

Coin Collecting

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 December 31, 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.
This workbook is unofficial and not endorsed by Scouting America.

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1. Understand how coins are made and where the active U.S. Mint facilities are located.

Scouting America resources: How Coins Are Made—Inside U.S. Coin Factory (video) · US Mint Locations in the US (website)

How coins are made

Where the active U.S. Mint facilities are located

Requirement 1 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

2. Explain the following terms: obverse, reverse, reeding, clad, type set, and date set.

Scouting America resources: Coin Term Glossary (website) · Coin Collecting for Beginners; Coin Terminology and Coin Anatomy (video)

Coin terms

Term	What it means
obverse	
reverse	
reeding	
clad	
type set	
date set	

Requirement 2 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

3. Describe three different ways to store a collection, and the benefits, drawbacks, and cost of each method.

Scouting America resources: Coin Storage Tips | How and Where to Keep Your Collection Safe (video)

Three ways to store a collection

Storage method	Benefits	Drawbacks	Cost

Requirement 3 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

4. Do the following and explain to your counselor the design features, designer name, designer initials, and where to find them for each item:

Scouting America resources: Coin Collecting 101 for Beginners: What You Need to Know to Start Coin Collecting (video)

(a) Collect a one-cent coin from the year group: 1959-2008 (that is, dated between 1959 and 2008) and a one-cent coin from the year group 2010-present. Explain how and why the one-cent coins issued in 2009 were different from either of the other two year groups.

My one-cent coins

Coin	Year and design features	Designer name and initials	Where to find them
One-cent coin, 1959-2008			
One-cent coin, 2010-present			

How and why the 2009 one-cent coins were different

(b) Collect two five-cent coins, one from each of these year groups: 1959-2003 and 2006-present. Explain how and why the five-cent coins issued in 2004-2005 were different from either of the other two year groups.

My five-cent coins

Coin	Year and design features	Designer name and initials	Where to find them
Five-cent coin, 1959-2003			
Five-cent coin, 2006-present			

How and why the 2004-2005 five-cent coins were different

(c) Collect a ten-cent coin from 1965-present.

My ten-cent coin

Coin	Year and design features	Designer name and initials	Where to find them
Ten-cent coin, 1965-present			

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(d) Collect a twenty-five-cent coin from 1965-1998, two examples from the 50-State Quarter®/territories Program 1999-2009, two designs from the America the Beautiful® program 2010-2021 and two designs from the American Women Quarter® program (2022-2024). Explain the purpose of each of those programs.

Scouting America resources: Collecting State Quarters (video) · America the Beautiful Quarters® Program (video) American Women Quarters® Program (video)

My twenty-five-cent coins

Coin	Year and design features	Designer name and initials	Where to find them
Quarter, 1965-1998			
50-State Quarter/territories, 1			
50-State Quarter/territories, 2			
America the Beautiful, 1			
America the Beautiful, 2			
American Women Quarter, 1			
American Women Quarter, 2			

The purpose of each program

Program	Its purpose
50-State Quarter/territories Program	
America the Beautiful program	
American Women Quarter program	

(e) Collect a half dollar coin from 1965-present.

My half dollar

Coin	Year and design features	Designer name and initials	Where to find them
Half dollar, 1965-present			

(f) Collect a dollar coin from each of the following design groups: Susan B. Anthony (1979-1981, 1999); Sacagawea (2000-2008); and U.S. Presidents (2007-2016, 2020).

Scouting America resources: Susan B. Anthony Coins (website) · Sacagawea Coins (website) · Presidential Dollar Coins (website)

My dollar coins

Coin	Year and design features	Designer name and initials	Where to find them
Susan B. Anthony			
Sacagawea			
U.S. Presidents			

Requirement 4 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

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5. Describe and discuss with your counselor the special reverse designs of the quarters, half dollar, and dollar coin struck in 1975-1976 to honor the U.S. Bicentennial.

Scouting America resources: Bicentennial Coins & Medals (website)

Bicentennial reverse designs, 1975-1976

Coin	The special reverse design
Quarter	
Half dollar	
Dollar coin	

Notes for discussing them with my counselor

Requirement 5 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

6. Identify for your counselor the people depicted on current currency: $1, $2, $5, $10, $20, $50, and $100 notes. Explain where United States currency is printed.

Scouting America resources: How Money is Made (video) · Do You Know Who Is on Every US Banknote? (video)

People on current currency

Note	Person depicted
$1	
$2	
$5	
$10	
$20	
$50	
$100	

Where United States currency is printed

Requirement 6 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

7. Do ONE of the following:

☐ **(a)** Collect and identify for your counselor 20 different world coins from at least seven different countries. Identify the country, major design elements, and denomination of each.

My 20 world coins

#	Country	Major design elements	Denomination
1			
2			
3			

My 20 world coins (continued)

#	Country	Major design elements	Denomination
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			

☐ **(b)** Collect and identify for your counselor 20 different world paper money from at least seven different countries. Identify the country, major design elements, and denomination of each.

My 20 world paper money notes

#	Country	Major design elements	Denomination
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			

My 20 world paper money notes (continued)

#	Country	Major design elements	Denomination
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			

☐ **(c)** Collect and identify for your counselor 20 different tokens and/or medals. Identify the issuer and use of each.

Scouting America resources: Exonumia (Tokens and Medals) (website)

My 20 tokens and medals

#	Token or medal	Issuer	Use
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

My 20 tokens and medals (continued)

#	Token or medal	Issuer	Use
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			

☐ **(d)** Complete one of the following and report to your counselor what you experienced:

What I experienced (my report for my counselor)

☐ **(1)** Attend a coin show

Scouting America resources: National and Regional Coin Shows for Collectors (website)

Date _____ Coin show _____

☐ **(2)** Attend a coin club meeting

Scouting America resources: Local Coin Club Directory (website)

Date _____ Coin club _____

☐ **(3)** Tour a U.S. Mint facility or museum

Scouting America resources: US Mint Locations in the US (website)

Date _____ Mint facility or museum _____

☐ **(4)** Tour a virtual exhibit (with your parent or guardian's permission) approved by your counselor

Scouting America resources: Virtual Tours (website) · History of Money Exhibit (website) · Medal in America Exhibit (website)

Date _____ Virtual exhibit _____

Requirement 7 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: Coin Collecting merit badge page (requirements and resources)
Coin Collecting merit badge pamphlet (free PDF) · All merit badges

Made by Cole at ScoutSmarts.com, an Eagle Scout who loves helping Scouts.
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