



# COMMUNICATIONS

## Merit Badge Requirements

1) Do ONE of the following:

**A)** For one day, keep a log in which you describe your communication activities. Keep track of the time and different ways you spend communicating, such as talking person-to-person, listening to your teachers or the radio, watching television, reading books, and other print media, and communication online. Discuss with your counselor what your log reveals about the importance of communication in your life. Think of ways to improve your communications skills.

**B)** For three days, keep a journal of your listening experiences. Identify one example of each of the following, and discuss with your counselor when you have listened to:

- 1) Obtain information
- 2) A persuasive argument
- 3) Appreciate or enjoy something
- 4) Understand someone's feelings

**C)** In a small-group setting, meet with other scouts or with friends. Have them share personal stories about significant events in their lives that affected them in some way. Take note of how each scout participates in the group discussion and how effective each one is in telling his story. Report what you have learned to your counselor about the differences you observed in effective communication.

**D)** List as many ways you can think of to communicate with others (face-to-face, by telephone, letter, e-mail, fax). For each type of communication discuss with your counselor an instance when that method might not be appropriate or effective.

2) Do ONE of the following:

**A)** Think of a creative way to describe yourself, using, for example, a collage, short story or autobiography, drawing or series of photographs, or a song or skit. Using the aid you created, make a presentation to your counselor about yourself.

**B)** Choose a concept, product, or service in which you have great confidence. Build a sales plan based on its good points. Try to persuade the counselor to agree with, use, or buy your concept, product or service. After your sales talk, discuss with your counselor how persuasive you were.

3) Write a five-minute speech. Give it at a meeting of a group.

**4)** Interview someone you know fairly well, like, or respect because of his or her position, talent, career or life experiences. Listen actively to learn as much as you can about the person. Then prepare and deliver to your counselor an introduction of the person as though this person were to be a guest speaker, and include reasons why the audience would want to hear this person speak. Show how you would call to invite this person to speak.

**5)** Attend a public meeting (city council, school board, debate) approved by your counselor where several points of view are given on a single issue. Practice active listening skills and take careful notes of each point of view. Present an objective report that includes all points of view that were expressed, and share this with your counselor.

**6)** With your counselor's approval, develop a plan to teach a skill or inform someone about something. Prepare teaching aids for your plan. Carry out your plan. With your counselor, determine whether the person has learned what you intended.

7) Do ONE of the following:

**A)** Write to the editor of a magazine or your local newspaper to express your opinion or share information on any subject you choose. Send your message by fax, email or regular mail.

**B)** Create a web page for your scout troop, school, or other organization. Include at least one article and one photograph or illustration, and one link to some other web page that would be helpful to someone who visits the web page you have created. It is not necessary to post your web page to the internet, but if you decide to do so, you must first share it with your parents and counselor and get their permission.

**C)** Use desktop publishing to produce a newsletter, brochure, flier or other printed material for your scout troop, class at school, or other group. Include at least one article and one photograph or illustration.

Requirements continued on next page

Scout Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**8)** Plan a troop court of honor or campfire program. Have the patrol leaders' council approve it, then write the script and prepare the program. Serve as master of ceremonies.

**9)** Learn about opportunities in the field of communication. Choose on career in which you are interested and discuss with your counselor the major responsibilities of that position and the qualifications, education, and preparation it requires.

**Requirement 1**

You have been given four options for this requirement. Select and complete one of them.

If you selected *Option A*:

For one day, keep a log in which you describe your communication activities. Keep track of the time and different ways you spend communicating, such as talking person-to-person, listening to your teachers or the radio, watching television, reading books, and other print media, and communication online. Attach your log to this worksheet.

\_\_\_ Discuss with your counselor what your log reveals about the importance of communication in your life. Have your counselor initial this requirement after your discussion.

In what ways can you improve your communications skills? \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you selected *Option B*:

For three days, keep a journal of your listening experiences. Attach your journal to this worksheet.

Identify one example of listening to obtain information: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell when you have listened to obtain information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Identify one example of listening to a persuasive argument: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell when you have listened to a persuasive argument: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Identify one example of listening to appreciate or enjoy something: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell when you have listened to appreciate or enjoy something: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you selected *Option C*:



Scout Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

List as many ways as you can think of to communicate with others (face-to-face, phone, fax, letter, email). For each type of communication that you listed, discuss with your counselor an instance when that method might not be appropriate or effective.

Type of Communication: \_\_\_\_\_

When might this method not be appropriate or effective? \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Communication: \_\_\_\_\_

When might this method not be appropriate or effective? \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Communication: \_\_\_\_\_

When might this method not be appropriate or effective? \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Communication: \_\_\_\_\_

When might this method not be appropriate or effective? \_\_\_\_\_

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Type of Communication: \_\_\_\_\_

When might this method not be appropriate or effective? \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Communication: \_\_\_\_\_

When might this method not be appropriate or effective? \_\_\_\_\_

## Requirement 2

You have been given four options for this requirement. Select and complete one of them.

Requirements Last Revised: 1/1/04









Scout Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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The teaching aids that I created and made were: \_\_\_\_\_

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Along with your counselor check to see if the person has learned what you intended for them to learn.

Did the person learn? Yes No

How can you tell? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Requirement 7

You have been given three options for this requirement. Select and complete one of them.

If you selected *Option A*:

Write to the editor of a magazine or your local newspaper to express your opinion or share information on any subject you choose. Send your message by fax, email or regular mail.

To whom did you write your letter? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the subject you wrote them about? \_\_\_\_\_

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How did you send your letter? FAX Email Standard Mail

\_\_\_ Attach a copy of your letter to this document to show your counselor.

If you selected *Option B*:

Create a web page for your scout troop, school, or other organization. Include at least one article and one photograph or illustration, and one link to some other web page that would be helpful to someone who visits the web page you have created.

What is the address of your web page that you created? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you include all of the required information on your web page? \_\_\_\_\_



Scout Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Have the patrol leaders' council approve your plan: \_\_\_\_\_  
Patrol Leader's Council Approval Signature

Write the script for your court of honor or campfire program. Attach a copy of the script to this worksheet. Serve as master of ceremonies.

Date program was given: \_\_\_\_\_ Place program was given: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*NOTE:** There is a form used by the BSA for the planning of campfire programs. Ask your counselor if they want you to use this form if you have selected to plan a campfire program. Your counselor may have a copy of the form. If not, ask your leader or the advancement chair if they have a copy. Copies can be obtained from several BSA training manuals and is also downloadable from numerous web sites.  
I am not aware of a form that is used for planning a court of honor. However, that does not mean that one does not exist. Again, you may want to check with your counselor, leader, or advancement chair to see if there is a specific form that they would like for you to use to complete this requirement.

**Requirement 9**

Learn about opportunities in the field of communication. List some of the opportunities you found.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Scout Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Choose one career in which you are interested in: \_\_\_\_\_

What are the major responsibilities of that position? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are the qualifications and education for that position? \_\_\_\_\_

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What kind of preparation will this position require? \_\_\_\_\_

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