



Dog Care

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet (book). No one can add or subtract from the Boy Scout Requirements #33215. Merit Badge Workbooks and much more are below: [Online Resources](#).
Workbook developer: craig@craiglincoln.com. Requirements revised: 2004, Workbook updated: April 2008.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit: _____

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

1) Do the following:

a) Briefly discuss the historical origin and domestication of the dog. _____

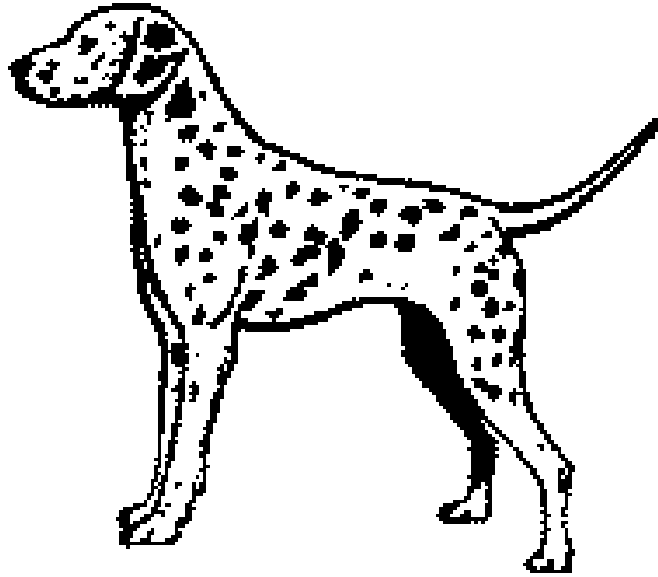
b) Describe some common characteristics of the dogs that make up each of the seven major dog groups.

Group	Breed	Characteristics
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

c) Tell some specific characteristics of seven breeds of dogs (one from each major group), OR give a short history of one breed.

2) Point out on a dog (or on a sketch) at least 10 parts. Give the correct name of each one.



3) Do the following:

a) Explain the importance of house-training, _____

obedience training, _____

and socialization training for your dog. _____

b) Explain what "responsible pet ownership" means. _____

c) Explain what issues (including temperament) must be considered when deciding on what breed of dog to get as a family pet.

4) For two months, keep and care for your dog. * Maintain a log of your activities during this period that includes these items: feeding schedule, types of food used, amount fed, exercise periods, training schedule, a weekly body weight record, grooming and bathing schedules, veterinary care, if necessary, and costs. Also include a brief description of the type of housing/shelter arrangements you have for your dog. _____

5) Explain the correct way to obedience train a dog and what equipment you would need. _____

Show with your dog any three of these commands:

- "Come," "Sit," "Down," "Heel," "Stay," "Take it," "Get it," "Drop it."

6) Do the following:

a) Discuss the proper vaccination schedule for a dog in your area from puppyhood through adulthood. _____

b) Discuss the control methods for preventing fleas, _____

ticks, _____

heartworms, _____

and intestinal parasites (worms) for a dog in your area from puppyhood through adulthood. _____

c) Explain the importance of dental care and tooth brushing to your pet's health. _____

d) Discuss the benefits of grooming your dog's coat and nails on a regular basis. _____

e) Discuss with your counselor any seasonal conditions (like hot summers, cold winters, or extreme humidity) where you live that need to be considered for your dog. _____

7) Do the following:

a) Explain precautions to take in handling a hurt dog. _____

b) Show how to put on an emergency muzzle. _____

c) Explain how to treat wounds. _____

Explain first aid for a dog bite. _____

d) Show how to put on a simple dressing and bandage to the foot, body, or head.

e) Explain what to do if a dog is hit by a car. _____

f) List the things needed in every dog owner's first-aid kit.

_____ _____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____ _____

g) Tell the dangers of home treatment of a serious ailment. _____

h) Briefly discuss the cause and method of spread, the signs and symptoms and the methods of prevention of rabies, parvovirus, distemper, and heartworms in dogs.

Rabies: Cause: _____

method of spread, _____

the signs and symptoms _____

and the methods of prevention _____

Parvovirus: Cause: _____

method of spread, _____

the signs and symptoms _____

and the methods of prevention _____

Distemper: Cause: _____
method of spread, _____

the signs and symptoms _____

and the methods of prevention _____

Heartworms: Cause: _____
method of spread, _____

the signs and symptoms _____

and the methods of prevention _____

8) Visit a veterinary hospital or an animal shelter and give a report about your visit to your counselor. _____

9) Know the laws and ordinances involving dogs that are in force in your community. _____

***The activities used to fulfill the requirements for the Dog Care merit badge may not be used to help fulfill requirements for other merit badges.**

Online Resources *(Use any Internet resource with caution and only with your parent's or guardian's permission.)*

Boy Scouts of America: ► scouting.org ► [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) ► [Age-Appropriate Guidelines](#) ► [Safe Swim Defense](#)
 ► [Scout](#) ► [Tenderfoot](#) ► [Second Class](#) ► [First Class](#) ► [Rank Videos](#) ► [Safety Afloat](#)

Boy Scout Merit Badge Workbooks: usscouts.org -or- meritbadge.org **Merit Badge Books:** www.scoutstuff.org

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals: <http://www.asPCA.org>

American Humane Association: <http://www.americanhumane.org>

The American Kennel Club: <http://www.akc.org>

Amer. Veterinary Medical Assn.: <http://www.avma.org>

Dog Fancy magazine: <http://www.dogfancy.com>

Dog & Kennel magazine: <http://www.dogandkennel.com>

Dog World magazine: <http://www.dogworldmag.com>

Dog Breed Information Center: <http://www.dogbreedinfo.com>

Dog Owner's Guide: <http://www.canismajor.com/dog>

National 4-H Council: <http://www.fourhcouncil.edu>

NetVet--Veterinary Resources: <http://netvet.wustl.edu/vet.htm>