How to Play Blue Card Bingo!

1 Pick a Badge!

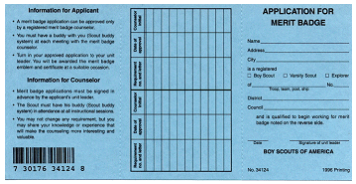
Merit badges are a fun and rewarding part of Scouting. Some Merit Badges are hard, some are pretty easy. But no matter what badge you choose, follow these steps to make sure you have the proper record of all the work you did to earn that badge!

2 Pick a Buddy

Scouts must always "buddy up" for Merit Badge counseling sessions. If you can't find a friend who's interested, your Mom or Dad can be your buddy (although they won't be able to earn the badge!).

3 Fill out a Blue Card

Blue cards are available from any adult leader. Fill in your name and address, Troop Number and the name of the Merit Badge. See the back of this handout for help filling in the card.



4 Get Your Scoutmaster's Signature

Before you can begin work on your badge, you must have the Scoutmaster or one of the Assistant Scoutmasters sign the front of your Blue Card. Your Scoutmaster will help you choose a counselor.

5 Contact Your Counselor

Contact your Merit Badge Counselor and arrange to begin work on your badge. Remember—your counselor can't start working with you if you don't have a signed Blue Card!!

6 Be Prepared!

Get a copy of the current Merit Badge pamphlet and **READ IT!** The Troop keeps copies of some pamphlets in the Troop Library or you can buy your own online at www.scoutstuff.org. You can find lots of great resources at www.meritbadge.com, including worksheets that can help you track your progress toward the badge.

7 Earn That Badge!

Get together with your counselor to work on the requirements. While you're working on the badge it is your responsibility to hang on to the Blue Card!!

8 Get Your Counselor's Signature

Once you've completed all the requirements, your counselor will sign your Blue Card. He'll keep one part of the Blue Card for his records and give you back the rest.

Partials: If you can't complete all the requirements, your counselor will initial your card for the requirements you did complete. Keep that Blue Card!! Without a "partial" blue card to prove you did the work, you may need to do all that work over again ☹

9 Get Your Scoutmaster's Signature

Yes, again!! After you're done, go back and get your Scoutmaster to sign the back of your card. He'll check it over to make sure it's OK.

10 Put it in The Book

Enter the information from the Blue Card into the Troop Advancement Book. Put both parts of the Blue Card in the book.

11 Bingo! You Earned a Merit Badge!

When the badge is awarded (usually at the next Court of Honor), you will receive both the Merit Badge award and your copy of the Blue Card for your records.

12 Put Your Blue Card in a Safe Place!

Your copy of the Blue Card is the **only** proof you have that you did the work and earned the Merit Badge. (The badge itself looks nice on your sash, but it's really just decoration) You will need to have a record of all the badges you earned before you can earn the rank of Eagle! ***So hang on to that Blue Card and keep it in a very safe place!!!***

