

Guidelines for Planning Girl Scout CEREMONIES



girl scouts
of the jersey shore

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Dedication

This booklet is dedicated to the memory of Sheila Weisfeld with gratitude for the gift of her extensive collection of ceremonies.

And with thanks to Marilyn Bass for her collection of ceremonies and her availability to critique and proof-read this booklet.

Thank you to all the volunteers and staff throughout the years and from around the globe that contributed to this work.

Editor's Note: To conserve resources, we ask that you only print out ceremonies as needed and print on both sides of the paper. Also, this is a work in progress. Please check back regularly as ceremonies are added.

For additional resources, check with the Council's service centers for equipment that you can borrow (bridge, candle holders, flags, uniforms, etc.) and books and ideas. Also, consult with leaders and older girl members in your Region that can share ideas and help.

INTRODUCTION

Basics of a Girl Scout Ceremony

What is a Girl Scout ceremony?

A Girl Scout ceremony is one method used by members to express the ideals of the Girl Scout movement. It is also a symbol of honor recognizing a special event or circumstance.

When are Girl Scout ceremonies held?

Girl Scout ceremonies may be held at any time of the day or night; may be formal or informal; and may be held by a large or small group.

They are used to recognize accomplishments, special events, or to signify the beginning or end of a meeting. They provide a means to express feeling, friendship, patriotism and service.

Who plans Girl Scout ceremonies?

Ceremonies for girls are planned by girl members with the guidance of adults. This is a time for the girls to express their ideas and feelings. They may invite guests or hold the ceremony for themselves.

Ceremonies for adults are planned by the adults involved. Similarly to the girls' ceremonies, this is a chance for the adult volunteers to express their ideas and feelings, as well as, honor their accomplishments. Guests are optional and dependent on the nature of the ceremony.

How Are Ceremonies Planned?

All people appreciate the beauty, inspiration, and recognition that ceremonies give. For all ceremonies, it is important that each participant know in advance what to expect. If the ceremony needs rehearsal, that should be included in the plans.

Girls participate in planning the ceremony by using the information in this booklet. What follows are samples and ideas designed to inspire the girls. There are very few 'rules' for Girl Scout ceremonies but, *Girl Scout Essentials* and *Safety Activity Checkpoints* online (formerly in print as *Safety Wise*) should be consulted as appropriate.

When planning a ceremony have the girls keep the following questions in mind:

- What is the purpose of the ceremony?
- Who will be invited?
- Where will it be held?
- What equipment and materials might be needed?
- How will we begin/open the ceremony?
- What will be the focus of the ceremony?
- How will we close the ceremony?

These questions are part of the Worksheet for Ceremonies on page 62 of this publication.

Many of the following ceremonies can be combined for a lengthier program. For instance, a flag ceremony is usually part of an Investiture or Bridging Ceremony.



An Overview of Types of Girl Scout Ceremonies:

Opening and Closing Ceremonies *(start on page 7)*

The opening and closing ceremonies for meetings should be simple and short. You could have a flag ceremony, read a poem, sing a favorite song, play a short game, or say the Girl Scout Promise and/or Girl Scout Law.

The purpose of these ceremonies is to officially, not formally, signify the beginning or ending of the meeting or event. This will add structure to a meeting, which is particularly important for Daisy, Brownie, and Junior Girl Scouts.

Flag Ceremonies *(start on page 9)*

Flag ceremonies are held to honor the symbol of our country. The flag ceremony may be held independently or as part of another ceremony. There are many varieties of indoor or outdoor ceremonies, folding the flag, non-traditional ceremonies, and proper disposal of the flag - to name just a few.

The ceremony may involve any number of participants, usually with a minimum of three --the Color Bearer (carries the American Flag), the Color Guard (protects the American Flag), and the Caller (gives the ceremony commands to the Color Bearer and Color Guard).



Investiture Ceremony/Rededication Ceremony *(start on page 21)*

New members are welcomed into Girl Scouting with an investiture. This happens once in each individual's lifetime. Annually, a rededication ceremony can be held to rededicate members to the purpose and philosophy of the Girl Scout Movement. If some new members are being added to a troop with already invested members, the ceremony can incorporate both functions.

Fly-up Ceremonies *(start on page 36)*

This very special ceremony is when Brownie Girl Scouts receive their "wings" and become Junior Girl Scouts. Only Brownie Girl Scouts fly-up in addition to a bridging ceremony. All other levels use a bridging ceremony only.

Bridging Ceremonies *(start on page 34)*

A bridging ceremony is for girls when moving from one program level to the next. The bridging process begins long before the ceremony takes place. Information about that process is in the level handbooks.

Candlelight Ceremonies (Samples are given throughout this booklet.)

A candlelight ceremony may be used to remind us of concepts and ideals such as the Girl Scout Promise and Law. There are many different candle ceremonies. This ceremony may be held separately or as part of another ceremony.

Court of Awards

This ceremony is held to recognize the achievements of all levels of Girl Scouts. It is at this ceremony that members receive the recognitions they have earned - badges, patches, membership stars, and any other special awards or honors for girls and/or adults. Most frequently held at the troop/group level at the end of the year, it can be held anytime appropriate. For younger girls, a more frequent giving of awards is recommended.

Girl Scouts' Own *(instructions on page 50)*

The main focus of a Girl Scouts' Own is based on a theme selected by the members of the group developing the ceremony. There are no specific guidelines for this ceremony except:

- It is a ceremony of sharing, reflection, and inspiration.
- It is usually a private ceremony and personal experience for the Girl Scouts involved.
- Each member has an opportunity to participate.

The information in these guidelines is an overview of Girl Scout ceremonies. Girls and adults are encouraged to use their own ideas and creativity when planning and designing ceremonies. However, the samples in this booklet should help you get started. You may also want to speak with other experienced leaders in your community and region or attend council sponsored workshops.

Helping Girls Plan Their Ceremony

With a little help, Girl Scouts can learn to plan meaningful ceremonies. You may use the following questions to guide them in the planning process. Remember, the possibilities suggested here are meant to stimulate thought; the final decisions about the ceremony should rest with the girls. A worksheet for this process is on page 62. An additional materials section begins on page 56.

What kind of ceremony do we want?

- A flag ceremony?
- An investiture?
- A bridging?

Should we invite guests?

- Family-including brothers & sisters?
- Another Girl Scout troop?
- Friends?
- Adults in Girl Scouting?
- Adults from the community?

Where will it be held?

- Indoors or outdoors?
- On the side of a hill or a place with a view?
- In a park or in a special building?
- By the water or a boat?

What could be included in the ceremony?

- Girl Scout Promise & Law?
- A song, poem, dance, dramatization?
- Candles, lights, campfire?
- A flag, Girl Scout membership pins, World Association symbol?
- Footsteps, stair steps, a bridge?
- A mirror (for Brownie pond)?

When will it be held?

- Early in the morning or at night?
- During troop/group meeting time?
- Any other time?
- A weekday or a weekend?

How will we do it?

- Who will start the ceremony?
- Should we sit or stand?
- Should we speak together or individually?
- Do we need to learn something new?
- Do we need to rehearse?

Special dates for a ceremony:

- February 22 Thinking Day
- March 12 Girl Scout Birthday
- October 31 Juliette Low's birthday

Special events for ceremonies:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Investiture | Dedication |
| Fly-Up (Brownie Girl Scouts) | Bridging |
| WAGGGS Pin Ceremony | Girl Scout's Own |
| Girl Scout Meeting | Court of Awards |

Symbols used in ceremonies:

- Archway the entering of a different atmosphere or phase
- Bridge a crossing over, usually between program levels
- Dove/Olive Branch peace
- Eagle courage
- Flag the banner of Girl Scouting, troop/group, council, state or country
- Friendship Knot made by a friend (p.58)
- Friendship Circle the unbroken chain of friendship
- Feather nature
- Handshake hello, welcome
- Lighted Candle symbol of individuality, puts attention on a concept
- Pebble nature
- Planting a Tree conservation
- Quiet Sign quiet (p. 56)
- String/Yarn the human line that binds us all together
- Signing your name your own identity
- Swaying side by side everyone agreeing to the same thought
- Trefoil the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise
- Wishing Well hopes and dreams

Girl Scout Candle Colors:

- Candles in a ceremony signify the spirit of Girl Scouting. The following is a list of possible candle colors with special significance:
- Silver the beginning of a new day, Cadette level achievements
 - Yellow Daisy Girl Scouts, sunshine
 - Pink all girls in Girl Scouts and Girl Guides
 - White purity
 - Gold..... Trefoil pin, Senior and Ambassador level achievements, highest level
 - Turquoise water
 - Brown earth, Brownie level Girl Scouts
 - Green..... plant life, Junior level Girl Scouts, all Girl Scouts in USA
 - Blue traditional Girl Scout and Girl Guiding color worldwide

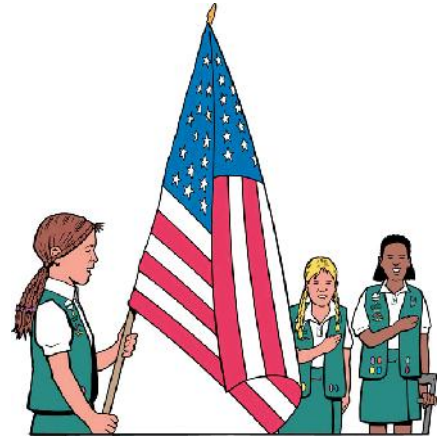
OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES

Opening Ceremonies

Every Girl Scout meeting or program should have an opening and closing. They provide a frame in which to work. An opening signals to the girls that the meeting has begun and it is time to get down to business.

A typical opening ceremony is very short and simple. It will mean more if it is made up by the troop and varied from meeting to meeting. Some of the following may be included:

1. Flag ceremony
2. Reciting of the Promise and Law
3. Sing a song or recite a poem
4. Discuss a Girl Scout concept – such as a part of the Law or the meaning of the World Association pin



It is very important that the girls all get a chance to plan and participate in all the aspects of the ceremony. Use of a Kaper Chart with assignments for both the planning and the parts of the ceremony will insure that everyone gets a chance.

Suggested Closing Ceremonies

The closing ceremony allows the girls a special moment to end the meeting and say good-bye. Allow enough time to clean-up and put away supplies and still have time for this important component to a successful meeting. There are a number of special activities that can conclude your meeting or event.

The Song “Taps” with Hand Motions

Day is done	[arms are held extended with palms down, shoulder level]
Gone the sun	[lower the arms slightly]
From the lakes	[turn palms up, raise arms slightly]
From the hills	[raise the arms higher]
From the sky	[raise arms level with top of head]
All is well	[lower arms to shoulder height, place right hand on left elbow]
Safely rest	[cross left hand to right elbow]
God is nigh	[bow head onto crossed arms]

Sometimes this is followed with an enthusiastic leap in the air with arms opened wide and a shouted “Good night, Scouts!” but others prefer to end quietly.

Friendship Circle with Friendship Wish

(illustrated on cover of this booklet)

You may do Taps or another closing component first. For the Friendship Circle, girls stand in a circle with arms crossed right over left and grasping the hands of the person on either side (see cover illustration.) A designated person starts the passing of the friendship wish by thinking a silent wish and then symbolically passing the wish to the person on her left by gently squeezing her hand. That girl then thinks her own silent wish and continues the ‘squeeze’. As each girl makes her wish, she should put her right foot slightly forward to silently track the progress of the ‘squeeze’. This is repeated until the ‘squeeze’ has gone around the entire circle. When the originator receives the ‘squeeze’, she may say “God Bless the Girl Scouts and Girl Guides everywhere. Goodbye” or a simple “Good night, girls.” The girls drop their hands and leave in silence.

Magic Tunnel

When girls are completely ready to leave (jackets on), the girls stand in to lines facing each other in a line to the door and making an arch with their arms. The farthest pair from the door goes under the arches, then the next two, and so on, until the tunnel vanishes with the last two girls leaving. This entire process is usually done in silence.

