

Pets

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. Present evidence that you have cared for a pet for four months. Get approval before you start. Note: Work done for other merit badges cannot be used for this requirement.

Scouting America resources: Create an Activity Log (video)

My pet (kind and name) _____ Start date _____ End date _____

Approved by _____ Approval date _____

My pet care log: weeks 1 to 9

Week	Dates	Feeding and water	Cleaning and housing	Health and other care
Week 1				
Week 2				
Week 3				
Week 4				
Week 5				
Week 6				
Week 7				
Week 8				
Week 9				

My pet care log: weeks 10 to 18

Week	Dates	Feeding and water	Cleaning and housing	Health and other care
Week 10				
Week 11				
Week 12				
Week 13				
Week 14				
Week 15				
Week 16				
Week 17				
Week 18				

Other evidence I will show my counselor (photos, records, receipts)

Requirement 1 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

2. Write in 200 words or more about the care, feeding, and housing of your pet. Tell some interesting facts about it. Tell why you have this kind of pet. Give local laws, if any, relating to the pet you keep.

Scouting America resources: Understanding Hamsters: Care, Feeding, Housing, and More (video)

Care, feeding, and housing of my pet (my write-up, 200 words or more in total)

Interesting facts about my pet

Why I have this kind of pet

Local laws relating to my pet, if any (and where I found them)

Requirement 2 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

3. Show that you have read a book or pamphlet, approved by your counselor, about your kind of pet. Discuss with your counselor what you have learned from what you read.

Book or pamphlet title _____ Author _____

Approved by my counselor on _____ Date I finished reading _____

What I learned from what I read

Requirement 3 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

4. Do ONE of the following:

☐ **(a)** Show your pet in a pet show.

Scouting America resources: Cat Agility Course at Cat Fanciers Cat Show (video)

Pet show _____ Where _____ Date _____

How it went

☐ **(b)** Train a pet in three or more tricks or special abilities.

Scouting America resources: Train Your Cat To Do Fun Tricks (video) · How I Trained My Cat To Fetch (video)

Tricks or special abilities I trained (three or more)

Trick or special ability	How I trained my pet	Date my pet learned it

Shown to _____ Date _____

Requirement 4 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

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5. Do ONE of the following:

☐ **(a)** Explore careers related to this merit badge. Research one career to learn about the training and education needed, costs, job prospects, salary, job duties, and career advancement. Your research methods may include—with your parent or guardian's permission—an internet or library search, an interview with a professional in the field, or a visit to a location where people in this career work. Discuss with your counselor both your findings and what about this profession might make it an interesting career.

Scouting America resources: 15 Awesome Jobs for Animal Lovers (video)

Careers related to pets I explored

Career	What people in it do

The career I researched

Parent or guardian permission for my research

☐ I did an internet or library search
☐ I interviewed a professional in the field
☐ I visited a place where people in this career work

What I found

Topic	My findings
Training and education needed	
Costs	
Job prospects	
Salary	
Job duties	
Career advancement	

What might make it an interesting career

☐ **(b)** Explore how you could use knowledge and skills from this merit badge to pursue a hobby or healthy lifestyle. Research any training needed, expenses, and organizations that promote or support it. Discuss with your counselor what short-term and long-term goals you might have if you pursued this.

Scouting America resources: Animal Hobbies (video)

My hobby or healthy lifestyle idea

What I found

Topic	My findings
Training needed	
Expenses	
Organizations that promote or support it	

Goals	If I pursued this
Short-term	
Long-term	

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: Pets merit badge page (requirements and resources) · Pets 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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