



# Music

## Merit Badge Workbook



This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor.

You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.

You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed, and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.

If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show", "tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

**Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.**

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Scouts BSA Requirements (Pub. 33216 – SKU 653801).

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2012 • This workbook was updated in June 2020.

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

<http://www.USScouts.Org> • <http://www.MeritBadge.Org>

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: [Workbooks@USScouts.Org](mailto:Workbooks@USScouts.Org)  
Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: [Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org](mailto:Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org)

1. Sing or play a simple song or hymn chosen by your counselor using good technique, phrasing, tone, rhythm, and dynamics. Read all the signs and terms of the score.
2. Name the five general groups of musical instruments.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Create an illustration that shows how tones are generated and how instruments produce sound.

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3. Do TWO of the following:

- a. Attend a live performance, or listen to three hours of recordings from any two of the following musical styles: blues, jazz, classical, country, bluegrass, ethnic, gospel, musical theater, opera.

1. Musical Style: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the sound of the music and the instruments used.

Sound			
Instruments			

Identify the composers or songwriters, the performers, and the titles of the pieces you heard.

Composers or songwriters	Performers	Titles

If it was a live performance, describe the setting and the reaction of the audience.

Setting	
Reaction	

Discuss your thoughts about the music.


2. Musical Style: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the sound of the music and the instruments used.

Sound			
Instruments			

Identify the composers or songwriters, the performers, and the titles of the pieces you heard.

Composers or songwriters	
Performers	
Titles	

If it was a live performance, describe the setting and the reaction of the audience.

Setting	
Reaction	

Discuss your thoughts about the music.


- b. Interview an adult member of your family about music.

Person interviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

Find out what the most popular music was when he or she was your age.


Find out what his or her favorite music is now, and listen to three of your relative's favorite tunes with him or her.

His or her favorite tunes:

1.	
2.	
3.	

How do those favorites sound to you?


Had you ever heard any of them?


Play three of your favorite songs for your relative, and explain why you like these songs.

1.	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
2.	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
3.	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Ask what he or she thinks of your favorite music.

<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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- c. Serve for six months as a member of a school band, drum and bugle corps, choir, or other organized musical group, or perform as a soloist in public six times.

- d. List five people who are important in the history of American music and explain to your counselor why they continue to be influential. Include at least one composer, one performer, one innovator, and one person born more than 100 years ago.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

4. Do ONE of the following:

- a. Teach three songs to a group of people. Lead them in singing the songs, using proper hand motions.

<input type="checkbox"/> 1.	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2.	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3.	

- b. Compose and write the score for a piece of music of 12 measures or more, and play this music on an instrument. *(A sheet of blank music staves can be found at the end of this workbook.)*
- c. Make a traditional instrument and learn to play it.

5. Define for your counselor intellectual property (IP). Explain how to properly obtain and share recorded music.


When working on merit badges, Scouts and Scouters should be aware of some vital information in the current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* (BSA publication 33088). Important excerpts from that publication can be downloaded from <http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf>. You can download a complete copy of the *Guide to Advancement* from <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>.