Singing Our Way Out

A closing ceremony can be solemn or lively, silent or noisy. It's fun to try a variety of ways and here are some samples of fun ways to close a meeting.

Clean-up Song

This one is good for younger girls. The children skip about the room arranging everything neatly, singing to the tune of "London Bridge"

Weave the magic in and out, in and out, in and out
Weave the magic in and out, we are Girl Scouts.
We have tidied everything, everything, everything.
We have tidied everything, we are Girl Scouts.

Then, the girls line up before the leader:

Leader: Is everything finished?

Girls: Everything!

Leader: Is nothing left?

Girls: Nothing!

Leader: Then begone!

[Leader can wave a special 'good-bye wand' as girls leave.]



Good-bye Song

To the tune of "Good Night Ladies".

Good-bye (name of program level) [repeat three times]
It's sad to see you go.

Can be sung while doing the Magic Tunnel.

Another Good-bye Song

To the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star"

Now our Girl Scout meeting ends,
Say good-bye to all our friends
To our homes we Girl Scouts go
Singing songs to let you know
We are happy as can be,
Working, playing, merrily.



Variations of "Taps"

Daylight: Thanks and praise, for our days
'Neath the sun, 'neath the trees, 'neath the sky,
As we go, this we know,
God is nigh.

Evening: So good night, peaceful nigh
Till the light of the dawn shineth bright.
God is near, do not fear,
Friend, good night.

FLAG CEREMONIES

Basic Outdoor Flag Ceremony

Flag/Color Bearer	The red sash, if worn, goes over the right shoulder and is tied with a square knot on the left hip.	
Color Guards	Red sashes, if used are worn around the waist and tied on the left side. There may be any number of guards but it is usually an even number.	
Color Guard	Flag bearer plus honor guards are referred to as Color Guard, in the singular.	
Caller	The person who stands at the flag pole and gives the commands.	
Formation	The audience forms a horseshoe around the flagpole and stands with empty hands at their sides. Color Bearer and Guards then advance with the Color Bearer surrounded by the guards, usually in pairs before and after. They take position in front of flagpole and stand at attention facing the pole during the entire event. After the ceremony, the Color Guard is dismissed before the other persons who are present.	
Silence	There is absolute silence by the Color Guard from the time the Caller starts the ceremony. The Color Guard is the official guardian of the flag, and does not sing, speak, or salute with others. The Color Guard salutes only when instructed.	
Program	The program part of the ceremony takes place after flag has been raised or before it is lowered. The program varies but often consists of the Pledge of Allegiance, the Girl Scout Promise and Law (page 56), patriotic or nature poetry, and songs. The Pledge of Allegiance should only be said once during the day.	
Salute	When the flag is raised, the campers salute the moment the flag starts up by placing hand over heart until it reaches the top. When the flag is lowered, the hand is over the heart from when the flag starts down until the last clip is unfastened.	
Raising or Lowering	The clasps on the rope should be the same distance apart as the eyelets in the flag. All clasps should be fastened on the flag before it is started upward. All Color Guards may hold the flag as the Bearer attaches it to the rope before raising it briskly to the top. At the closing ceremony, the first two Color Guards may step forward to catch the flag as it is lowered so that it does not touch the ground. The upper corner of the flag should be in the Color Bearer's hands before she unfastens the clasps.	
Folding	The flag is held by the Color Guard with the blue field nearest the flagpole. It is folded lengthwise in half, then again lengthwise in half, folding the blue field underneath toward the outside. The guards farthest from the pole begin folding the flag in a triangle. They fold until they can pass it on to the other members of the Color Guard. This continues until the entire flag has been folded into a triangle. <i>[Detailed drawings are on the next page.]</i>	
Placing Folded Flag	The Color Guard resumes its original position. One member of the first pair steps up in front of the Color Bearer with the folded flag. She places it in the Bearer's outstretched hands so that it can be carried point forward, and then returns to position.	
Return	The Color Guard may leave in the same formation as they entered or they may change it. As they leave, the campers may fall in behind.	

Flag Ceremony Commands

Opening Ceremony:

Girl Scouts attention *[refers to audience]*
Color Guard attention
Color Guard advance
Color Guard post the colors
Color Guard salute the colors
Girl Scouts, the flag of your country
We will now say the Pledge of Allegiance
[Program-GS Pledge or anything appropriate]
Color Guard dismissed
[Possible camp announcements]
Girl Scouts dismissed

Closing Ceremony:

[Any camp announcements]
Girl Scouts attention *[refers to audience]*
Color Guard attention
Color Guard advance
[Program-Taps or anything appropriate]
Color Guard salute the colors
Color Guard retire the colors
Color Guard dismissed
Girl Scouts dismissed
[may substitute "Campers" or other term for "Girl Scouts", when appropriate]

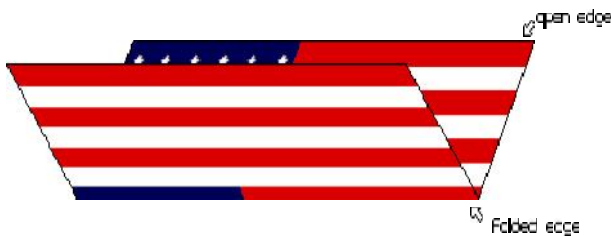
Folding the U.S. flag

Special care should be taken that no part of the flag touches the ground. The Flag is carefully folded into the shape of a tri-cornered hat, emblematic of the hats worn by colonial soldiers during the war for Independence. In the folding, the red and white stripes are finally wrapped into the blue, as the light of day vanishes into the darkness of night.

The custom of this special folding is reserved for the United States Flag alone.



1. To properly fold the Flag, begin by holding it waist-high with another person (or persons) so that its surface is parallel to the ground.



2. Fold the lower half of the stripe section lengthwise **over** the field of stars, holding the bottom and top edges securely.



3. Fold the flag **again** lengthwise with the blue field on the **outside**.



4. Make a triangular fold by bringing the striped corner of the folded edge to meet the open (top) edge of the flag.



5. Turn the outer (end) point inward, parallel to the open edge, to form a second triangle.



6. The triangular folding is continued until the entire length of the flag is folded in this manner.



7. When the flag is completely folded, only a triangular blue field of stars should be visible. The Color Bearer carries it with the point forward away from her or his body.

Basic Indoor Flag Ceremony

The Flag Ceremony is a tribute to the flag we honor. The ceremony should be well planned, performed smoothly, and with dignity. **Practice** the ceremony so it will be conducted with pride and confidence.

Participants:

- Caller.....The individual in charge of the ceremony. The Caller gives the commands.
- Color Bearer(s)The individual(s) that hold the flag(s). One bearer per flag.
- Color GuardsThe individuals who guard the flag(s). The Color Guards may walk on either side of or in front and behind the Color Bearer.
- Color Guard.....When given in the singular text, this is the group of bearer(s) and guard(s) together. When only the American Flag is to be used: there are a minimum of three members of the Color Guard - the Color Bearer and two Color Guards. If an additional flag is added, another Color Bearer is needed. For large events, plan to have at least two guards for each bearer. Additional Color Guards may be added to allow for the use of more girls.

Arrangements:

The participants should form a horseshoe formation with the open end for the Color Guard to enter & exit. The Color Bearer(s) and Color Guard(s) enter with the flag and face the horseshoe. Reminder - the United States flag is to its own right. That means that the person holding the U.S. flag is to the right of any other flags. Another option is to have the other flags follow the U.S. flag in and out of the formation. More specific details are on page 13.

Order of Ceremony:

Posting the Colors: The Caller gives the following commands:

1. **Girl Scouts, Attention** [*The audience stands with empty hands at sides*]
 2. **Color Guard, Attention** [*The Color Guard(s) and Color Bearer(s) stand at attention.*]
 3. **Color Guard, Advance** [*The Color Guard(s) and Color Bearer(s) enter with the flag(s)*]
 4. **Girl Scouts, The Flag of Your Country, Please join me in saying The Pledge of Allegiance** [*The Color Guard(s) and Color Bearer(s) stand silently at attention. Everyone else recites the Pledge.*]
 5. **Let Us Sing** _____ [*At this point a song may be sung, patriotic or otherwise, and/or a reading may be done.*]
 6. **Let Us Now Say The Girl Scout Promise.** [*Can add the Girl Scout Law and anything else appropriate.*]
 7. **Color Guard, Post The Colors** [*The Color Bearer(s) place(s) the flag(s) in the stand(s). Post other flags first: American Flag last.*]
 8. **Color Guard, Honor Your Colors** [*The Color Bearer(s) and Color Guard(s) step back and salute the flag by placing their hands over their hearts.*]
 9. **Color Guard, Dismissed** [*The Color Bearer(s) and Color Guard(s) return the way they entered.*]
- Announcements and the rest of the program or meeting begin after the Color Guard has exited.*

All formal meeting or program activities should be complete before Retiring the Colors. It is last formal activity.

Retiring the Colors: The Caller gives the following commands:

1. **Girl Scouts, Attention** [*The audience stands with empty hands at sides*]
2. **Color Guard, Attention** [*The Color Guard(s) and Color Bearer(s) stand at attention.*]
3. **Color Guard, Advance** [*The Color Guard(s) and Color Bearer(s) move forward to stand in front of flags*]
4. **Let Us** _____ [*At this point a song may be sung or a poem read. The Color Guard remains silent.*]
5. **Color Guard, Honor Your Colors** [*The Color Bearer(s) and Color Guard(s) salute the flag by placing their hands over their hearts briefly.*]
6. **Color Guard, Retire The Colors** [*The Color Bearer(s) pick-up the flag(s) from the stand(s), with the U.S. flag first.*]
7. **Color Guard, Dismissed** [*The Color Bearer(s) and Color Guard(s) return the way they entered with the U.S. flag in front of any other flags.*]
8. **Girl Scouts, Dismissed** [*Everyone departs the formation. The formal program or part of the evening may be followed by an informal part such as refreshments or collecting of paperwork.*]

Flag Etiquette

Citizens of the United States of America are justly proud of their rights and freedoms. The most obvious symbol of our country is the U.S. flag. As part of that pride, the U.S. flag must be properly displayed and handled at all times. The following is adapted from the US Code Title 36 Chapter 10 that covers Patriotic Customs. For further details, go to <http://www.usflag.org/us.code36.html#36>

- The flag should not be raised before sunrise or allowed to remain up after sunset unless properly lighted.
- It should not be displayed in bad weather.
- The flag should never be draped in any form, used as a cover (except over a coffin), used to carry other items, have anything placed upon it, nor displayed on a float unless flown from a staff.
- The flag is not to be used for advertising, decoration on napkins, pillows, handkerchiefs or any other item intended to be used and discarded. Nor is to be worn as a costume.
- Red, white, and blue bunting may be used for draping and decorations.
- The flag should always be permitted to fall free. It may be attached to a pole or hung by one edge only.
- The flag should never touch anything beneath it - ground, floor or water.
- It should be kept clean and fresh. When soiled, it should be laundered with care. When it becomes tattered or torn, it should be retired with dignity, preferably by burning.



The right side of the flag is considered the side of honor. Since honor is shown to the flag - not to the color guard or the audience - it is the flag's own right that must be remembered. When displayed with other flags, the flag of the United States should be on the right side. When carried in a procession with other flags, the Flag of the United States is always at the right or carried in front of the centerline of flags.

Height, too, is considered a mark of respect. When state, troop, or other flags are used, the flag of the United States is raised first and lowered last so that no other flag is ever above it. This holds true when flags are picked up and posted - for the flag of the United States is picked up first and posted last.

When flags of two or more nations are being displayed, they must be flown from separate poles of the same height. The flags should be the same size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above the other in time of peace.

