



St. Margaret's Church
Marvin, NC

TROOP 101

How Do I earn a Merit Badge?

There are 3 ways you can earn a merit badge. Each way is outlined below:

Merit badges are not required for rank advancement until the Star Rank so focus should be given on getting Tenderfoot, 1st Class and 2nd Class requirements completed first. Some merit badges require more effort and are needed for Eagle Scout rank. It may be a good idea to start these sooner than later.

General Steps

1. Scout Expresses Interest in Earning a Particular Badge
2. Merit Badge Counselor Assigned, Blue Card Provided
3. Requirements Worked On / Met, Counselor Signs Blue Card
4. Scoutmaster Reviews Completed Requirements, Signs Blue Card
5. Merit Badge Recorded at Troop and Council Level
6. Merit Badge Awarded in Troop Meeting

Troop Outings and Meetings

Some Merit Badges will be incorporated by troop leadership into planned troop activities. When this is planned, each scout will be notified, a Merit Badge Counselor identified, a Blue Card provided to track requirements, and a workbook to facilitate the learning process. Examples of these Merit Badges are (but not limited to): Hiking, Camping, Orienteering, Cooking, Pioneering, Canoeing, Backpacking, Climbing, etc.

Once the requirements are completed by the scout, they should get the Blue Card signed off by Mr. Crooks. Mr. Crooks will turn into Mr. Warner to record and get the patch.

Advancement / Merit Badge Mania

The Central North Carolina council runs merit badge courses pretty much every month from September through May. These are offered at Camp Barnhardt on Badin Lake and are a great way to get some of the harder badges at least partially fulfilled. The troop will have signup sheets to attend these so each scout is encouraged to attend if possible.

Click [here](#) to see the schedule for 2008-2009. There is a \$10 fee to attend, plus an additional amount to cover the cost of transportation.

Individually

Although Troop activities and Advancement Mania are good ways to earn merit badges, they will not fully take the place of individual efforts. You may have partially fulfilled a merit badge at one of these events, but still have some requirements to do on your own. You may also have an interest in a badge that is not commonly available. This is where individual study will be required with the assistance of a merit badge counselor.

Follow the process above to work on your own.

Resources on the Internet for Merit Badges

Click on the link to go to the site.

- [Boy Scouts of America Introduction to Merit Badges](#)
- [Merit Badge.com](#)
- [The Boy Scout Trail](#)
- [US Scouting Service Project](#)



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Eagle Rank Required Merit Badges

A boy scout can begin taking merit badges as soon as he joins a troop, but no merit badges are required for advancement until he receives his First Class rank. Advancement to Star, Life, and Eagle all require completion of merit badges, service, and leadership. To reach Eagle rank, a scout must complete a total of at least 21 Boy Scout merit badges, 12 of which come from the Eagle-required badge list.

 Camping	 Citizenship in the Community	 Citizenship in the Nation	 Citizenship in the World
 Communications	 Environmental Science	 Family Life	 First Aid
 Personal Fitness	 Personal Management	 Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving	
 Cycling OR Hiking OR Swimming			