



# Theater



## 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

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

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.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Scouts BSA Requirements (Pub. + 33216) and/or on Scouting.org.

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2021 • This workbook was updated in January 2021.

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

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

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. See or read three full-length plays.\* Write a review of each. Discuss with your counselor the plot or story. If you chose to watch the plays, comment on the acting and the staging..

Full Length Play or Script 1	
Story	
Acting	
Staging	
Other review notes	

\*Watching plays on television, video, or as a movie is not permitted.

Full Length Play or Script 2

Story

Acting

Staging

Other review notes

Full Length Play or Script 3

Story

Acting

Staging

Other review notes

- 2. Write a one-act play that will take at least 10 minutes to perform. The play must have a main character, conflict, and a climax.
- 3. Discuss with your counselor the safety precautions that should be practiced when working in a theater to protect the cast and crew.


Then do THREE of the following:

- a. Act a major part in a full-length play; or act a part in three one-act plays.
  - b. Direct a play. Cast, rehearse, and stage it. The play must be at least 10 minutes long.
  - c. Design the set for a play or a theatrical production. Make a model of it.
  - d. Design the costumes for five characters in a theatrical production set in a historical time.
  - e. Show skill in stage hair and makeup design. Make up yourself or a friend as a historical figure, a clown, an extraterrestrial, or a monster as directed.
  - f. With your counselor's approval, help with the building and painting of the scenery for a theatrical production.
  - g. With your counselor's approval, design the lighting for a play; or help install, focus, color, program, and operate the lighting for a theatrical production.
  - h. With your counselor's approval, help install, focus, equalize, program, and operate the sound for a theatrical production.
  - i. Serve as the stage manager for a theatrical production. Document all cues and stage setups in your calling script.
  - j. Serve as musical director for a musical theater production.
4. Mime or pantomime any ONE of the following, chosen by your counselor.
- a. You have come into a large room. It is full of pictures, furniture, and other things of interest.
  - b. As you are getting on a bus, your books fall into a puddle. By the time you pick them up, the bus has driven off.
  - c. You have failed a school test. You are talking with your teacher, who does not buy your story.
  - d. You are at a camp with a new Scout. You try to help them pass a cooking test. The Scout learns very slowly.
  - e. You are at a banquet. The meat is good. You don't like the vegetable. The dessert is ice cream.
5. Explain the following: proscenium arch, central or arena staging, center stage, stage right, stage left, downstage, upstage, stage crew, flies, portal, cyclorama, stage brace, spotlight, floodlight, lighting control board, sound mixing desk, thrust staging, ground plans, and sightlines.

Proscenium arch:


Central or arena staging:


Center stage:


Stage right:


Stage left:


Downstage


Upstage


Stage crew:


Flies


Portal


Cyclorama:


Stage brace


Spotlight


Floodlight


Lighting control board:


Sound mixing desk:


Thrust staging


Ground plans


Sightlines


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>.