When carrying the flag, the bearer holds it directly in front of her with the heel of the staff in her left hand. Holding the staff with the right hand, from the upper side, not underneath, supports the weight of the flag.

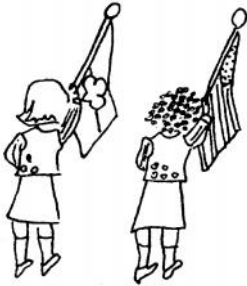
A salute to the flag (Girl Scouts use the civilian salute of placing the right hand over the heart) is given when the flag is being raised or lowered. During an outdoor flag ceremony, all persons present should salute the flag when the first loop is fastened to the flag rope and hold the salute until the flag reaches the top. At retreat, the salute begins when the flag starts down and is held until the second loop is loosened from the flag rope. When the flag is passing in a parade or in a review, all present should face the flag, stand at attention and salute. When saluting, nothing should be in the person's hands.

When the flag is flown at half-staff, it should be hoisted to the top for an instant and then lowered halfway. At sunset, it should be raised to the peak again before final lowering.

When the National Anthem is played or sung and the flag is displayed, all present should stand and face the flag, giving the salute. If the flag is not displayed or within view, everyone stands at attention while the anthem is played.

Correct Flag Positions for Displays and Carrying

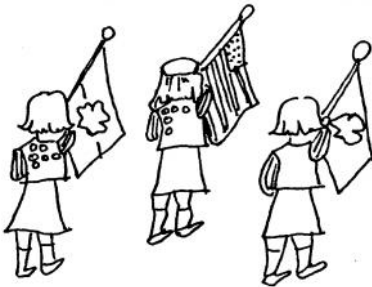
When carrying two flags, the U.S. flag is on the right.



When standing in a line, the U.S. flag is to the right and at the same level as other flags. If the Pledge of Allegiance is said, the bearer steps to the center in front of the other flags.



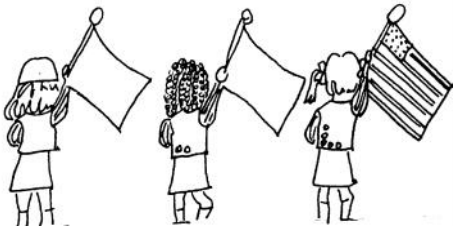
When carrying three or more flags, the U.S. flag can be in the center front



When posting the flags at the same level not on a platform, the U.S. flag is right of audience



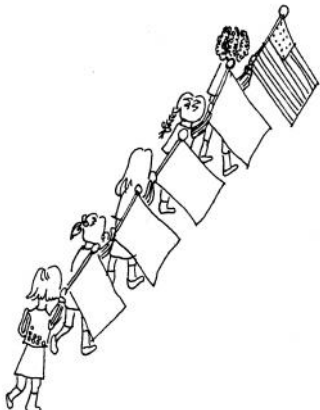
Or with multiple flags in a straight line, the U.S. flag is on the furthers right



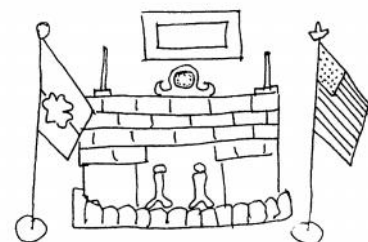
On a platform, the U.S. flag is on the right of the speaker.



When carrying many flags down a narrow aisle, the U.S. flag is first



Against a wall, the U.S. flag is to the right of the audience.



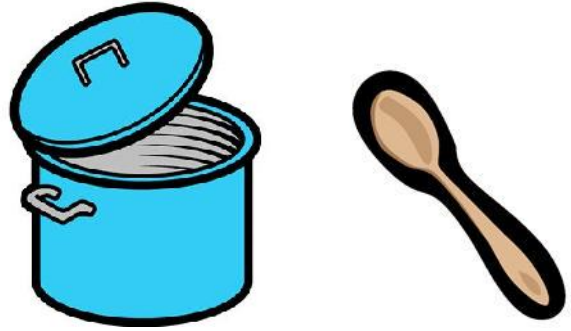
BEYOND THE BASIC FLAG CEREMONIES

Sample of The Making of the Flag for Older Girls Also known as A Recipe For a Flag

This ceremony could be part of a longer ceremony and is appropriate for older girls. Girls can use the following suggested words and music or create their own words and select their own message. You may also want to divide or share parts to accommodate more girls participating.

Equipment:

U.S. flag, folded
Large pot
Long spoon
Pieces of red, white, and blue paper and stars



Arrangement:

Hide flag in large pot on table in center of area

Ceremony:

Girls enter humming "America the Beautiful"

- Girl Scout #1: Red is for Valor. For the courage of all women who, with a dream in their hearts, crossed the oceans to begin life anew in a free land. For the bravery of women who, with hope and faith, crossed the prairie and mountains of our vast land. For the steadfastness of those women who, through all adversities, shouldered the country's burdens to emerge as strong individuals. *[put red paper into the pot]*
- Girl Scout #2: White is for Purity. For the integrity of all women whose fortitude wove the strands of diverse cultures into an integral national heritage. For the piety of all women whose faith formed the foundation upon which our country was built and continues to grow. *[put white paper into the pot]*
- Girl Scout #3: Blue is for Justice. For the foresight of all those women who created an atmosphere in which each of their children would develop to their fullest potential. For the perseverance of all those whom who contributed their talents to further the development of our country. *[put the blue paper into the pot]*
- Girl Scout #4: Stars are for Dreams. For the dreams of the future so that the generations of tomorrow may fulfill the promise of the past 200 plus years; so that the visions of our forebears will be revitalized and the future will hold hope and promise for all generations to come. *[put the stars into the pot]*
- Girl Scout #5: *[stirring the pot]* Stirring are the stories of my Stars and Stripes. I symbolize the soul of America, typifying her ideals and aspirations, her institutions and traditions.
- Girl Scout #6: *[remove the flag and hand to two girls to hold up in display]* This flag, which we honor and under which we serve is the emblem of our unity, our power, thought and purpose as a nation. Please join me in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone, except two girls holding flag, say the Pledge of Allegiance in unison.

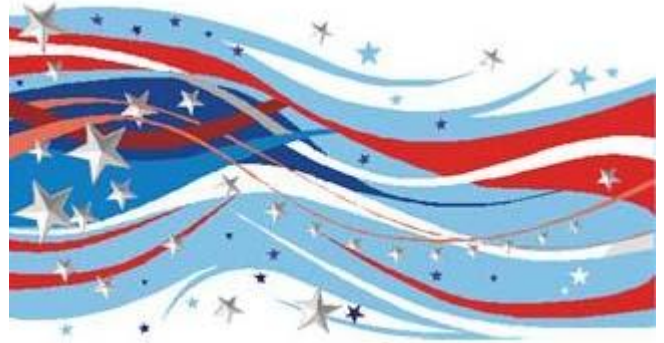
This is followed by the singing of a patriotic flag song, such as "You're a Grand Old Flag"



Sample of The Making of the Flag for Younger Girls

Equipment:

Large container
Colored poker chips (red, white, and blue) sorted by colors into clear cups
Stars
One stir stick or magic wand
Flag (hidden in bottom of pot with an edge accessible to pull out)



Arrangements: Girls stand in a semi-circle behind a chair or stool holding a container and facing the audience.

Ceremony:

Girl Scout #1: We are going to fix a treat for you that is really grand. And make a recipe – greatest in the land.

Girl Scout #2: In first, we will put a heaping bunch of red for courage true. *[pour in red chips]*

Girl Scout #3: And then we will add for justice – dash of heavenly blue *[pour in blue chips]*

Girl Scout #4: For purity, we will now include a layer of snowy white *[pour in white chips]*

Girl Scout #5: We will sprinkle in a pinch of stars to make it come out right.

Girl Scout #6: *[stirring with spoon]* We will stir and stir and then you will see what we have made is ...
[pull out flag] Old Glory! Our flag is the most beautiful flag in the world; Let us always be loyal to it. Please stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance.

Variation: For very young girls, a Leader may be a narrator while the girls perform the actions. You could also assign two girls to each part, one to read and one to add the ingredient.

Sample of Old Glory Flag Ceremony

Equipment: Ahead of time, place a U.S. flag floating upon a staff or hanging from above (use a fan to get the flag to “wave”), spotlight the flag from the back of the room; use a microphone for the speakers, if necessary. Have the four speakers out of sight, if possible.

Arrangement: Audience is seated facing a stage or the front of the room with the flag displayed alone.

Ceremony:

Girl Scout #1: I am the flag of the United States. The symbol of a nation that has loved, above all else, its freedom, justice, rights, and equality.

Girl Scout #2: I am the country’s glowing Stars and Stripes. Red is for endurance, courage and strength; white is for the purity of high ideals; and blue is for loyalty, truth and faith.

Girl Scout #3: I am Old Glory - flag for which people serve, that right may conquer; flag for which people strive for better and higher ideals.

Girl Scout #4: I am the flag of the United States. Let us rise and pledge allegiance to our flag. *[recite pledge]*

Sample of Explanation of the Pledge Ceremony



This is an example of how girls can reflect on the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance. The girls can use these words or create their own.

Equipment:

A United States flag prominently displayed (can have been brought in earlier with a flag ceremony)

Formation:

Girls form semicircle facing audience. If fewer girls are available, go back around the semicircle. This ceremony can be held indoors or outdoors.

Ceremony:

- Girl Scout 1: We often recite the Pledge of Allegiance without really listening or understanding the meaning of the words we are saying. Each of us is going to say a word or phrase from the Pledge and then say what it means to us.
- Girl Scout 2: I - me, an individual, a committee of one
- Girl Scout 3: **Pledge** - dedicate all of my worldly possessions to give without self-pity
- Girl Scout 4: **Allegiance** - my love and devotion
- Girl Scout 5: **To the Flag** - our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves there is respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts "Freedom is everybody's job!"
- Girl Scout 6: **Of the United** - united - that means we have all come together
- Girl Scout 7: **States of America** - states - individual communities that have united into fifty great states all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united in a common purpose - love for country
- Girl Scout 8: **And to the Republic** - republic, a state in which power is given to representatives chosen by the people to govern; and the government is the people; and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people
- Girl Scout 9: **For Which it Stands** - this is what our Flag represents: our United States
- Girl Scout 10: **One Nation Under God** - meaning, so blessed by God
- Girl Scout 11: **Indivisible** - Incapable of being divided
- Girl Scout 12: **With Liberty** - which is freedom - the right to live one's own life without threats or fear of retaliation
- Girl Scout 13: **And Justice** - the principle or qualities of dealing fairly with others
- Girl Scout 14: **For All** - everyone. It's as much your country as it is mine

Sample of a Choral Reading of the Pledge of Allegiance

You can use the suggested words below or develop your own.

Equipment:

Copies of script, US flag on display (can have been brought in with a flag ceremony first)

Arrangements:

Girls are divided into two groups. The first group reads the words on the left side below and the second group responds with the words on the right. This can be followed by the audience joining in a group Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of a patriotic song.

Ceremony:

Speaker Group

I pledge
allegiance
to the flag
of the United States of America
and to the republic for which it stands

one nation

under God
indivisible
with liberty

and justice
for all.

Response Group

I bind myself by a solemn promise
to be loyal
to the symbol which represents
the fifty states in our nation
and to the form of government for which it stands, where
the supreme power rests in the citizens who elect their
representatives

a people with a common territory, economic life,
distinctive culture and language, united by a single
government

under the Supreme Being
which cannot be divided

with freedom from a dictatorship form of government or
control

and the equal protection and administration of the law
for everyone who is a part of it.



Sample of a Four Freedoms Flag Ceremony

Equipment:

U.S. flag

Five candles and one flashlight (or six flashlights)

Spotlight

Taped patriotic music (optional)

Arrangements:

Four girls hold the U.S. flag by its corners. They hold the flag at an angle so that it can be seen full face. Each of the four holds an unlit candle (or flashlight) in her other hand. A fifth girl stands to left of flag holding a lit candle. The narrator is on the right with a flashlight. Music, if used, plays softly before the flag appears. The room lighting should be dimmed.



