Troop 30's Recommended Sequence of Merit Badges

Which badges first? - Scouts can work on merit badges from the age of 10-1/2 until they reach the age of 18. BSA has designed merit badges that will be interesting and challenging for boys throughout that age range. Some merit badges are significantly easier than others. When selecting merit badges on which to work, it is important to pick badges that are age-appropriate, otherwise the Scout can be overwhelmed and get discouraged.

Troop 30's recommended sequence of merit badges is as follows:

Level 1 - New Scouts / Ages 10 1/2-11 / 5th and 6th Grades

Eagle Required	Non-Eagle Required	
	Art	**Fishing**
	Basketry	**Indian Lore**
	Climbing	**Leatherwork**
	Dog Care	**Mammal Study**
	Fingerprinting	**Pets**
	Fire Safety	**Woodcarving**

Level 2 - Second Class / Ages 11-13 / 6th and 7th Grades

Eagle Required	Non-Eagle Required	
Camping	**Archery**	**Model Design & Building**
First Aid	**Astronomy**	**Music & Bugling**
Emergency Prep*	**Bird Study**	**Nature**
(First Aid MB req'd before)	**Canoeing**	**Orienteering**
	Coin Collecting	**Painting**
	Collections	**Pioneering**
	Crime Prevention	Plant Science
	Disabilities Awareness	Pottery
	Fish And Wildlife Mngt.	Pulp & Paper
	Fly Fishing	**Reading**
	Forestry	Reptile & Amphibian Study
	Gardening	Rowing
	Home Repairs	Safety
	Insect Study	**Scholarship**
	Law	**Sports**
	Metalwork	Stamp Collecting

Level 3 - First Class & Star / Ages 13-14 / 7th and 8th Grades

Eagle Required	Non-Eagle Required	
Citizenship in the Community Citizenship in the Nation Environmental Science Hiking, Swimming or Cycling** Personal Fitness	American Business American Cultures American Heritages American Labor Animal Science Archeology Architecture Athletics Aviation Computers Cooking Dentistry Drafting Electricity Electronics Energy Entrepreneurship Farm Mechanics Genealogy Geology Golf Graphic Arts Horsemanship	Journalism Landscape Architecture Motorboating Oceanography Photography Plumbing Public Health Public Speaking Radio Railroading Rifle Shooting Salesmanship Sculpture Skating Small Boat Sailing Snow Sports Soil & Water Conservation Textile Truck Transportation Veterinary Medicine Waterskiing Woodwork

Level 4 - Star & Life / Ages 14-15 / 8th Grade and UP

Eagle Required	Non-Eagle Required	
Citizenship in the World Communications Family Life Lifesaving* (Swimming MB req'd before) Personal Management	Atomic Energy Auto Mechanics Backpacking BSA Lifeguard Chemistry Cinematography Engineering Medicine	Shotgun Shooting Space Exploration Surveying Theater Traffic Safety Weather Whitewater Wilderness Survival

Notes:

Troop 30 suggests that each Scout earn Cooking MB and the Pioneering MB before the rank of Star, and suggests that each scout earn Auto Mechanics MB and Traffic Safety MB before the rank of Life. Although these four merit badges are not officially required by the BSA, Troop 30 would like it's Scouts to earn these four badges by the rank indicated.

For Eagle, only 12 of the 15 Eagle Required Merit Badges are required. Only one of Emergency Prep* or Lifesaving* is required, and only one of Swimming, Hiking** or Cycling** is required.**

Troop 30 now encourages that each Scout go outside the troop counselor list to find a merit badge and counselor that has not been taken in recent troop history, and completed before his Eagle Board of Review. The Scout will then get on the calendar to present his new merit badge experience at a Troop meeting.

There are also themes where different merit badges that inter-relate could be offered. These themes could be industry focused as an example, or perhaps hobbies.

Examples would be:

Agribusiness-Animal Science, Farm Mechanics, Plant Science & Veterinary Medicine

Physical Science- Archeology, Astronomy, Atomic Energy, Chemistry, Computers, Electricity, Electronics, Energy, Engineering, Environmental Science, Forestry, Geology, Oceanography, Space Exploration,

Emergency Prep-Emergency Prep, Fire Safety, First Aid, Home Repairs, Lifesaving, Medicine, Safety, Plumbing, Public Health & Wilderness Survival

The Great Outdoors-Bird Study, Camping, Climbing, Environmental Science, Fish & Wildlife Mngt., Forestry, Gardening, Geology, Insect Study, Landscape Architecture, Nature, Oceanography, Plant Science, Reptile & Amphibian Study, Soil & Water Conservation, Weather

Business-American Business, American Labor, Communications, Computers, Entrepreneurship, Graphic Arts, Law, Personal Mngt., Public Speaking, Salesmanship

Sports-Archery, Athletics, Cycling, Fly-Fishing, Horsemanship, Personal Fitness, Skating, Snow Sports, Sports, Swimming, Waterskiing

Water Sports-Canoeing, Rowing, Small-Boat Sailing, Swimming, Waterskiing, Whitewater

More suggestions from parents:

American Culture, American Heritage, American Labor, Citizenship in the Community/Nation/World, Law

Animal Science, Bird Study, Insect Study, Mammal Study, Reptile and Amphibian Study

Archaeology, Geology, Architecture, Landscape Architecture

Archery, Indian Lore, Pioneering, Rifle Shooting, Shotgun Shooting

Art, Basketry, Drafting, Graphic Arts, Leatherwork, Painting, Pottery, Sculpture, Textile, Wood Carving, Woodwork

Astronomy, Aviation, Space Exploration, Weather

Athletics, Cycling, Golf, Personal Fitness, Sports, Skating, Snow Sports, Swimming

Auto Mechanics, Metalwork, Model Design & Building, Railroading, Traffic Safety, Truck Transportation

Environmental Science, Fish and Wildlife Management, Forestry, Nature, Oceanography, Pulp & Paper, Soil and Water Conservation

Backpacking, Camping, Climbing, Hiking, Orienteering, Surveying, Wilderness Survival

Canoeing, Fishing, Fly Fishing, Rowing, Whitewater

Atomic Energy, Chemistry, Cooking, Energy, Family Life, Genealogy, Home Repairs, Plumbing

Cinematography, Journalism, Photography

Collections, Coin Collecting, Stamp Collecting

Communications, Public Speaking

Computers, Electricity, Electronics, Engineering, Radio

Crime Prevention, Fingerprinting, Law, Traffic Safety

Dentistry

Disabilities Awareness, Safety, Public Health

Dog Care, Pets, Veterinary Medicine

Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, First Aid, Lifesaving, Medicine

Entrepreneurship, Salesmanship

Gardening, Farm Study, Pioneering, Plant Science

Horsemanship

Motorboating, Small-Boat Sailing, Water Skiing

Music, Bugling, Theatre

Reading, Scholarship, Personal Management