

Dog Care Merit Badge

Responsible dog ownership, training basics, and animal welfare.

GOOD FIT IF YOU LIKE

Animals

Helping Others

Official Requirements

We keep this page focused on tips and what to expect, not a copy of the requirement text — requirements get revised periodically, and scouts are generally held to whichever version was current when they started the badge (the same reason Scoutbook lets you filter by pamphlet version). For the exact, current wording, check your Scoutbook record for this badge or the official page below.

[Dog Care on scouting.org](#) ⓘ

Finding a Counselor

Ask your Scoutmaster for the council's merit badge counselor list. For popular badges, a parent in your troop may already be registered as a counselor. If your troop doesn't have one, your council's advancement chair can help connect you.

Tip: for this badge, look for counselors who work professionally in the field — a local vet, engineer, or IT professional makes an ideal counselor and often brings real-world context the pamphlet alone can't provide.