Ceremony:

Narrator: Our country is more than two centuries old and it is fitting that we reflect on its past years [pause].... Our country grew out of struggle and desire unjust government..... internal problems....and the desire for Freedom and peace!

What you see in front of you represents the Past, the Present, and the Future. The stars and stripes of our flag stand for the thirteen colonies which began the great crusade for Freedom and the Past!

The fifty stars stand for the fifty great states.... the Present!

The girls are the women of tomorrow, the Future!

The girl on the side holds a light that stands for the fire of Freedom that burns in every person's soul. It was this fire that inspired our forebearers to fight for the guarantee of these Freedoms!

The first of these Freedoms is the Freedom from Fear.... [*girl moves over and lights candle at upper right of flag*] then, Freedom from Want [*girl lights candle at upper left*]....Freedom of Speech [*lights candle at lower left*] ... And Freedom of Worship.... [*lights last candle at lower right, then returns to position at left of flag*]

But, suppose we lost these Freedoms.... suppose there was no Freedom from Fear [*girl at upper right blows out her candle*].... no Freedom from Want [*girl blows out candle at upper left*]....no Freedom of Speech [*candle at lower left blown out*] And no Freedom of Worship [*last candle blown out*]

The lights of Freedom would go out all over the world.... [*girl on side blows out her candle*]....This country would be cold and dark.

[*Girls holding the flag move it to a more vertical position and a spotlight is put on the flag*]

But here in our country, the Freedoms do exist! Because of these Freedoms, the United States of America stands as a shining symbol of liberty throughout the world.

Would you all please rise and join me in our Pledge of Allegiance.

Can add a patriotic song and any other components of a flag ceremony. Don't forget to dismiss the patrol!

Flag Retirement Ceremonies

Sometimes called a *Flag Disposal Ceremony*, the correct way to dispose of a ragged or permanently stained U.S. flag is to hold a solemn ceremony while burning the flag and then burying the ashes. **There is no single, correct ceremony** but dozens of variations are available on the internet. The American Legion is a good source of information, as well.

What follows here are sample ceremonies for retiring or disposing of one flag. Additional flags can be carefully draped over the fire without cutting into pieces or further words. With smaller children, you may want to pre-cut the sections of the flag.

Make sure that the fire is very hot so that flag(s) is consumed completely and reduced to ash. Old cotton flags burn best but newer synthetic ones can be done also as long as fire is very hot.

After the ashes have cooled, they should be buried. Sometimes the grommets that remain in the ashes are given to those present as souvenirs. They can be put on a cord as a keepsake necklace.

Please remember, this is a very solemn ceremony and should be done with the utmost respect and reverence for the flag(s) to be retired. It might also be noted that you need to explain this to the girls so that they don't go home and tell their parents that they burned a flag at Girl Scouts, without giving an explanation as to why it was done.

Sample of a Flag Retirement Ceremony #1

Equipment:

Flags needing retirement
Shovel

Bucket of water
Scissors

Matches
Wood for fire

Arrangements: Audience in a horseshoe formation at a safe distance from the fire, flag disposal unit behind the fire. The fire should already be burning well. As stripes are cut, you can have a girl step forward to take it and place on fire. Instruct the girls to drape the pieces, not drop them, onto the fire.

Ceremony:

Group can begin with the Pledge of Allegiance and a patriotic song such as America or My Country 'Tis of Thee.

Narrator: *[with flag on display]* Remember as you look at your Flag, which is the symbol of our nation, that it is red because of human sacrifice. It is blue because of the true blue loyalty of its defenders. It is white to symbolize liberty - our land of the free. The stars are symbols of the united efforts and hope in the hearts of many people striving for a greater, nobler America.

[Optional - at this point, each person in the audience or participating in the ceremony, may state what the Flag means to them.] Another appropriate song could be sung.

In silence, take the flag and unfold it. Place stars (as audience sees it) in the upper left hand corner. (One minute of silent meditation may be inserted if desired.) Then either cut or tear the position of the blue containing the stars from the flag. Have one person hold the blue in her arms until the end of the ceremony because the blue and stars is the last part of the flag to be burned. Now tear one stripe off at a time. burn it in the fire by laying it across the flames; not in a lump. Burn each stripe thoroughly before tearing off the next stripe to be burned. After all the stripes have been burned, one at a time, then the blue and stars is ready to be burned. Before the blue and stars is spread across the fire, the blue portion can be kissed for respect by the person holding the blue throughout the ceremony. That portion is then laid, as a whole piece and not torn in any way, across the fire and all is quiet until the last speck of blue turns to ash.

You can now sing the Star Spangled Banner or another appropriate song.

The end of the ceremony should be a silent dismissal.

Sample of a Flag Retirement Ceremony #2

Follow general directions given on previous page. You may write your own words or use the ones below.

Equipment:

Flags needing retirement
Shovel

Bucket of water
Scissors

Matches
Wood for fire

Arrangements: Audience in a horseshoe formation at a safe distance from the fire, flag disposal unit behind the fire. Two girls hold the flag while one girl cuts the flag into pieces.

Ceremony:

Girl Scout 1: When the U.S. Flag becomes tattered or worn, it should be disposed of by burning. Remember as you look at the flag, it is the symbol of our nation.

[The girls holding the flag step forward with the stars in the upper left corner as the audience sees them. The girl with the scissors cuts the blue field from the stripes and hands it to Girl Scout #1. She then cuts each stripe from the "whole" and lays each piece across the flames. As each stripe enters the flames, the following thirteen readings can be spoken.]

Girl Scout 2: The thirteen stripes stand for the original colonies, which are: Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Virginia, New York, North Carolina, and Rhode Island.

Girl Scout 3: The white stands for purity.

Girl Scout 4: The red stands for courage.

Girl Scout 5: The blue stands for loyalty.

Girl Scout 6: "Give me liberty, or give me death."

Girl Scout 7: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal. They are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights. Among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Girl Scout 8: "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the United States of America."

Girl Scout 9: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Girl Scout 10: "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech or press."

Girl Scout 11: "Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

Girl Scout 12: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state because they are female."

Girl Scout 13: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

Girl Scout 14: "One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

[After all the stripes have been burned, the field of blue is laid on the fire. All are silent until the entire piece burns to ash. Out of respect, nothing should ever be added to the ceremonial fire after the flag has been retired except additional flags. The ceremony ends with everyone departing in silence.]

Another variation has each star cut out after the stripes and put on the fire individually while reading a list of the 50 states in order of admission to the USA.



INVESTITURE AND REDEDICATION CEREMONIES

Introduction

When a girl or adult becomes a Girl Scout for the first time, she is welcomed with an Investiture Ceremony. As new girls are added to existing troops, they must be invested but the other girls may participate as a Rededication. In addition, a Rededication can be held at any new level to acknowledge the change of program level.

Families should be sent invitations well in advance of the ceremony. Evening or weekend ceremonies are suggested to give families an opportunity to attend. Try to give each girl a kaper (task) such as opening/closing flag ceremony, greet guests at door, hand out programs, and show guest to seats. The ceremony may be followed by refreshments.

During this ceremony, new members, both girls and adults make their Girl Scout Promise, adopt the Girl Scout Law as their own, and receive their membership pins. Traditionally, the pins are first put on upside down - to be turned right side up when the first good deed is done. New Leaders, of course, have already done a good deed - they have agreed to be a Girl Scout Leader!

In planning an investiture, you must remember that it can be done in many ways. The ceremony can be held indoors or outdoors. A candle lighting ceremony is most impressive for an investiture, and a brief flag ceremony usually begins the program. The interpretation of the Trefoil, World Association pin, or Girl Scout Promise and Girl Scout Law are nice additions to the basic investiture.

Sample Daisy Girl Scout Investiture Ceremony #1

Equipment:

Daisy Girl Scout pin for each new girl removed from packaging and the catch open
Promise Center patch for each new girl removed from packaging
Large cut-out of a daisy flower with center and petals as detailed in the Daisy Girl Scout handbook, Number the backs of the petals to keep in the correct order
Poster board with some method of fastening daisy center and petals to it



Arrangements:

Each Daisy Girl Scout is given a petal (or two) and waits to the side in order until beckoned forward by the leader. The center can also be placed by a girl or the leader. One Leader can narrate the actions while the other pins the girls. Or the narration can be alternated between them.

Ceremony:

Leader: You are about to become Daisy Girl Scouts. Together we will explore all the fun and adventure of Girl Scouting. We are named Daisy Girl Scouts because that was our founder Juliette Gordon Low's nickname.

Leader The center of everything in Girl Scouts is the Promise. *[center is stuck on poster board]* Around that we place the Daisy Petals representing the ten parts of the Law that we will learn about. *[girls come forward with the appropriate color indicated]*. Light blue is for honest and fair. Yellow is for friendly and helpful. Spring Green is for considerate and caring. Red is for courageous and strong. Orange is for responsible for what I say and do. Purple is for respect myself and others. Magenta is for respect authority. Green is for use resources wisely. Rose is for make the word a better place. Violet is for be a sister to every Girl Scout. We will soon earn our petals as today we earn The Promise Center together by reciting the Girl Scout Promise. *[Promise is recited in unison]*

Leader: *[calls each girl by name and puts on her Daisy Girl Scout pin and hands her own Promise Center patch]* Welcome to Girl Scouts!



Sample Daisy Girl Scout Investiture Ceremony #2

Equipment:

Petals cut from large poster board and colored to match the ones in handbook with clothespin glued on inside edge of petal or they can be left white depending on the size of the troop
Yellow center of Styrofoam spray painted or poster board colored (something clothespin will grip onto)
Small table with an optional centerpiece of a bowl of daisy flowers
Daisy pins and Promise Center patches for each girl removed from packaging and pin catch left in open position

Arrangements:

This is designed for two leaders but can be modified as needed. One leader stands on one side and narrates. She can use a small table for Daisy Girl Scout pins and Promise Center patches. The other leader takes charge of the pieces of the displayed, decorative daisy. The yellow center is placed on the floor in center of the 'stage area'.

Ceremony:

A basic flag ceremony should begin this program. Try to use as many girls as possible. After the flag patrol is dismissed, a leader or troop committee chairperson welcomes families and introduces leaders.

All the girls now enter in pairs carrying a daisy petal. One by one (with the assistance of the leader), they attach their petal to the center and then sit down next to their petal. When all of the petals have been attached, the girls stand and lift the daisy they have made holding their petal, forming a circle and say or sing:

Round and round our petals turn,
Begin our Girl Scout time to learn.
Daisy - Daisy Girl Scouts are we,
We will grow and serve - you'll see.



Girls then set down the displayed daisy and form a line facing the audience, raise their right hands in the Girl Scout Salute, and, with the help of the leader, say their Girl Scout Promise in unison.

Each girl then walks over the leader who pins on her Daisy Girl Scout pin. She gives the Girl Scout handshake and is handed a daisy flower and the Promise Center which she can take to her parent(s) and joins her family. The daisy the girls made remains on the floor.

Refreshments can be served.

The number of girls in Daisy Girl Scout troop/group determines number of daisy petals. Girls may need part of several meetings to learn their part in the ceremony.

Sample Brownie Girl Scout Investiture Ceremony

Brownie Girl Scouts have a unique story that forms part of their investiture ceremony. Before planning the ceremony, girls should become familiar with the story of the helpful elves (aka brownies) that is the basis of the Brownie Girl Scouts.

The ceremony can be as simple or complicated as the girls want. If desired, a skit, puppet show, or play can be performed. There is a sample play about the Brownie story in the Additional Material section of this booklet.

