



Fingerprinting

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. Requirements revised: 2003, Workbook updated: January 2004.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Ph #: _____

1) Give a short history of fingerprinting. _____

Tell the difference between civil and criminal identification. _____

2) Explain the difference between the automated fingerprint identification systems (AFIS) now used by some law enforcement agencies _____

and the biometric fingerprint systems used to control access to places like buildings, airports, and computer rooms. _____

3) Do the following:

(a) Name the surfaces of the body where friction or papillary ridges are found. _____

(b) Name the two basic principles supporting the science of fingerprints and give a brief explanation of each principle. _____

(c) Explain what it takes to positively identify a person using fingerprints. _____

4) Take a clear set of prints using ONE of the following methods. _____

(a) Make both rolled and plain impressions. Make these on an 8-by-8-inch fingerprint identification card, available from your local police department or your counselor.

-OR- (b) Using clear adhesive tape, a pencil, and plain paper, record your own fingerprints or those of another person.

5) Show your merit badge counselor you can identify the three basic types of fingerprint patterns and their subcategories. Using your own hand, identify the types of patterns you see.