



Merit Badge College 2022

Chess



You need to print this form and bring it with you to Merit Badge College.

Highlighted areas are to be completed outside of class.

1. Discuss with your merit badge counselor the history of the game of chess.
 Explain why it is considered a game of planning and strategy.

2. Discuss with your merit badge counselor the following:
 - a. The benefits of playing chess, including developing critical thinking skills, concentration skills, and decision-making skills, and how these skills can help you in other areas of your life
 - b. Sportsmanship and chess etiquette

3. Demonstrate to your counselor that you know each of the following.
 - a. The name of each chess piece
 Then, using Scouting's Teaching EDGE*, teach someone (preferably another Scout) who does not know how to play chess:
 * You may learn about Scouting's Teaching EDGE from your unit leader, another Scout, or by attending training.
 - b. How to set up a chessboard
 - c. How each chess piece moves, including castling and en passant captures.

<input type="checkbox"/> King: <input type="checkbox"/> Queen: <input type="checkbox"/> Bishop: <input type="checkbox"/> Knight:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rook: <input type="checkbox"/> Pawn: <input type="checkbox"/> Castling: <input type="checkbox"/> En passant captures
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4. Do the following
 - a. Demonstrate scorekeeping using the algebraic system of chess notation..

White

Black

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

- b. Discuss the differences between the opening, the middle game, and the endgame.
 - Opening
 - Middle game
 - Endgame

- c. Explain four opening principles

<input type="checkbox"/> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> 2.	<input type="checkbox"/> 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 4.
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- d. Explain the four rules for castling.

<input type="checkbox"/> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> 2.	<input type="checkbox"/> 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 4.
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- e. On a chessboard, demonstrate a "scholar's mate" and a "fool's mate."
- f. Demonstrate on a chessboard four ways a chess game can end in a draw.

5. Do the following.

- a. Explain four of the following elements of chess strategy: exploiting weaknesses, force, king safety, pawn structure, space, tempo, time.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.

- b. Explain any five of these chess tactics: clearance sacrifice, decoy, discovered attack, double attack, fork, interposing, overloading, overprotecting, pin, remove the defender, skewer, zwischenzug.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

- c. Set up a chessboard with the white king on **e1**, the white rooks on **a1** and **h1**, and the black king on **e5**. With White to move first, demonstrate how to force checkmate on the black king.

- d. Set up and solve five direct-mate problems provided by your merit badge counselor.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

6. Do ONE of the following:

- a. Play at least three games of chess with other Scouts and/or your merit badge counselor. Replay the games from your score sheets and discuss with your counselor how you might have played each game differently.

- b. Play in a scholastic (youth) chess tournament and use your score sheets from that tournament to replay your games with your merit badge counselor. Discuss with your counselor how you might have played each game differently.

- c. Organize and run a chess tournament with at least four players, plus you. Have each competitor play at least two games.

Scout Name	Address	Troop Number
Counselor Signature	Unit Leader Signature	Date Completed

Counselor: Initial next to the box located to the left of the requirement completed in class. Sign the space that states Counselor Signature.

Scout: Complete the spaces above for Scout Name, Address and Troop Number. Complete all highlighted areas outside of class.

This form replaces the traditional "Blue Card".