It is important to the girls to have their parents, or other supportive adults, present at the investiture. Make it a special occasion with refreshments and at a convenient time for families to attend.

Traditionally, the Brownie Girl Scout pin is pinned on upside down. When the girls have done a good deed, it is turned right side up, usually by their parents.

Equipment:

A "pool" (or pond) can be constructed in the center of the Brownie Girl Scout Ring by using a mirror edged with greens or a cardboard circle covered with aluminum foil may also be used
Brownie pins removed from packaging and with catch left unfastened

Arrangements:

Brownie Girl Scout inductees are sent outside the room with a leader. The other leader helps to construct the pool and then has girls sit around it. This version assumes that some girls are already invested and that new girls are joining an existing Brownie troop. You may adapt as needed and have all girls 'look in the pond.'

Ceremony:

[The first leader with the new Brownie Girl Scouts knocks on the door.]

Second Leader: Who comes to the Brownie Girl Scout woods?

New Girls: We do.

Second Leader: What do you want?

New Girls: We want to be Brownie Girl Scouts.

Leader asks why, and the girls give their own reasons.

Girls enter and stand by the pool.

Each girl is then asked to recite the Girl Scout Promise. (Help her if she is shy.) As she recites the Girl Scout Promise, she gives the Girl Scout sign.

Leader pins her and tells her she is now a Brownie Girl Scout. She welcomes her to Girl Scouting and invites her to sit by the pool.

Make sure to tell the parents that it is up to them to decide when their daughter has earned the right to wear her Brownie pin right side up by doing a good deed!



You may wish to use the following variation:

Take each prospective Girl Scout to the "pool".

Turn her around as the members of the troop/group say, "Twist me and turn me and show me the elf. I looked in the water and saw ____" Everyone pauses and waits. The girl looks in the magic pond and sees a Brownie Girl Scout, herself, peering back. She completes the sentence with "myself".

Proceed now with the investiture: Ask her why she wants to be a Brownie Girl Scout; have her say the Girl Scout Promise; then, pin her and welcome her into Girl Scouting.

Sample Investiture when New Girls Are Added to a Troop

This ceremony is a good example of how a troop can have all the girls take a manageable speaking part. It should be rehearsed but girls can read their lines from the back of their poster.

Equipment:

Girl Scout pins of appropriate level without packaging and with clasp open

Posters showing the following: appropriate level Girl Scout Pin, Girl Scout Sign, Girl Scout Handshake, Girl Scout Motto and Girl Scout slogan *[See Additional Materials section of this booklet, as well as, descriptions below.]*

A recorded suitable Girl Scout song could be playing in the background

Arrangements:

All girls walk in two lines. Lines split by girls walking to form a horseshoe. The leader(s) go first, then the speakers carrying their posters, followed by the rest of the troop, and then the new members at the end of the line. They will form the closed end of the horseshoe.

Ceremony:

Leader: Today we are about to invest these (number) girls with the (Girl Scout Pin/Daisy Pin/Brownie Pin). At this Investiture Ceremony we welcome you into Girl Scouting. You will make your Promise and say the Law.

Girl Scout #1: *[steps in front of the horseshoe and holds up her poster]* The Girl Scout Pin (or Daisy or Brownie Pin) has the shape of a trefoil. Trefoil means three leaves. These three leaves stand for the three parts of the Promise.

Girl Scout #2: *[steps forward and holds up her poster]* The Girl Scout sign is made with three fingers, which stands for the three parts of the Promise. You give the sign whenever you say the Promise, when you are invested, receive a badge or patch, or greet another Girl Scout. Please join me in saying the Girl Scout Promise.

[All make the Girl Scout Sign and repeat the Promise.]

Girl Scout #3: *[steps forward and holds up her poster]* The Girl Scout Handshake is a formal way of greeting another Girl Scouts. You shake with the left hand and give the sign with your right hand. *[Girl puts down poster and demonstrates with leader.]*

Girl Scout #4: *[steps forward and holds up her poster]* The Girl Scout motto is, "Be Prepared." It means that Girl Scouts learn how to do things so they can be ready and able to help. The first letter of each word, B and P, stand for the initials of Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of scouting.

Girl Scout #5: *[steps forward and holds up her poster]* The Girl Scout slogan is, "Do a good turn daily." It means that each girl will do something every day to help someone else. You do not receive an award for doing a good turn, but you feel good inside.

Girl Scout #6: *[At this point the speaker will say each part of the Law with the rest of the troop repeating. If there are enough girls in the troop, each one may say a part of the Law.]*

Leader: And do you, new members, each promise to keep these ten parts of the Girl Scout Law to the best of your ability?

New Members: We do.

Leader: And will the rest of you promise to keep these ten parts of the Law?

Troop Members: We will.

[Entire group joins in song, "When E'er You Make a Promise."]

Leader: And now we come to an important part of our ceremony, for this is the time we invest the new members of our troop. *[One Leader hands the pin to the other Leader who pins the new girl, then gives the Girl Scout Handshake.]* We welcome you as a new member of Troop _____.

[To formally dismiss the troop, the leaders do an about face and with the troop following in line, walk to another part of the room and disband. It is also fitting that at this time for your troop may like to celebrate with some refreshments.]



Sample of Traditional Investiture for Junior, Cadette, Senior, Ambassador, & Adult Girl Scouts

Equipment:

- A table
- Three large candles with holders
- Ten small candles with holders
- Matches or lighter
- A wooden or cardboard trefoil on which is written the Girl Scout Law
- Girl Scout pins (one for each person to be invested - unpinned for convenience in presentation)



Arrangements:

Anyone who is already currently a member of the troop/group may conduct the beginning of the ceremony - formation of the horseshoe, presentation of colors, Pledge of Allegiance and patriotic song or Girl Scout song. Leader explains the meaning of investiture, and this is followed by the lighting of the candles. You may assign individual parts as below or combine parts for fewer girls or repeat girls as needed.

Ceremony:

- Girl Scout #1: These three candles represent the Girl Scout Promise. This candle that I light shall shine as a symbol that Girl Scouts are true to God and their country. *[Light first candle]*
- Girl Scout #2: May the light of the second candle shine as a symbol that a Girl Scout's greatest desire is to serve. *[Light the second candle]*
- Girl Scout #3: And may the light of the third candle shine as a symbol that Girl Scouts are true to their ideals as interpreted by the Girl Scout Law. *[Light the third candle].*
- Girl Scout #4: The trefoil which is the Girl Scout emblem lies before you. We shall place before it ten candles, representing the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law.

Ten girls, chosen previously, come up to the table one by one, take a small candle, light it from a large candle, and, as it is placed in the candle holder set before the trefoil, recite the part of the Law assigned. After each part of the Law is recited, the troop/group might sing the appropriate verse of the Girl Scout Chant. The Girl Scout Chant is found in the "Sing Together" songbook.

Each girl to be invested is brought forward by her Patrol Leader or a troop/group member, who says,

Girl Scout: (Girl's name) wishes to become a Girl Scout.

Leader: On your honor, will you try: to serve God, your country and to help people at all times and live by the Girl Scout Law?

New Girl Scout: Yes, I will.

Then as both girl and Leader make the Girl Scout Sign, each girl repeats the Girl Scout Promise. The Leader then pins on the Girl Scout pin and gives the handshake (left hands shake while holding Girl Scout sign.)

Leader: This pin tells everyone that you are a Girl Scout. I know you will be proud to wear it. I welcome you into the Girl Scout Movement and as a member of troop/group #____

Adaptations should be made to suit the number of girls to be invested, age of girls, etc.

If more than four or five girls are to be invested at one time, it is advisable to have them brought up to the leader in several groups rather than all at once. If the troop/group is new, and everyone is being invested, the girls should stay in their places in the horseshoe and the Leader could go from one girl to the next. Although it is advisable to have each girl make her Girl Scout Promise individually, when there are more than six or eight girls, the Girl Scout Promise should be made simultaneously by all members of the group.

When welcoming girls into the organization, you may wish to tell them something about the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts; show them the World Flag or pictures of Our Chalet, Our Cabaña, Sangam, Pax Lodge, etc. These can be found in the level handbooks.

Sample of Basic Investiture for Junior, Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts

This is basic sample that should be adapted by the girls. There is no 'correct' or 'required' component beyond a pledge to the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Equipment:

Pins for new members removed from packaging and left unclasped

Arrangements:

The troop forms a horseshoe and stands fairly close together. The new members stand off to the side. Multiple troop leaders should split the speaking parts, as appropriate.

Ceremony:

Girls in Troop: Why have you come here?

Joining Girls: To be *(level)* Girl Scouts.

Leader: As Girl Scouts you will be expected to uphold the meaning of the Promise and the Law. Do you know what it means when you say, "On my honor"?

Joining Girls: Yes, we do.

Leader: May I trust you, on your honor, to try to serve God and your country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout Law?

Joining Girls: Yes, you may.

Girls give the Girl Scout Sign and repeat the Girl Scout Promise.

At this time, the adults and current troop members may also give the Girl Scout sign and repeat together the Girl Scout Promise as a form of rededication.

Leader pins the membership pin to girls' clothing.

Leader: This pin tells everyone you are a Girl Scout. I know you will wear it proudly. The three leaves of the trefoil represent the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise. May you find joy in working together, fun in playing together, and excitement in discovering together.

The Leader then gives the Girl Scout Handshake to each new Girl Scout.

Leader: Welcome to Girl Scouting and *(level)* Troop #_____.

Note: Be careful to coach the new members in advance that the Girl Scout Handshake is left hands shaking while holding the Girl Scout sign with the right hand. See page 56.



Sample Flowers of Friendship Rededication Ceremony

Appropriate for both adult and girl member ceremonies.

Equipment:

Ten bunches of flowers, as specified in ceremony
Large container to set flowers in
Smaller containers for each girl's flowers, if desired

Arrangements:

The troop forms a semicircle around the back of a table upon which the items above are placed.

Ceremony:

Leader: Welcome to our rededication ceremony. Tonight, we are here to reaffirm our belief in the Girl Scout Promise and Law. The Girl Scout Promise and Law are the foundation of all Girl Scouting. The Promise is like a basket that holds flowers. Flowers have always played an important role in human life. From the very earliest times, they have been given as tokens of love and respect and have served in ceremonies and rituals of all types. The flowers we mention in this ceremony symbolize the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law.

Please join me in repeating the Girl Scout Promise. *[Everyone recites the Promise.]*

And now we will dedicate ourselves to living the Girl Scout Law. *[As each part of the Law is read, the corresponding flower is placed in the basket or vase.]*

- Girl Scout #1: I will do my best to be honest and fair. This part of the law is represented by the white chrysanthemum. It shows truth, honor, trustworthiness, equality and fairness.
- Girl Scout #2: friendly and helpful. The zinnia represents thoughtfulness about friends, while baby's breath represents generosity.
- Girl Scout #3: considerate and caring. Together, a red and a white rose stand for a warm and caring heart.
- Girl Scout #4: courageous and strong. The garlic plant grows anywhere and has a strong flavor. It represents courage and strength of character and body. The Indian paintbrush shows cheerfulness even in difficulty.
- Girl Scout #5: and responsible for what I say and do. The gladiola symbolizes strength of character, maturity, and responsibility. Binding it with straw, we show that we honor our word and keep our agreements.
- Girl Scout #6: and to respect myself and others. The white zinnia shows that we hold ourselves worthy and good. Wintergreens symbolize the harmony we try to keep between ourselves and others.
- Girl Scout #7: respect authority. The daffodil represents careful thought, attention, and concern. With the daffodil, we are saying that we hold others in high regard.
- Girl Scout #8: use resources wisely. The foxglove shows thriftiness. When we use our resources wisely, we are being thrifty.
- Girl Scout #9: make the world a better place. The cattail represents the peace we are trying to bring to the world when we help others. The caladium shows the great joy and delight we take in the world around us.
- Girl Scout #10: and be a sister to every Girl Scout. With the striped carnation, we are saying that we think about those Girl Scouts and Guides who are not here with us. It helps indicate our love for our fellow Scouts and Guides.
- Leader: This arrangement of flowers symbolizes our dedication to the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Flowers alone do not last. This bouquet, a combination of color, texture, shape, and aroma of each of the symbolic flowers, will always remind us of our commitment. A gift of fragrance is a gift of remembrance.



