



Coin Collecting

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook is not required but is designed to help you with this merit badge. No one can add or subtract from the Boy Scout Requirements #33215. Use page backs & add pages as needed. Please send comments to: craig@craiglincoln.com. Requirements revised: 2002, Workbook updated: January 2004.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Ph #: _____

1) Understand how coins are made, _____

and where the active U.S. Mint facilities are located. _____

2) Explain these collecting terms:

a) Obverse _____

b) Reverse _____

c) Reeding _____

d) Clad _____

e) Type set _____

f) Date set _____

3) Explain the terms

poor, _____

good, _____

very good, _____

fine, _____

very fine, _____

extremely fine, _____

and uncirculated. _____

Show five different grade examples of the same coin type. _____

Explain the term "proof" _____
and why it is not a grade. _____

Tell what "encapsulated" coins are. _____

4) Know three different ways to store a collection, and describe the benefits, drawbacks, and expenses of each method.

Method _____

Benefits _____

Drawbacks _____

Expense _____

Method _____

Benefits _____

Drawbacks _____

Expense _____

Method _____

Benefits _____

Drawbacks _____

Expense _____

Pick one to use when completing requirements. _____

5) Do the following:

a) Identify the people depicted on the following denominations of current U.S. paper money:

\$1, _____

\$2, _____

\$5, _____

\$10, _____

\$20, _____

\$50, _____

and \$100. _____

b) Explain "legal tender." _____

c) Describe the role the Federal Reserve System plays in the distribution of currency. _____

6) Do the following:

a) Demonstrate to your counselor that you know how to use two U.S. or world coin reference catalogs.

Reference _____

Reference _____

b) Read a numismatic magazine or newspaper: _____

and tell your counselor about what you learned. _____

7) Describe the 1999-2008 50 State Quarters Program. _____

Collect and show your counselor five different quarters you have acquired from circulation. _____

8) Collect from circulation a set of currently circulating U.S. coins. Include one coin of each denomination (cent, nickel, dime, quarter, half-dollar, Susan B. Anthony or Sacagawea dollar).

For each coin, locate the mint marks, if any, and the designer's initials, if any.

cent, _____

nickel, _____

dime, _____

quarter, _____

half-dollar, _____

Susan B. Anthony or Sacagawea dollar _____

9) Do ONE of the following:

a) Collect and identify 50 foreign coins from at least 10 different countries.

-OR- b) Collect and identify 20 bank notes from at least five different countries.

-OR- c) Collect and identify 15 different tokens or medals.

-OR- d) Collect a date set of a single type since the year of your birth.

10) Do ONE of the following:

a) Tour a U.S. Mint facility, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, or a Federal Reserve bank, _____

and describe what you learned to your counselor. _____

-OR- b) With your parent's permission, attend a coin show or coin club meeting, or view the Web site of the U.S. Mint or a coin dealer, and report what you learned. (Note: Per National, "parent's" means "parent's or guardian's".) _____

-OR- c) Give a talk about coin collecting to your troop or class at school. (*Per National, "troop" means "unit".*) _____

-OR- d) Do drawings of five Colonial-era U.S. coins.