



# Coin Collecting

## Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook is not required but is designed to help you with this merit badge. No one can add or subtract from the Boy Scout Requirements #33215. Use page backs & add pages as needed. Please send comments to: [craig@craiglincoln.com](mailto:craig@craiglincoln.com). Requirements revised: 2002, Workbook updated: January 2004.

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

Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor's Ph #: \_\_\_\_\_

1) Understand how coins are made, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

and where the active U.S. Mint facilities are located. \_\_\_\_\_

2) Explain these collecting terms:

a) Obverse \_\_\_\_\_

b) Reverse \_\_\_\_\_

c) Reeding \_\_\_\_\_

d) Clad \_\_\_\_\_

e) Type set \_\_\_\_\_

f) Date set \_\_\_\_\_

3) Explain the terms

poor, \_\_\_\_\_

good, \_\_\_\_\_

very good, \_\_\_\_\_

fine, \_\_\_\_\_

very fine, \_\_\_\_\_

extremely fine, \_\_\_\_\_

and uncirculated. \_\_\_\_\_

Show five different grade examples of the same coin type. \_\_\_\_\_

Explain the term "proof" \_\_\_\_\_

and why it is not a grade. \_\_\_\_\_

Tell what "encapsulated" coins are. \_\_\_\_\_

4) Know three different ways to store a collection, and describe the benefits, drawbacks, and expenses of each method.

Method \_\_\_\_\_

Benefits \_\_\_\_\_

Drawbacks \_\_\_\_\_

Expense \_\_\_\_\_

Method \_\_\_\_\_

Benefits \_\_\_\_\_

Drawbacks \_\_\_\_\_

Expense \_\_\_\_\_

Method \_\_\_\_\_

Benefits \_\_\_\_\_

Drawbacks \_\_\_\_\_

Expense \_\_\_\_\_

Pick one to use when completing requirements. \_\_\_\_\_

5) Do the following:

a) Identify the people depicted on the following denominations of current U.S. paper money:

\$1, \_\_\_\_\_

\$2, \_\_\_\_\_

\$5, \_\_\_\_\_

\$10, \_\_\_\_\_

\$20, \_\_\_\_\_

\$50, \_\_\_\_\_

and \$100. \_\_\_\_\_

b) Explain "legal tender." \_\_\_\_\_

c) Describe the role the Federal Reserve System plays in the distribution of currency. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**6) Do the following:**

**a) Demonstrate to your counselor that you know how to use two U.S. or world coin reference catalogs.**

Reference \_\_\_\_\_

Reference \_\_\_\_\_

**b) Read a numismatic magazine or newspaper: \_\_\_\_\_**

**and tell your counselor about what you learned. \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7) Describe the 1999-2008 50 State Quarters Program. \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Collect and show your counselor five different quarters you have acquired from circulation. \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_

**8) Collect from circulation a set of currently circulating U.S. coins. Include one coin of each denomination (cent, nickel, dime, quarter, half-dollar, Susan B. Anthony or Sacagawea dollar).**

**For each coin, locate the mint marks, if any, and the designer's initials, if any.**

cent, \_\_\_\_\_

nickel, \_\_\_\_\_

dime, \_\_\_\_\_

quarter, \_\_\_\_\_

half-dollar, \_\_\_\_\_

Susan B. Anthony or Sacagawea dollar \_\_\_\_\_

**9) Do ONE of the following:**

**a) Collect and identify 50 foreign coins from at least 10 different countries.**

**-OR-  b) Collect and identify 20 bank notes from at least five different countries.**

**-OR-  c) Collect and identify 15 different tokens or medals.**

**-OR-  d) Collect a date set of a single type since the year of your birth.**

**10) Do ONE of the following:**

**a) Tour a U.S. Mint facility, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, or a Federal Reserve bank, \_\_\_\_\_ and describe what you learned to your counselor. \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**-OR-  b) With your parent's permission, attend a coin show or coin club meeting, or view the Web site of the U.S. Mint or a coin dealer, and report what you learned. (Note: Per National, "parent's" means "parent's or guardian's".) \_\_\_\_\_**

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**-OR-  c) Give a talk about coin collecting to your troop or class at school. (Per National, "troop" means "unit".) \_\_\_\_\_**

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**-OR-  d) Do drawings of five Colonial-era U.S. coins.**