Following the ceremony, one of each type of flower could be made into a bouquet for each of the girls. Other flowers may be substituted for any mentioned in this ceremony, depending on the season and availability.



Sample of I am a Girl Scout Rededication Ceremony

Equipment:

It is recommended that the Promise and Law be printed in a program and/or upon a poster. Girl Scouts should have script or have memorized their parts.

Arrangement:

Girl Scouts may need to step forward to a microphone depending on venue.

Ceremony:

Ceremony Leader: Girl Scouting is strengthened by our love and dedication to our Girl Scout code of living – the Promise and the Law. They are the cornerstones upon which we have built a program that will develop each one of us to assume the responsibilities and accept the privileges of citizenship, and to develop a set of true values. Let's join together to say our Promise.

All: *[All Girl Scouts present make the Girl Scout sign and say Girl Scout Promise in unison.]*

Ceremony Leader: We will repeat the Law.

All: *[All Girl Scouts present recite the Law in unison.]*

Girl Scout #1: I will do my best to be honest and fair. *[small pause]* **I am a Girl Scout.** You can trust me with your innermost thoughts. I tell the truth and do my work honestly. I show no favoritism to those with whom I share experiences.

Girl Scout #2: I will do my best to be friendly and helpful. *[small pause]* **I am a Girl Scout.** It shall be my personal privilege to do all I can for others whether it be with my hands, words spoken to a friend in need, or the offering of an understanding heart.

Girl Scout #3: I will do my best to be considerate and caring. *[small pause]* **I am a Girl Scout.** It is my deep desire to be courteous to those about me beyond the daily need and to search for little thoughtful things to do, not just for the praise I might receive.

Girl Scout #4: I will do my best to be courageous and strong. *[small pause]* **I am a Girl Scout.** I am true to the things I think are right and good. I will respect and protect the rights of every individual.

Girl Scout #5: I will do my best to be responsible for what I say and do. *[small pause]* **I am a Girl Scout.** I will wear a friendly smile and willingly do each daily task. I will remember that when I speak, others judge all Girl Scouts by me.

Girl Scout #6: I will do my best to respect myself and others. *[small pause]* **I am a Girl Scout.** I will direct my thoughts to worthwhile things, so I may be a positive influence on those around me.

Girl Scout #7: I will do my best to respect authority. *[small pause]* **I am a Girl Scout.** It is my special duty to respect the laws of my community and the request of those who are responsible for me. By respecting authority, I set an example for others to follow.

Girl Scout #8: I will do my best to use resources wisely. *[small pause]* **I am a Girl Scout.** I will not misuse material, time, or energy. I use resources wisely so I may have more to share with others and assist our supplies to outlast time.

Girl Scout #9: I will do my best to make the world a better place. *[small pause]* **I am a Girl Scout.** I will care for all living things. I will take an active interest in my environment.

Girl Scout #10: I will do my best to be a sister to every Girl Scout. *[small pause]* **I am a Girl Scout.** I extend a helping hand to those about me in our Sisterhood. I think not in terms of color, race, or creed, but of the common bond shared by all Girl Scouts.

An appropriate song could be used to wrap up the ceremony.

LEADER RECOGNITION CEREMONIES

Sample Welcoming Ceremony for New Leaders

Arrangements:

The participants form a horseshoe. There are four speakers.

Ceremony:

- Leader#1: As I welcome you to your new position as a Girl Scout leader, I give to you:
- the adventure of seeing a girl try something new
 - the joy of seeing a girl smile at you as she sings around the campfire
 - the pride in seeing her progress in understanding herself, her troop, her community, and the world
 - the friendship and trust of friends, the heritage and future of a great movement, and the gift of a young spirit
- All Speakers: I am a Girl Scout leader.
- Leader#2: I have the courage to teach girls the time-tested foundations of the Girl Scout Movement and how to stand by their values in a changing world.
- Leader#3: I try to teach girls to take responsibility for their actions and make a positive difference in their world.
- Leader#4: The Promise and the Law are a commitment for all persons in Girl Scouting to do their best.
- All Speakers: I am a Girl Scout Leader.
- Leader#1: I can help them be their best by a sincere desire to bring out the talents in every girl.
- Leader#2: I can help girls to seek opportunities for service and to develop skills for doing service well.
- Leader#3: I will lead the girls by example.
- Leader#4: I hope that girls can learn to recognize and appreciate the likenesses as well as the differences among human beings.
- All Speakers: I am a Girl Scout leader.
- Leader#1: Everyone, please join me in reciting the Girl Scout Promise.



Sample Recognition of Leaders Ceremony

Arrangement:

Three leaders and four girls stand facing the audience

Ceremony:

Leader#1: I thought I heard a girl call.

Girl #1: I need a leader.

Leader#2: She called for a leader. You answered her call. The challenge is truly yours.

Girl #2: "The Challenge of the Children" by Joan McEniry

Girl #3: We are the present ... and the future too! Remember, when we turn our eyes to you to point the way that we must learn to walk these paths ourselves against the day when you no longer lead us by the hand.

Girl #4: Teach us the meaning of the code we need, for soon there will be those whom we must lead in ways which you have shown.

Girl #1: And, having taught us, show us that you are not afraid for us to walk alone.

Girl #2: The present is in your strong hands. The future is in ours. Teach us to love the beauty of our land.

Girl #3: But help us too - to reach for stars! To gather to ourselves the dreams that beckoned once to you.

Girl #4: Teach us those things that we must know to make your dream - our dream come true!

Leader#3: You did hear the call. Not from one girl but from a thousand. You answered that call. Each of you perhaps only for a few girls, each in your own best way.

Leader#1: Your answer was firm as you offered your hand to help. You do not try to do everything. Parents, teachers, clergy, friends, all help to mold her life. But you offer her something beyond - not to replace, but to expand.

Leader#2: For you have given her a place to put all she has learned into practice, a place where she can experiment on her own without fear of mistakes; where you help her find laughter and joy in what she tries to do; and show her things she may never have seen - a campfire at night, a forest stream.

Leader#3: And help her to know, and learn to love, all kinds of girls who, like her, are trying to find their places in life. The hand you have offered has been steady and sure. With you, girls have found hope and trust.

All Leaders: Your grateful Council thanks you for responding to the call of thousands of girls, past and present. You leaders are a vital link in their Girl Scout Circle of Friendship.

All Girls: You heard the call. You accepted the challenge. You have made your Promise. Will all leaders present join us in singing, "When E'er You Make a Promise."



Nobody Told Us, We Learned

This was written and performed for the Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore's Annual Adult Recognitions Ceremony on April 24, 2012. Feel free to modify it as appropriate for the situation.

- Arrangement:** Nine adult volunteers in line or shallow horseshow facing audience.
- Ceremony:** *The first part of each person's reading should be read lightly and in wonderment with the refrain "You'll learn, I was told." read rather solemn and ponderously.*
- Girl Scout #1: When I started as a volunteer in Girl Scouts, nobody told me I would really feel part of something so big, so wonderful, that when we said the Promise together tonight that I would mean every word. I wondered if I would ever know all the words.
You'll learn, I was told.
- Girl Scout #2: When I started as a volunteer in Girl Scouts, nobody told me that while I worried and fretted about "doing the right thing at the right time," I would now be looked upon as "knowing all the answers" by newer volunteer Girl Scouts. I just wondered how I would get the girls to pay attention to me.
You'll learn, I was told.
- Girl Scout #3: When I started as a volunteer in Girl Scouts, nobody told me I would really have to cook on an open fire. "I don't know how to scramble eggs or put up a tent." Nobody told me that after I tried it that I would really want to go camping again.
You'll learn, I was told.
- Girl Scout #4: When I started as a volunteer in Girl Scouts, nobody told me that I would become misty-eyed or that my voice would crack when we did a flag ceremony. "But, I've never done a flag ceremony," I said. "How will I know what to do?"
You'll learn, I was told.
- Girl Scout #5: When I started as a volunteer in Girl Scouts, nobody told me how much more was involved than an hour or two a week with a few crafts and field trips. I didn't understand how this would make the girls confident, courageous, caring young women ready to take on the world.
You'll learn, I was told.
- Girl Scout #6: When I started as a volunteer in Girl Scouts, nobody told me that the Law was made to help us become better people. "How will I learn to get along with so many girls and adults, we're all so different?"
You'll learn, I was told.
- Girl Scout #7: When I started as a volunteer in Girl Scouts, nobody told me how much I would learn to love Girl Scouting for myself and how many friends I would make. I was told that "The best part is the fun!" but thought they meant for the girls.
You'll learn, I was told.
- Girl Scout #8: When I started as a volunteer in Girl Scouts nobody told me how important I would be as a role model. I was just doing it for my daughter but soon all the girls were like daughters to me.
You'll learn, I was told.
- Girl Scout #9: When I started as a volunteer in Girl Scouts, nobody told me that this was a lifetime commitment. I thought I would do it for a year or two. I had no idea what a difference I could make in the lives of girls or that someday, they would stand as Girl Scout volunteers next to me.
You'll learn, I was told.
- In Unison: I am a Girl Scout – just five little words, but, behind them, hundreds of feelings and thoughts. We are Girl Scouts because we enjoy sharing with our friends in Girl Scouting. Nobody told us that we would make so many friends or make such a difference!
Nobody told us. We learned.

Because the Girl

This was written and performed for the Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore's Annual Adult Recognitions Ceremony on April 21, 2015. Feel free to modify it as appropriate for the situation

Arrangement: Nine or ten adult volunteers in line or shallow horseshow facing audience.

Ceremony:

Introduction: The following is titled "Because the Girl" and was written by Mimi Murray a GSUSA National Operational Volunteer. I think the words speak clearly about why we do what we do for Girl Scouts.

Speaker #1: Because the girl has a need,
We have an obligation.

Speaker #2: Because the girl has a choice,
We must be her **better** choice.

Speaker #3: Because the girl has high expectations,
We must excel.

Speaker #4: Because the girl wants to explore,
We must be her guide.

Speaker #5: Because the girl wants to belong,
We must open our arms.

Speaker #6: Because the girl is searching for direction,
We must be her compass

Speaker #7: Because the girl encounters times of turmoil,
We must be her safe haven.

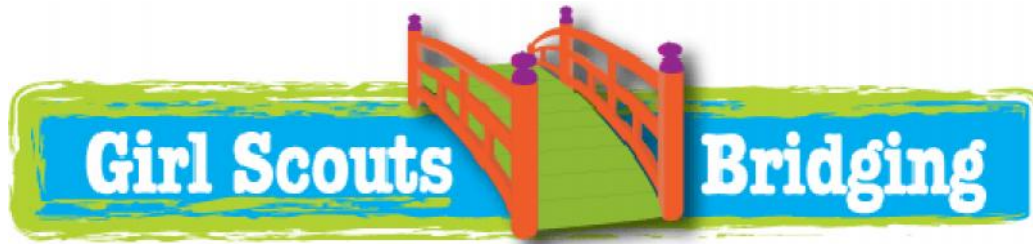
Speaker #8: Because the girl is tomorrow's woman,
We must care today.

Speaker #9: Because of the girl...
We exist.