2006, BSA Troop 591, Westford, MA

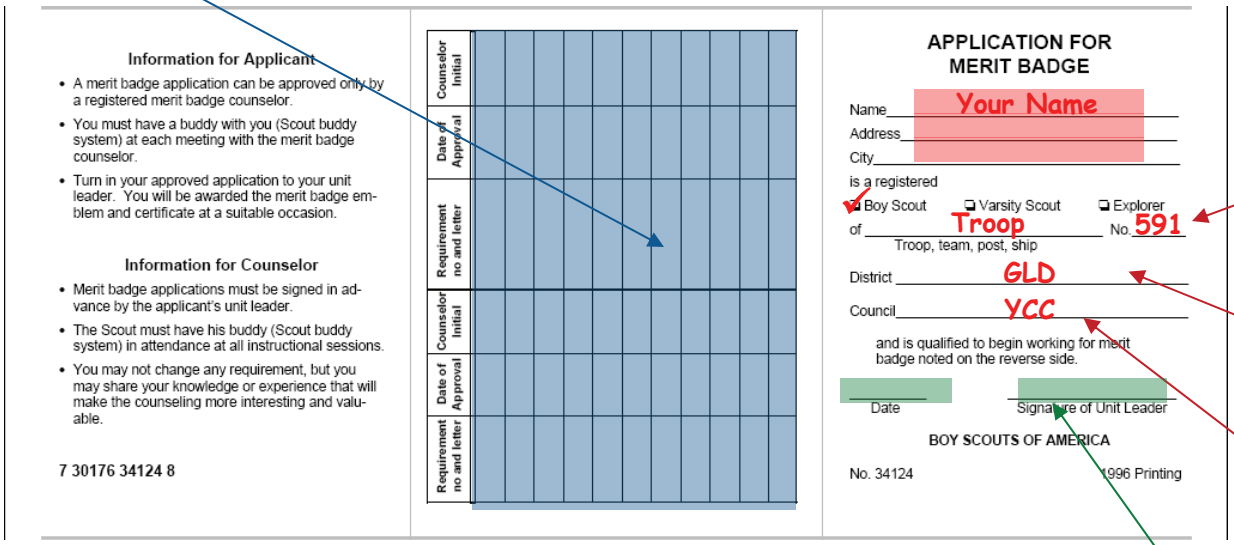
Scout
fills in **red** sections

Scoutmaster
fills in **green** sections

MB Counselor
fills in **blue** sections

Completed Requirements

Front



Information for Applicant

- A merit badge application can be approved only by a registered merit badge counselor.
- You must have a buddy with you (Scout buddy system) at each meeting with the merit badge counselor.
- Turn in your approved application to your unit leader. You will be awarded the merit badge emblem and certificate at a suitable occasion.

Information for Counselor

- Merit badge applications must be signed in advance by the applicant's unit leader.
- The Scout must have his buddy (Scout buddy system) in attendance at all instructional sessions.
- You may not change any requirement, but you may share your knowledge or experience that will make the counseling more interesting and valuable.

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Counselor Initial | Date of Approval | Requirement no and letter | Counselor Initial | Date of Approval | Requirement no and letter

APPLICATION FOR MERIT BADGE

Name Your Name
Address
City
is a registered
☐ Boy Scout ☐ Varsity Scout ☐ Explorer
of Troop No. 591
Troop, team, post, ship
District GLD
Council YCC
and is qualified to begin working for merit badge noted on the reverse side.

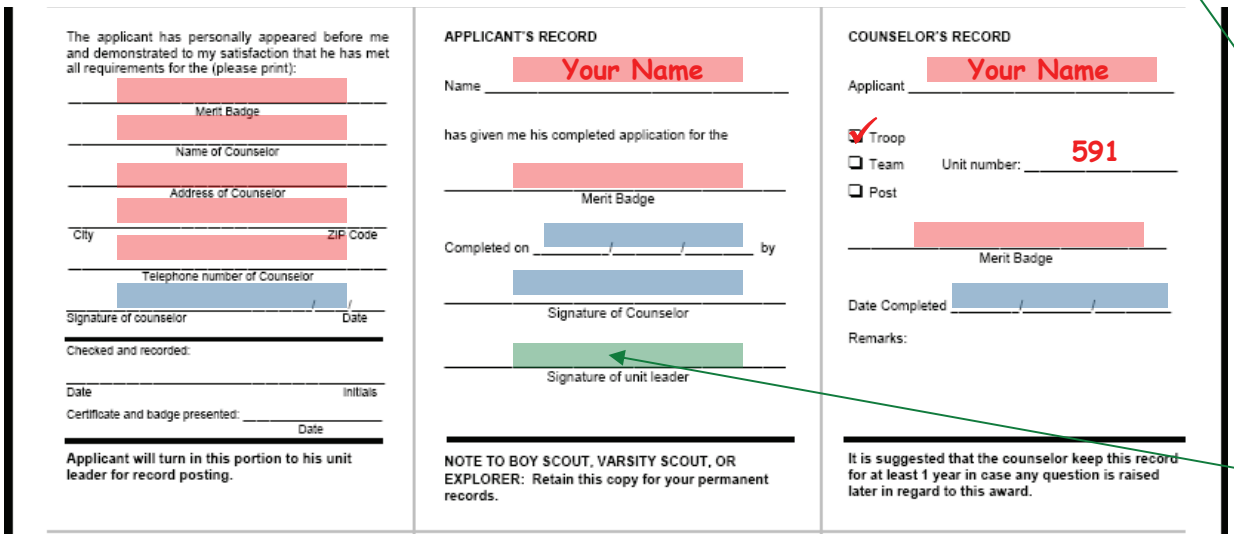
Date | Signature of Unit Leader

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
No. 34124 1996 Printing

Troop Number

Greater Lowell District ("GLD")

Yankee Clipper Council ("YCC")



The applicant has personally appeared before me and demonstrated to my satisfaction that he has met all requirements for the (please print):

Merit Badge
Name of Counselor
Address of Counselor
City ZIP Code
Telephone number of Counselor
Signature of counselor Date

Checked and recorded:
Date Initials
Certificate and badge presented: Date

Applicant will turn in this portion to his unit leader for record posting.

APPLICANT'S RECORD

Name Your Name

has given me his completed application for the

Merit Badge

Completed on ___/___/___ by

Signature of Counselor

Signature of unit leader

NOTE TO BOY SCOUT, VARSITY SCOUT, OR EXPLORER: Retain this copy for your permanent records.

COUNSELOR'S RECORD

Applicant Your Name

☑ Troop
☐ Team Unit number: 591
☐ Post

Merit Badge

Date Completed ___/___/___

Remarks:

It is suggested that the counselor keep this record for at least 1 year in case any question is raised later in regard to this award.

Scoutmaster Signs here before you start

Scoutmaster Signs here when you're finished

Back

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