

SENIOR BADGES TO DO AT HOME

LEGACY:ARTIST



No matter what you do with your collage, there won't be another just like it in the world. Everything—from the materials you choose to how they are assembled—is up to you. Get ready to see the creative possibility in everyday objects: This badge is an opportunity make art as unique as you are.

Steps

1. Explore collage
2. Focus on composition
3. Create with color
4. Use found objects
5. Share a message

Purpose

When I've earned this badge, I'll know how to create collages using different materials and color themes.

Collage Artist

To earn this badge, please complete one option per step.

STEPS	BADGE REQUIREMENTS	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
Step 1	Explore collage As you work through this step, record thoughts, sketches, images, and ideas in an inspiration notebook—it will make a great reference to guide you through the badge. Pay attention to composition, color, material, and message, as those are the collages you'll be making in the next steps!	Read about three collage time periods or styles. You might explore paper collages by 12th-century Japanese calligraphers, research medieval artists who enhanced religious images with fibers, gemstones, and precious metals, or look at the work of modern artists who pushed the boundaries of the medium.	Visit a museum virtually or exhibit online featuring collages. Research about the artists and what materials they use in their work.	Find out how far back you can trace collages and then create a timeline. Was the technique a respected art form or a novelty? When did it begin to be taken seriously by art critics? Include at least three influential artists on your timeline.
Step 2	Focus on composition Visualize how you want your collage to look. How do you want your viewers' eyes to travel across your work? Is there a hierarchy to the objects on your canvas? How and where you place the visual elements in your collage can change the mood and the experience the piece creates.	Compose a collage using cubomania. This technique means cutting one image into squares, and then reassembling each however you desire. You might try to re-create the original image with some variations, or place each square randomly.	Create a collage diary. For one week, collect things—these might be a card from someone, Instagram pic, take-out restaurant menu, food label, email, mailing, etc. Cut up and compose what you've collected into a composition that defines your week.	Create a photo collage. Use physical photographs or digital scans, or find free images if you're working on the computer. You might choose a theme—"favorite Girl Scout experiences," "everything that means home to me," or "pets of everyone I love."

Step 3	<p>Create with color Isaac Newton, during his groundbreaking study on how light is responsible for color, was the first to arrange colors in a "wheel." Scientists and artists found the concept an incredibly useful way to organize and study the effects of one color's relationship to another. Explore—and express—your feelings about color in collage.</p>	<p>Create a collage using one color. If it's yellow, you might find materials in every shade of yellow from mustard to bright, pure yellow.</p>	<p>Create a collage with a color theme. This might mean colors that evoke a patriotic theme: red, white, and blue. Or Victorian-era colors: gray, brown, teal, and purplish red. Or think about cool color combinations, such as turquoise and silver, or your favorite Girl Scout colors.</p>	<p>Create a collage that's a study in color harmony. Harmony means the combination isn't too jarring or too bland. Colors next to each other on the wheel usually give a sense of balance and harmony. But contrasting colors—those from different parts of the color wheel—can also seem harmonious.</p>
Step 4	<p>Use found objects What you've tried with composition and color should help you choose objects that will fit together well. Or, you might specifically decide to pick things that don't seem to have a rhyme or reason—that depends on your vision as an artist.</p>	<p>Create a collage using 3-D materials. A tech theme might have computer chips, old cell phone parts, and colored wires (and maybe a screw or lug nut as a nod to older technology)! A games theme might have Monopoly pieces, dice, and a spinner. Or you might not want a theme at all!</p>	<p>Create a collage on a found surface. What about making a collage on a lampshade, a shoe that's past its prime, a piece of tire, driftwood, or even a tabletop that could use a creative spark? Tip: You can preserve your collage by painting over it with a sealant, such as a clear spray acrylic, varnish, or lacquer.</p>	<p>Create a collage from everyday things. You might ask family members to give you things from their pockets that they intend to discard. Or, you might make a foodie collage using napkins, chopsticks, cutlery, sugar packets, and other culinary items.</p>
Step 5	<p>Share a message A collage is a fantastic way to share a powerful message. What kind of composition, color, objects, or textures say "This is what matters to me and why?" Experiment with bringing your meaning to life.</p>	<p>Create a self-portrait collage. It doesn't have to be your face—just a piece that tells the world something about you. A girl with a sweet tooth could make art with her collection of jelly beans, an entrepreneur with coins and play money. Or, create your face using Girl Scout badges and patches!</p>	<p>Create a collage with an advocacy message. Collages, especially in the 1940s, were often used to express powerful social commentary. Find a way to use this art form to express your cause or a message you believe in.</p>	<p>Create a collage advertisement. Perhaps it's to promote your favorite Girl Scout camp, a travel adventure, or a great book or recipe.</p>

TIPS BEFORE TAKEOFF

- Your collage might include newspaper clippings, ribbons, photograph, used wrapping paper, foil, wire, old maps... you name it.
- Your canvas can be anything—paper, plywood, cardboard, a cereal box. Just remember that the heavier your objects, the stronger your support needs to be.
- If you're a computer whiz, you can create up to two of your collages in the digital medium. For the others, experiment with physical materials so you'll be a well-rounded artist.
- Some digital art programs have free trials that allow you to import photos, illustrations, and other elements.