It's Being a Girl Scout Volunteer

- Speaker #1: What is it about being a Girl Scout Volunteer? We are the visible embodiment of the Girl Scout Promise and Law as we work with girls and adults.
- Speaker #2: It's the first parent's meeting or the first new leaders' training, hoping you say the right things.
- Speaker #3: It's helping one of your girls with problems at home find some acceptance.
- Speaker #4: It's having a girl ask for advice because she is too embarrassed to ask her mother.
- Speaker #5: It's seeing the girls jump and scream in excitement when you tell them they are going camping for the first time in the spring.
- Speaker #6: It's the week that has been terribly hectic and you call the other troop leader and she says - don't worry - I've got everything under control. Or the week you both show up at the meeting with nothing to do and the girls take over and come up with their own ideas.
- Speaker #7: It's understanding your own daughter better by understanding the other girls.
- Speaker #8: It's staying up late gluing their crafts back together after the girls have gone home so that they won't know they did it wrong.
- Speaker #9: It's planning a big campfire and having all the girls fall asleep-too tired from the day's excitement to participate.
- Speaker #10: It's soothing a bruised ego or bandaging a cut knee, drying away tears or simply giving a hug for encouragement.
- Speaker #11: It's becoming the mentor to other Girl Scout volunteers.
- Speaker #12: It's giving and sharing, loving and caring. It's knowing that without people like you and me, Girl Scouting just cannot be.

BRIDGING CEREMONIES



Introduction

In order to create a smooth transition from one level to the next, the planning for the actual bridging ceremony should begin as early as possible. Earning the actual Bridging recognition is optional but is recommended and involves a number of activities between multiple levels.

This ceremony should be planned by and have meaning for the girls participating. It may be planned jointly by the younger troop and its sister troop of the next level, or by either of these troops. Both troops and the leaders of both troops participate in the ceremony. While samples in this book refer to a specific level, most can be adapted for use at any level.

The essential parts of the ceremony are:

1. Each girl rededicates herself to Girl Scouting by making the Girl Scout Promise.
2. Each girl is welcomed into her new level.

Each troop forms a horseshoe with the open end facing a bridge that separates them. The bridge may be symbolic or an actual bridge. Suggestions include a bridge in a park or constructing one of paper strips outlining the 'bridge'. There are some portable bridges for borrowing from the Council's service centers.

A typical ceremony has a farewell from the troop that the girls are leaving. Each girl then gives the Girl Scout Handshake to her leader of the old level followed by a solitary walk over the bridge. On the other side of the bridge, the girl is met by a girl of the next level and taken to the Leader where she is welcomed with a Girl Scout Handshake and a verbal welcome. Ideally, each girl who bridges has a welcoming girl sponsor on the far side of the bridge. However, even one girl and one leader as a reception group is sufficient. For Ambassador Girl Scouts who are bridging, the reception is by an adult Girl Scout.

At either end of the bridge, there are pins and recognitions that can be given as appropriate. The bridging badge for each level must be earned. Instructions for this are in each of the level handbooks. The bridging badge is usually given (if earned) along with an annual membership star by the troop that the girl is leaving. If a new level membership pin is needed (Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts) that is given by the new level leader.

After all the girls have crossed the bridge, everyone can recite the Girl Scout Promise and/or sing a song such as "When E'er You Make Promise" or "Girl Scouts Together". Both songs may be found in the Girl Scout Pocket Songbook.

What is given out at each level (Bridging Badge must be earned):

Daisy to Brownie.....Brownie pin, Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts Badge, membership star with disk

Brownie to Junior Trefoil membership pin (either contemporary or traditional), Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts Badge, membership star with disk, Brownie Girl Scout Wings

All other levelsBridge to Cadette/Senior/Adult Girl Scouts badge/pin, membership star with disk

Sample Bridging Ceremony for Daisy Girl Scouts

The Troop/Group Committee should be involved with the planning of the Bridging Ceremony and families should be invited. Girls can design and produce family invitations for the event, plan refreshments, decide if they want the ceremony with the whole sister troop/group, the entire school area, or with a few Brownie Girl Scout representatives.

Meet with Brownie Girl Scouts at least once (hopefully two or three times). Have the older girls teach Daisy Girl Scouts the Brownie Smile Song; share adventures and stories about their troop/group; and learn the Girl Scout Handshake (to be used at the Bridging Ceremony).

Equipment:

One daisy petal for each girl made by her, approximately 12" long with her name on it
Stem (about 18" to 24") and center (about 5") made by leader
Small bees to attach to petal for each girl
Optional – sign saying "Good-bye Daisy Girl Scouts"

Arrangements:

Have girls stand in circle or horseshoe around the large daisy flower that they helped make.

Ceremony:

Ask girls if they have worked with a Brownie Girl Scout to learn what Brownie Girl Scouts do? (Name some things.) Make this very brief.

Leaders ask: Are you ready to cross over to be Brownie Girl Scouts?

Girls respond: As you can plainly see
We are really ready to be
Brand new Brownie Girl Scouts.

Leaders read on: Old friendly bee came out to see
You take the path so new
Now make the sign and leave behind
Your Daisy Girl Scout smock of blue [*substitute 'vest' for 'smock' if necessary.*]

As you read the part about "friendly bee", girls move forward toward daisy flower. Leader and helpers take "bee" from flower petals and pin on girl's shoulder.



Sample Brownie Girl Scout Fly-Up Ceremony #1

While all Girl Scouts bridge from one level to the next, only Brownies 'fly-up' to Junior Girl Scouts. All Brownie Girl Scouts receive their wings at the end of third grade. In addition, as with all the levels, there is an earned Bridging Badge available.

Equipment:

Bridge may be made of wood, or a cardboard arch, or it may be made of paper strips laid flat on the ground

Trefoil pin for each girl, traditional or contemporary

Brownie Girl Scout Wings

Membership star with disk

Optional – Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts badge (if earned) [see Brownie handbook for requirements]



Arrangements:

Girl Scout Brownies assemble in a circle on one side of bridge with their leaders. Girl Scout Juniors are on opposite side with a leader in a horseshoe facing the bridge.

Ceremony:

Brownie Leader mentions each girl who is flying up by name and tells something about her.

First Brownie Leader:

Now it's time to say goodbye,
Break the Ring and out you fly

Second Brownie Leader takes girl to the bridge and says:

Brownie (her name), you are just about
To become a Junior Girl Scout.
In the troop/group you soon will find
Junior Girl Scouts are true and kind.
So now I give you Brownie Girl Scout Wings
That you may fly to bigger things.

Leader presents girl with her wings and shakes her hand. Girl crosses bridge and is met by a Junior Girl Scout on the other side.

Girls flying up make Girl Scout Promise to Junior Girl Scout Leader. The Leader puts Trefoil pin on girl, shakes hands, and welcomes her to her troop/group.

Repeat for each girl flying up to the Junior Girl Scout level.



Sample Brownie Girl Scout Fly-Up Ceremony #2

Equipment:

Brownie Wings for each Brownie

Bridge (could be craft project or an actual bridge in a park)

Girl Scout membership pins (traditional or contemporary)

Optional – may give Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts badge (if earned) [requirements are in Brownie handbook]

Optional – membership star with disk for year (may be part of a separate Court of Awards)



Arrangements:

The Brownie Girl Scout troop stands in a Brownie Ring on one end of the bridge with the Junior Girl Scout troop standing in a horseshoe on the other end.

Ceremony:

Brownie Girl Scout Leader:

Since this is the last time that you will be together as Brownie Girl Scouts, I would like you to sing your Brownie Smile Song. *[Everyone sings "Brownie Smile Song." From Brownie handbook.]*

The time has now come for you to take wings and fly-up to the Junior Girl Scout Troop. I have enjoyed having you in my troop for the past few years. We have had much fun together, learning new songs and games, going on hikes, trying to do good turns daily. *[Leader adds appropriate activities or events.]* I hope that when you think of our years together, that you will remember them with much pleasure. I would like each Fly-Up to tell what she enjoyed most about being a Brownie.

Each Brownie Girl Scout: *[Tells what she enjoyed most.]*

Brownie Girl Scout Leader:

Since you have been a registered Brownie Girl Scout, you are entitled to wear the Brownie Wings on the vest or sash of your Junior Girl Scout uniform. It gives me much pleasure to present them to you, and I hope you wear them proudly. *[Leader presents the Wings to each Brownie. Optionally, she may present the Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts Badge and any other earned recognitions including membership star and disk.]*

Brownie Girl Scout Troop: *[In unison]*

Now it's time to say goodbye, break the ring and out you fly.

[The ring breaks just long enough to let the Brownie Girl Scouts out. Brownies cross over the bridge or some symbol of transition. Each Brownie Girl Scout who is flying up is met by a Junior Girl Scout who conducts her to the horseshoe formation.]

Junior Girl Scout Leader: *[Standing in front of the horseshoe, speaks to the Junior Girl Scout Troop.]*

Will you please recite the Girl Scout Law?

[Ten girls, selected beforehand, say one part of the Law at a time. If in an appropriate location, each girl can light a candle as she says her part. If ten girls are not available, each girl can take a second or third turn.]

Junior Girl Scout Leader:

[Speaking to Fly-ups] As Junior Girl Scouts, you will live by this Law. It will serve as a daily reminder of the way you would like to act at home, at school, in your community, and everywhere you are alone. It is important that you know this Law because it is an important part of the Girl Scout Promise, which you are now going to make.

[As she calls each Fly-Up by name, the girl steps forward and makes her Promise. The Junior Girl Scout Leader pins the Girl Scout membership pin on her and welcomes her with the Girl Scout Handshake.]

Junior Girl Scout Leader:

Every time you make the Girl Scout Promise you will remember that it is a very personal promise. It is personal because it means you are accepting a code of honor, which you will try to live by. We will now sing "When E'er You Make A Promise."

Junior Girl Scout Troop: *[All sing, "When E'er You Make A Promise."]*

Sample Bridging Ceremony for Junior Girl Scouts #1

Equipment:

Bridge to Cadette Girl Scouts badge (if earned) [requirements found in Junior handbook]

Bridge (can be one constructed from paper, a small wooden one, or a bridge in a park)



Arrangements:

Each troop forms a horseshoe facing the bridge separating them. Each Cadette Girl Scout has been assigned the name of a Junior Girl Scout(s) who is bridging.

Ceremony:

The Cadette Girl Scout Leader and Cadette Girl Scout come to the end of the bridge.

The girl calls out the Junior Girl Scouts' name. The Junior Girl Scout leaves her troop, gives the Girl Scout sign and handshake to the Junior Girl Scout Leader. She then crosses the bridge, gives the Girl Scout sign and handshake to the Cadette Girl Scout Leader. The Cadette Girl Scout then takes the girl's hand and leads her to the Cadette Girl Scout horseshoe formation.

After all the girls have crossed the bridge, the whole troop recites the Girl Scout Promise and sings, "When E'er You Make Promise" or "Girl Scouts Together". Both songs may be found in the Girl Scout Pocket Songbook.

Sample Bridging Ceremony for Junior Girl Scouts #2

Equipment:

Large sheet of poster board

Seed, roots, stem, leaves, and daisy bud cut from colored paper and backed with tape (illustrated below.)

