

Public Speaking

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. Give a three- to five-minute introduction of yourself to an audience such as your troop, class at school, or some other group.

Scouting America resources: How To Introduce Yourself In A Speech (video) · Introduction Speech Example (video)

Audience _____ Date _____ How long I spoke _____

Notes for my introduction (opening, things about me to share, closing)

Requirement 1 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

2. Prepare a three- to five-minute talk on a topic of your choice that incorporates body language and visual aids.

Scouting America resources: How Should I Pick My Speech Topic? (video)
4 Essential Body Language Tips From a World Champion Public Speaker (video)
3 Minute Speech: How to Craft a Memorable Short Speech? (video) · 5 Presentation Aids to Make Your Presentation Pop (video)

My topic _____ Planned length _____

Talk outline (opening, main points, closing)

Visual aids I'll use

Visual aid	When and how I'll use it

Body language I'll use and when

Requirement 2 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

3. Give an impromptu talk of at least two minutes, either as part of a group discussion or before your counselor. Use a subject selected by your counselor that is interesting to you but that is not known to you in advance and for which you do not have time to prepare.

Scouting America resources: What is Impromptu Speaking? (video) · Mastering Impromptu Speaking: An Opportunity! (video)
Mastering Impromptu Speaking: Deep Breaths and Go Slow (video) · How Do I Improve my Impromptu Speeches? (video)
How to Pick a Captivating Speech Topic (video)

Subject my counselor picked _____ Date _____ How long I spoke _____

- ☐ As part of a group discussion
- ☐ Before my counselor

How it went, and what I'd do differently next time

Requirement 3 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

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4. Select a topic of interest to your audience. Collect and organize information about the topic and prepare an outline. Write an eight- to 10-minute speech, practice it, then deliver it in a conversational way.

Scouting America resources: How to Prepare a Speech (video) · The Easiest Way to Practice for a Speech or Presentation (video)

My topic _____ My audience _____

Why this topic interests my audience

Information I collected

Source (book, website, person...)	What I learned from it

My outline (opening, main points, closing)

☐ I wrote my full speech (attach it to this workbook)

My practice log

Date	Where, and who listened	How long	What I'll improve

Delivered to _____ Date _____ How long I spoke _____

Requirement 4 completed on _____ counselor initials _____

5. Show you know parliamentary procedure by leading a discussion or meeting according to accepted rules of order; or by answering questions on the rules of order.

Scouting America resources: Robert's Rules (video) · Roberts Rules of Order Updated (video)

- ☐ Led a discussion or meeting
- ☐ Answered questions on the rules of order

Meeting, discussion or who asked me _____ Date _____ With whom _____

Rules of order I used, or questions I answered

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: Public Speaking merit badge page (requirements and resources)
Public Speaking 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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