



GENEALOGY

Merit Badge Requirements

- 1) Explain to your counselor what the words genealogy, ancestor, and descendant mean.
- 2) Do ONE of the following:
 - A) Do a time line for yourself or for a relative. Then write a short biography based on that time line.
 - B) Keep a journal for 6 weeks. You must write in it at least once a week
- 3) With your parents help, choose a relative or a family acquaintance you can interview in person, by telephone, or by e-mail or letter. Record the information you collect so you do not forget it.
- 4) Do the following:
 - A) Name three types of genealogical resources and explain how these resources can help you chart your family tree.
 - B) Obtain at least one genealogical document that supports an event that is or can be recorded on your pedigree chart or family group record. The document could be found at home or at a government office, religious organization, archive, or library.
 - C) Tell how you would evaluate the genealogical information you found for requirement 4B.
- 5) Contact ONE of the following individuals or institutions. Ask what genealogical services, records, or activities this individual or institution provides, and report the results:
 - A) A genealogical or lineage society
 - B) A professional genealogist (someone who gets paid for doing genealogical research)
 - C) A surname organization, such as your family's organization
 - D) A genealogical education facility or institution
 - E) A genealogical record repository of any type (courthouse, genealogical library, state or national archive, state library, etc.)
- 6) Begin your family tree by listing yourself and include at least two additional generations. You may complete this requirement by using the chart provided in the Genealogy merit badge pamphlet or the genealogy software program of your choice.
- 7) Complete a family group record form, listing yourself and your brothers and sisters as the children. On another family group record form, show one of your parents and his or her brothers and sisters as the children. This requirement may be completed using the chart provided or the genealogy software program of your choice.
- 8) Do the following:
 - A) Explain the effect computers and the Internet are having on the world of genealogy.
 - B) Explain how photography (including microfilming) has influenced genealogy.
- 9) Discuss what you have learned about your family and your family members through your genealogical research.

Requirement 4

Name three types of genealogical resources and explain how these resources can help you chart your family tree.

Resource #1: _____

How can it help you chart your family tree? _____

Resource #2: _____

How can it help you chart your family tree? _____

Resource #3: _____

How can it help you chart your family tree? _____

Obtain at least one genealogical document that supports an event that is or can be recorded on your pedigree chart or family group record. The document could be found at home or at a government office, religious organization, archive, or library.

What document did you obtain? _____

What event does it document? _____

Where did you find the document? _____

Make a copy of the document and show it to your merit badge counselor.

Tell how you would evaluate the genealogical information (the document mentioned above) that you found: _____

Requirement 5

Contact ONE of the following individuals or institutions. Ask what genealogical services, records, or activities this individual or institution provides, and report the results.

Choose from

- A) A genealogical or lineage society
- B) A professional genealogist (someone who gets paid for doing genealogical research)
- C) A surname organization, such as your family's organization
- D) A genealogical education facility or institution
- E) A genealogical record repository of any type (courthouse, genealogical library, state or national archive, state library, etc.)

Which one did you select? _____

What genealogical services, records or activities does this individual or institution provide? _____

Requirement 6

Begin your family tree by listing yourself and include at least two additional generations. You may complete this requirement by using the chart provided in the Genealogy merit badge pamphlet or the genealogy software program of your choice. You may also choose to use the attached chart as well.

Once you have completed this requirement, show your chart to your merit badge counselor.

Requirement 7

Complete a family group record form, listing yourself and your brothers and sisters as the children. On another family group record form, show one of your parents and his or her brothers and sisters as the children. This requirement may be completed using the chart provided in the Genealogy merit badge pamphlet or the genealogy software program of your choice. You may also choose to use the attached chart as well.

Once you have completed this requirement, show your chart to your merit badge counselor.

Requirement 8

Explain the effect computers and the Internet are having on the world of genealogy: _____

Pedigree Chart

Male Direct Line
 Female Direct Line

Easy steps to start

- 1- Start with yourself.
- 2- Use birth names, not married names.
- 3- Be as complete as possible with information.
- 4- Enter LAST names in UPPER CASE.
- 5- Be consistent.
- 6- Have fun!

1

Your Name (First, LAST)

Birthdate:
 Place of birth:
 Marriage Date:
 Place of Marriage:
 Death Date:
 Place of Death:

2

Father's Name (First, LAST)

Birthdate:
 Place of birth:
 Marriage Date:
 Place of Marriage:
 Death Date:
 Place of Death:

4

Grandfather's Name (First, LAST)

Birthdate:
 Place of birth:
 Marriage Date:
 Place of Marriage:
 Death Date:
 Place of Death:

5

Grandmother's Name (First, LAST)

Birthdate:
 Place of birth:
 Marriage Date:
 Place of Marriage:
 Death Date:
 Place of Death:

6

Grandfather's Name (First, LAST)

Birthdate:
 Place of birth:
 Marriage Date:
 Place of Marriage:
 Death Date:
 Place of Death:

3

Mother's Name (First, LAST)

Birthdate:
 Place of birth:
 Marriage Date:
 Place of Marriage:
 Death Date:
 Place of Death:

7

Grandmother's Name (First, LAST)

Birthdate:
 Place of birth:
 Marriage Date:
 Place of Marriage:
 Death Date:
 Place of Death:

Family Group Sheet

Family Group Sheet

Family Group Sheet

Family Group Sheet

Father's Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Father's Birthdate:						
Father's Marriage Date:						
Father's Death Date:						
Father's Burial Date:						
Places lived				Father belonged to which Church		
Occupation(s)				Military Records		
Name of Father's Father				Name of Father's Mother (Use birth name)		
Name's of other wives						

Mother's Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Mother's Birthdate:						
Mother's Marriage Date:						
Mother's Death Date:						
Mother's Burial Date:						
Places lived				Mother belonged to which Church		
Occupation(s)				Military Records		
Name of Mother's Father				Name of Mother's Mother (Use birth name)		
Name's of other husbands						

Child #1 Full Name (Male/Female)

Spouse Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Birthdate						
Marriage Date						
Death Date						
Burial Date						

Child #2 Full Name (Male/Female)

Spouse Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Birthdate						
Marriage Date						
Death Date						
Burial Date						

Child #3 Full Name (Male/Female)

Spouse Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Birthdate						
Marriage Date						
Death Date						
Burial Date						

Child #4 Full Name (Male/Female)

Spouse Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Birthdate						
Marriage Date						
Death Date						
Burial Date						

Notes

Family Group Sheet

Father's Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Father's Birthdate:						
Father's Marriage Date:						
Father's Death Date:						
Father's Burial Date:						
Places lived				Father belonged to which Church		
Occupation(s)				Military Records		
Name of Father's Father				Name of Father's Mother (Use birth name)		
Name's of other wives						

Mother's Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Mother's Birthdate:						
Mother's Marriage Date:						
Mother's Death Date:						
Mother's Burial Date:						
Places lived				Mother belonged to which Church		
Occupation(s)				Military Records		
Name of Mother's Father				Name of Mother's Mother (Use birth name)		
Name's of other husbands						

Child #1 Full Name (Male/Female)

Spouse Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Birthdate						
Marriage Date						
Death Date						
Burial Date						

Child #2 Full Name (Male/Female)

Spouse Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Birthdate						
Marriage Date						
Death Date						
Burial Date						

Child #3 Full Name (Male/Female)

Spouse Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Birthdate						
Marriage Date						
Death Date						
Burial Date						

Child #4 Full Name (Male/Female)

Spouse Full Name

	Day	Month	Year	City/Town/Place	County/Parish	State and/or Country
Birthdate						
Marriage Date						
Death Date						
Burial Date						

Notes
