) Demonstrate and explain USA Archery's 11 Steps of Shooting for the bow you are shooting.

Scouting America resources: Steps of Shooting (video)

Date _____ Shown to _____

USA Archery's 11 Steps of Shooting

Step	Name of the step and what I do
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	

(4) Explain why it is necessary to have the string or cable on a compound bow replaced at an archery shop.

Why the string or cable on a compound bow needs to be replaced at an archery shop

(5) Locate and mark with dental floss, crimp-on, or other method, the nocking point on the bowstring of the bow you are using.

Scouting America resources: How To Mark a Nock on a Compound Bow (video) · **ScoutSmarts:** Requirement 5B5 explained

Date _____ How I marked it (floss, crimp-on, or other) _____

(6) Do ONE of the following:

☐ **(a)** Using a compound bow and arrows with a finger release, shoot a single round of ONE of the following:

☐ **(1)** An NFAA field round of 14 targets and make a score of 70 points

Date | Where | Supervisor | My score

☐ **(2)** A Scouting America field round of 14 targets and make a score of 90 points

Date | Where | Supervisor | My score

☐ **(3)** A World Archery/USA Archery indoor round and make a score of 90 points (Indoor rounds may be shot outdoors if this is more convenient.)

Date | Where | Supervisor | My score

☐ **(4)** An NFAA indoor round and make a score of 60 points (Indoor rounds may be shot outdoors if this is more convenient.)

Date | Where | Supervisor | My score

☐ **(b)** Shooting at an 80-centimeter (32-inch) five-color target using the 10 scoring regions, make a minimum score of 160 points. Accomplish this in the following manner: Shoot 15 arrows in five-arrow ends, at a distance of 10 yards AND Shoot 15 arrows in five-arrow ends, at a distance of 15 yards.

Date | Where | Supervisor | Total score

My scorecard (five-arrow ends)

End	Arrow 1	Arrow 2	Arrow 3	Arrow 4	Arrow 5	End total
1 at 10 yards						
2 at 10 yards						
3 at 10 yards						
4 at 15 yards						
5 at 15 yards						
6 at 15 yards						

Requirement 5 completed on | counselor initials

Counselor sign-off

Your counselor signs your blue card or approves the badge in Scoutbook, and your unit records it. This line is for your own records.

Counselor's signature | Date completed

Official Scouting America resources

Scouting America resources: Archery merit badge page (requirements and resources) · Archery merit badge pamphlet (free PDF)
All merit badges · **ScoutSmarts:** Archery Merit Badge Guide, Part 1 · Archery Merit Badge Guide, Part 2

Made by Cole at ScoutSmarts.com, an Eagle Scout who loves helping Scouts.
Spot an error or a requirement change? Tell me at scoutsmarts.com/contact.
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