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Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: [Workbooks@USScouts.Org](mailto:Workbooks@usscouts.org?subject=Merit%20Badge%20Workbooks)

Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: [Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org](mailto:merit.badge@scouting.org)

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1. Give a short history of fingerprinting.

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Tell the difference between civil and criminal identification.

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2. Explain the difference between the automated fingerprint identification systems (AFIS) now used by some law enforcement agencies and the biometric fingerprint systems used to control access to places like buildings, airports, and computer rooms.

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| AFIS: |  |
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| Biometric: |  |
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3. Do the following:

a. Name the surfaces of the body where friction or papillary ridges are found.

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b. Name the two basic principles supporting the science of fingerprints and give a brief explanation of each principle.

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| 1. |  |  |
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| 2. |  |  |
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c. Explain what it takes to positively identify a person using fingerprints.

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4. Take a clear set of prints using ONE of the following methods.

⬜ a. Make both rolled and plain impressions. Make these on an 8-by-8-inch fingerprint identification card, available from your local police department or your counselor.  
(*A sample Fingerprint Card is included on the next page of this workbook)*

⬜ b. Using clear adhesive tape, a pencil, and plain paper, record your own fingerprints or those of another person.

5. Show your merit badge counselor you can identify the three basic types of fingerprint patterns and their subcategories. Using your own hand, identify the types of patterns you see.

Basic Patterns & subcategories:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| ⬜ | 1. |  |
| ⬜ | 2. |  |
| ⬜ | 3. |  |
| Your hand: | |  |
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**When working on merit badges, Scouts and Scouters should be aware of some vital information in the current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* (BSA publication 33088). Important excerpts from that publication can be downloaded from** [**http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf**](http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf)**.**

**You can download a complete copy of the *Guide to Advancement* from** [**http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf**](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf)**.**

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| **FINGERPRINT CARD** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LAST NAME | | | FIRST NAME | | | | | | MIDDLE NAME | | | | SR; JR; etc. |
| DATE OF BIRTH | PLACE OF BIRTH | | SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER | | | SEX | RACE | | HGT. | WGT. | EYES | | HAIR |
| DATE | SIGNATURE OF PERSON FINGERPRINTED | | | | | RESIDENCE OF PERSON FINGERPRINTED | | | | | | | |
| DATE | SIGNATURE OF PERSON TAKING FINGERPRINTS | | | | | PRINTED NAME OF PERSON TAKING FINGERPRINTS | | | | | | | |
| 1. RIGHT THUMB | | 2. RIGHT INDEX | | 3. RIGHT MIDDLE | | | | 4. RIGHT RING | | | | 5. RIGHT LITTLE | |
| 6. LEFT THUMB | | 7. LEFT INDEX | | 8. LEFT MIDDLE | | | | 9. LEFT RING | | | | 10. LEFT LITTLE | |
| LEFT FOUR FINGERS TAKEN SIMULTANEOUSLY | | | | L. THUMB | R THUMB | | | RIGHT FOUR FINGERS TAKEN SIMULTANEOUSLY | | | | | |

*Notes:*

*1. Based on FBI Criminal Justice Information Services Division Fingerprint Card: FD-258 Applicant Card.*

*2. You may be asked to use this or another card to take fingerprints. Please print on card stock paper.*

*3. Parent or Guardian - Consider keeping this fingerprint card in a safe place.*