

Landscape Architecture

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.
This workbook is unofficial and not endorsed by Scouting America.

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1. Go to a completed landscape project that a landscape architect has designed. Before you visit the site, obtain a plan of the design from the landscape architect if one is available.

Project I visited _____ Date _____

Where _____ Designed by _____

☐ I got a plan of the design before my visit (if one was available)

Requirement 1 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

2. After completing requirement 1, discuss the following with your counselor:

(a) Tell whether the design had separate spaces, a defined point of entry, a clear path system, and sun and shade variety.

Scouting America resources: Defining Spaces and Adding Privacy Outdoors | Design Tips | HGTV (video)

Design features

Feature	Did it have it?	What I saw
Separate spaces		
A defined point of entry		
A clear path system		
Sun and shade variety		

(b) Discuss how any structures, the designated seating, eating, or parking areas suited the overall design.

Scouting America resources: Ripple Park | Landscape Architecture Capstone (video)

How each part suited the overall design

Part of the site	How it suited the overall design
Structures	
Seating areas	
Eating areas	
Parking areas	

(c) Explain how the design reflected consideration for the comfort, shelter, and security of the users.

Scouting America resources: Spaces that Heal and Comfort (website)

Thinking about the users

Users' need	How the design considered it
Comfort	
Shelter	
Security	

(d) Discuss how the choice of trees, shrubs, and ground covers used in the project contributed to its appeal and function.

Scouting America resources: Landscaping with Trees and Shrubs: Types and Planting (video)

Plants in the project

Plants	Which ones I saw	How they added to its appeal and function
Trees		
Shrubs		
Ground covers		

Requirement 2 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

3. Identify five shrubs, five trees, and one ground cover, being sure that you select examples of different shapes, sizes, and textures. With the help of your counselor or a local nursery, choose plants that will grow in your area. Bring pictures of the different planting materials or, if possible, examples of their branches, leaves, or flowers to a group such as your troop or class at school. Be prepared to tell how you might use each in the design of a landscape and the maintenance that would follow.

Scouting America resources: Tree and Shrub ID (video)

My plant list (plants that grow in my area)

Type	Plant name	Shape, size, and texture	How I might use it in a design	Maintenance
Shrub 1				
Shrub 2				
Shrub 3				
Shrub 4				

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My plant list (plants that grow in my area) (continued)

Type	Plant name	Shape, size, and texture	How I might use it in a design	Maintenance
Shrub 5				
Tree 1				
Tree 2				
Tree 3				
Tree 4				
Tree 5				
Ground cover				

Who helped me choose _____ Group I showed them to _____ Date _____

Requirement 3 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

4. After obtaining permission from the appropriate authority, look at and study a place of worship, school grounds, or a public building and identify where most people arrive by bus or car. Then do the following:

Site I studied _____ Permission from _____

Where most people arrive by bus or car _____

(a) Using a measuring tape, measure and draw the main site entry and its nearby area. Define the scale of your drawing. Be sure to include the driveway and sidewalk or path that leads to the building's main entry. Indicate any sidewalks, structures, trees and plants, lights, drains, utilities, or other site furnishings within the study area. Make two copies of this plan and save the original, then do 4(b) and 4(c) using the copies.

Scouting America resources: Create Your Own Landscape Design | Site Survey (video)

Scale of my drawing _____ Date measured _____

My site plan of the main entry and nearby area (draw here or attach the original)

- ☐ Driveway
- ☐ Sidewalk or path to the main entry
- ☐ Other sidewalks
- ☐ Structures
- ☐ Trees and plants
- ☐ Lights
- ☐ Drains
- ☐ Utilities
- ☐ Other site furnishings
- ☐ Two copies made, original saved

(b) On one copy of your site plan, use directional arrows to indicate where the water drains across the site, where ditches occur, and where water stands for a longer period of time.

- ☐ Arrows showing where water drains
- ☐ Where ditches occur
- ☐ Where water stands longer

What I noticed about drainage (attach the marked copy)

(c) Decide how you can make the place safer and more comfortable for those using it. Redesign the area on another copy of the plan. You may want to include new walks, covered waiting areas, benches, space-defining plantings of trees and shrubs, and drainage structures.

How I would make the place safer and more comfortable

My redesign (draw here or attach the second copy)

Requirement 4 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

5. Identify three career opportunities that would use skills and knowledge in landscape architecture. Pick one and research the training, education, certification requirements, experience, and expenses associated with entering the field. Research the prospects for employment, starting salary, advancement opportunities, and career goals associated with this career. Discuss what you learned with your counselor and whether you might be interested in this career.

Scouting America resources: Career Connections: Landscape Architect (video)

Three careers that use these skills

Career	What the work involves

The career I picked

What I found out

Topic	What I learned
Training	
Education	
Certification requirements	
Experience	
Expenses	
Prospects for employment	
Starting salary	
Advancement opportunities	
Career goals	

Whether I might be interested in this career, and why

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: Landscape Architecture merit badge page (requirements and resources)
Landscape Architecture merit badge pamphlet (free PDF) · All merit badges

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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