

Traffic Safety Merit Badge:

Your Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Date Starting This Merit Badge: _____

Counselor's Name: _____

How to Contact Your Counselor: _____

Note to the Scout and Merit Badge Counselor:

This set of worksheets is meant to facilitate earning this merit badge, but under no circumstances is it meant to be used in lieu of the appropriate BSA merit badge book.

1. Do the following:
 - a. Explain and answer questions about the seriousness and the size of the street and highway traffic safety problem in the United States, your state, and your community.
 1. Make a scrapbook containing 10 newspaper articles about serious traffic crashes.

Attached? _____
 2. List what driving and/or safety rules were violated. Tell how these crashes might have been prevented.

List in scrapbook with articles: _____
 3. Give one other cause which might have contributed to each crash.

Completed: _____
 - b. Tell why driving while impaired by alcohol or other drugs is such an important problem.

Told to counselor: _____

- c. Explain how highway design, road conditions, and roadside hazards relate to the occurrence and seriousness of traffic crashes.

Explained to counselor: _____

- d. Check tires for wear and proper inflation.

Checked: _____

- 2. Describe two safety programs designed to control and reduce the serious effects of the highway traffic safety problem.

Described to counselor: _____

- 3. Do the following:

- a. List 10 automotive features that reduce the seriousness of injuries when crashes occur.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____
- 9. _____
- 10. _____

- b. Tell why safety features are important when buying a car.

Told to counselor: _____

- c. Demonstrate how to adjust lap and shoulder belts. Explain why it is important to wear them at all times.

Demonstrated and explained to counselor: _____

4. Do the following to show your knowledge of car care for safety maintenance:

- a. Check operation of all exterior lights.
- b. Check operation of all interior lights.
- c. Locate a fuse or circuit breaker on the light or horn circuit.
- d. Check windshield wiper blade and smear-and-clear test.
Replace the blade, if needed, and tests.

5. Do the following:

- a. In a location away from traffic hazards, measure with a tape measure -- not in a car -- and mark off with stakes the distance that a car may travel during the time needed for decision and reaction, and the braking distance necessary to stop a car traveling 30, 45, and 70 miles an hour on dry pavement. Discuss additional allowance that bad weather and road conditions would require.

Marked off: _____ Discussed with counselor: _____

- b. Using a bicycle, demonstrate four safe practices common to bicycle and automobile driving.

Demonstrated to counselor: _____

- c. Using the chart of international traffic signs and control devices, explain the meaning of each.

Explained to counselor: _____

- d. Demonstrate the difference in visibility at night between bicycle and rider properly lighted and marked with a reflectorized material and a bicycle and rider at night with dark clothing and an unlighted bicycle.

Demonstrated to counselor: _____

6. Do ONE of the following:

- a. Observe, study, and prepare a report on one important community activity for traffic safety.

Report attached: _____

- b. Report on a traffic safety project in which you participated with your troop, post, or school.

Report attached: _____

- c. Report on an individual project that you carried out in promoting traffic safety.

Report attached: _____

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In completing all requirements for this merit badge, I have completely read the appropriate BSA merit badge book, and discussed same with my counselor.

signed

date

(Source: Courtesy USSSP Merit Badge Requirements, current as of the MB date on this document)