Bridge to Cadette Girl Scouts Badge (if earned) [requirements are found in Junior handbook]

Optional – daisy flower to give each girl

Arrangements:

Girl Scouts stand at either side of an easel on which is placed a large poster board

Ceremony:

Girl Scout #1: Just as a seed is the first part of a plant, so is Daisy Girl Scouts the first part of the Girl Scout program. Let this seed represent Daisy Girl Scouting, the beginning. *[Affix seed at bottom of poster board.]*

Girl Scout #2: In Brownie Girl Scouts, girls continue their development as Girl Scouts. These roots remind us of that process. Just as roots come from the seed as tender shoots seeking to grasp the earth, so do Brownie Girl Scouts continue their adventure in Girl Scouting as inexperienced girls looking for others to guide them and help them grow. *[Affix roots just above the seed.]*

Girl Scout #3: In Junior Girl Scouting, girls grow and make themselves known in the community. This stem reminds us of that emerging process. Just as a stem pushes up from its roots, so do Junior Girl Scouts reach out further into the world. *[Affix stem above the roots.]*

Junior Girl Scout Leader:

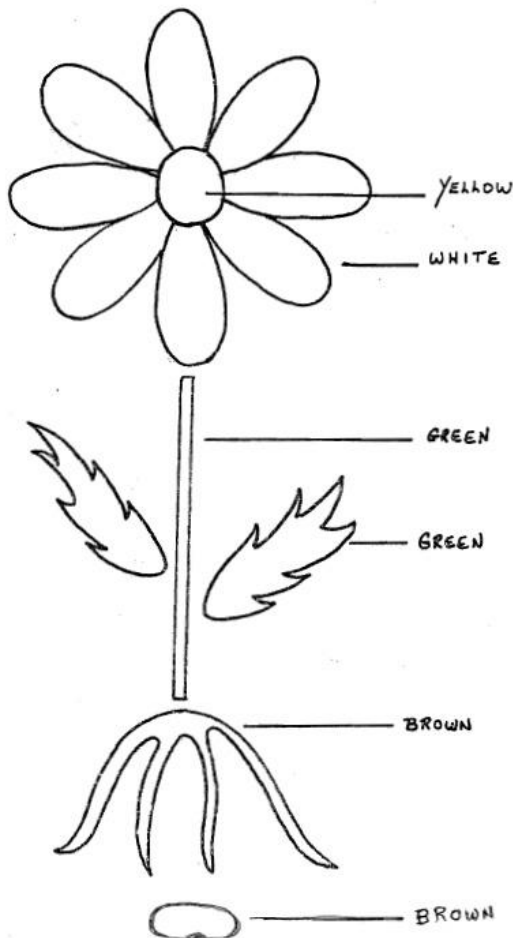
As you now get ready to bridge to Cadette Girl Scouts, be aware that you will be moving into new program areas to challenge you. You will be asked to take on more responsibilities and develop your leadership skills. As Cadette Girl Scouts you will have the opportunity to earn Cadette level badges, explore career options, give service, and participate in Destinations. Some of you may choose to earn the Silver Award, the highest award in Cadette Girl Scouting. Let these leaves remind you of your Cadette Girl Scout years. Just as the leaves of a plant nourish it and help it grow, so does Cadette Girl Scouting encourage the growth of a girl. *[Affix leaves to sides of stem.]*

Cadette Girl Scout Leader:

Our plant is not complete. It needs the flower. Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouting is the bloom of the plant. Through continued growth and development you can become Senior and then Ambassador Girl Scouts - the blossom or pride of Girl Scouting. Let the center of this flower represent to you Cadettes that Senior Girl Scouting is still ahead of you and after that Ambassador Girl Scouts. When you become Senior Girl Scouts, the flower will bloom and as Ambassador Girl Scouts, you will add the petals. *[Affix center and petals of flower to top of stem]*

Girls repeat the Promise, receive a daisy and are welcomed into Cadette Girl Scouting.

Girls can also receive the Bridge to Cadette Girl Scouts Award if they have earned it.

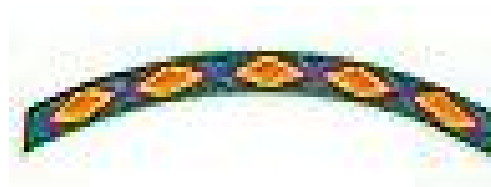


Sample of Bridging Ceremony for Cadette Girl Scouts Seven Virtues of Life

This ceremony can be used as part of a traditional bridging ceremony such as the other examples in this booklet.

Equipment:

Seven candles in a single stand or individual holders, lighter.
Depending on location, you may need to use electric candles that you can 'light' by tightening the bulbs at the appropriate time.



Arrangements:

Cadette Girl Scout Leader facing girls from behind candles. Senior Girl Scout Leader to the side.

Ceremony:

[Cadette Girl Scout Leader points to seven candles. They can pre-light or light individually following the explanation of each virtue.]

Wisdom Wisdom does not necessarily mean superior knowledge. It means putting to the right use the knowledge that one possesses.

Courage Courage is not the quality that enables one to meet danger without fear. It is being able to meet danger in spite of one's fear.

Self-control ... Self-control isn't limited to the control of one's temper, but control of one's self in all things; eating, playing, and even working and talking.

Justice..... Justice is the practice of dealing fairly with others without prejudice or regard to race, color, or creed.

Faith Faith is the conviction that something unproved, by physical evidence, is true.

Hope Hope means to expect with confidence. Always hope for better things to come. A woman without hope is of little good to herself or her community.

Love There are many kinds of love – love of family, love of home, love of fellow persons, love of God, and love of country. All these loves are necessary for a full life.

If you live by the seven great virtues, you will become a happy women, and a happy woman is a successful woman. It is now my pleasure to present you to your new Girl Scout Leader of Senior Girl Scout Troop (number).

Sample of Bridging Ceremony for Senior Girl Scouts

Equipment:

A key for each bridging Senior Girl Scout (could be made from cardboard or store bought).

Bridge to Ambassador Girl Scouts Badge for each girl that has earned it. *[Requirements are in the Senior handbook.]*



Arrangement:

Troop stands in a circle.

Ceremony:

Girl Scout Leader: Have you come here tonight (today) with a desire to be bridged into the Sisterhood of Ambassador Girl Scouts?

Senior Girl Scouts: Yes, we have.

Girl Scout Leader: Do you understand that by becoming Ambassador Girl Scouts you are joining a sisterhood in which you will be expected to live your life according to Girl Scouting ideals and traditions and in which you will be trusted to obey the Promise and Law and carry out the motto of being prepared?

Senior Girl Scouts: We do.

Girl Scout Leader: It will be your duty as Ambassador Girl Scouts to go ahead and prepare the way for those who are following you. Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette, and Senior Girl Scouts will be looking to you as leaders to set a worthy example. Are you prepared to undertake this responsibility?

Senior Girl Scouts: We are.

Girl Scout Leader: Are you ready to lead your new life of leadership to be honorable and fair in all your dealings, to recognize and give service where needed and to look wide at life and then look wider still?

Senior Girl Scouts: We are.

Girl Scout Leader: Understanding these things then, I ask you to see your responsibilities and endeavors in Girl Scouting, not from a girl's point of view, but that of young leaders. Will you do this?

Senior Girl Scouts: We will.

Girl Scout Leader: I trust you, on your honor, to do your best to keep these promises. Do your best to keep your honor bright and the spirit of Girl Scouting in your heart.

Accept these keys as symbols of your advancement into Ambassador Girl Scouts. Use them to unlock all the wider opportunities available to you as new young leaders in the Girl Scout community.

Sample of Bridging Ceremony for Ambassador Girl Scouts

Equipment:

Large sheet of poster board

Seed, roots, stem, leaves and daisy flower cut from colored paper and backed with tape (*illustrated in Sample Bridging Ceremony for Junior Girl Scouts #2*)

Packet of daisy seeds for each bridging Ambassador Girl Scout

Bridge to Adult Girl Scouts pin for each girl that earned it.

[Requirements are in the Ambassador handbook]



Arrangements:

Troop stands in horseshoe around an easel and facing the audience.

Ceremony:

Ambassador Girl Scout 1:

Just as the seed is the first part of the plant so is Daisy Girl Scouts the first part of the Girl Scout program. Let this seed represent Daisy Girl Scouting, the beginning. *[Affix seed near bottom of poster board.]*

Ambassador Girl Scout 2:

In Brownie Girl Scouting, girls continue their development as Girl Scouts. Let these roots remind you of that early growth. Just as roots emerge from the seed as tender shoots seeking to grasp the earth, so do Brownie Girl Scouts begin their adventure in Girl Scouting as inexperienced girls relying upon others to guide them in their growth. Give the roots proper nurturing and they grow to become a strong foundation for the plant. Give a Brownie Girl Scout good leadership and she will develop her own inner strengths. *[Affix roots above seed.]*

Ambassador Girl Scout 3:

In Junior Girl Scouting, girls begin to spring forth and make themselves known. Let this stem remind you of that emerging process. For just as a stem pushes up from the roots, so do Junior Girl Scouts reach out further into their world. *[Affix stem above the roots.]*

Ambassador Girl Scout 4:

Cadette Girl Scouting allows girls to move into new areas of the program and challenge themselves. Let these leaves remind you of Cadette Girl Scouting. Just as the leaves of a plant nourish it and help it grow, so does Cadette Girl Scouting nurture a girl and encourage her growth. *[Affix leaves to sides of stem.]*

Ambassador Girl Scout 5:

Senior Girl Scouting takes strength from the stem and develops a flower bud, full of the promise of all their experiences to date. Not yet in full bloom, Senior Girl Scouts gather strength in anticipation of the last growth as Girl Scouts. *[Affix center of flower above stem, leaving room for petals.]*

Ambassador Girl Scout 6:

This plant started from a seed, developed anchoring roots, pushed a stem from ground, nurtured itself from the leaves, and produced a bud. The long-awaited event is the bloom. Ambassador Girl Scouting is the flower of the plant. Just as the petals unfold themselves for all the world to notice, so do Ambassador Girl Scouts step forward as leaders and explorers along the paths of life's experiences. *[Add petals to flower. A possible option is to have each girl's name on a petal.]*

Girl Scout Leader:

Even though the flower eventually fades, it leaves behind a precious commodity. The seeds that develop from the bloom ensure the continuance of the species. They may be spread over the land to generate new growths of life. Take, then, these daisy seeds as a symbol of your love for Girl Scouting. Use that love to foster interest in Girl Scouting in others and to ensure the development of the program. As a new adult in Girl Scouting, you hold the seeds of future growth in your hands. Continue along life's path and use your experiences to support others in the Girl Scouting program. *[Present each bridging Ambassador Girl Scout a packet of daisy seeds and her Bridge to Adult Girl Scouts Pin, if earned.]*

THINKING DAY CEREMONIES

Thinking Day is February 22 and is the birthday of both Lord and Lady Baden-Powell. Lord Baden-Powell founded Boy Scouts in Great Britain. His wife Lady Baden-Powell promoted Girl Guides and Girl Scouts throughout the world and was known as the Chief Guide.

Sample Thinking Day Ceremony #1

The following ceremony could be part of a larger event honoring Thinking Day.

Equipment:

Large replica of the World Association Trefoil [See Additional Materials section of this booklet]

Easel

Pointer

Optional – World Association pins

Arrangements:

The troop stands in a semicircle on either side of an easel holding a poster board with the replica of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts Trefoil on it.

Ceremony:

Girl Scout #1: The World Trefoil Pin is a badge of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. On Thinking Day all Girl Scouts and Girl Guides plan to think of one another, throughout the world. You wear this pin and so do Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from other countries. This pin has special meaning.

Girl Scout #2: The Blue stands for the sky and the Gold for the sun.

Girl Scout #3: The Trefoil in the middle stands for the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise.

Girl Scout #4: The Base of the trefoil is shaped like a flame and stands for the love of mankind and the flame that burns in the hearts of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts everywhere.

Girl Scout #5: The line in the middle of the trefoil stands for the compass needle that guides us.

Girl Scout #6: The two stars stand for the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law.

[After all the speakers are finished, you may want to pin the members of the troop who haven't received their pins.]

Girl Scout Leader: We hope that this pin is never put on simply from force of habit or for convenience; let it be a perpetual reminder to us of who we are and what we are striving to be. We pledge that the Law which we have promised to obey may never become mere empty words, let it be the guiding principle of our lives.

Another variation is to make the various parts of the logo separately and assemble them as the explanation is read. This can be felt on a flannel board or colored paper on poster board.



Sample Thinking Day Ceremony #2



Equipment:

Ten candles	Logs or wood candleholders
Matches or lighter	Optional – WAGGGS trefoil <i>display</i> [See <i>Additional Materials section of this booklet</i>]
Candle snuffer	
Table	

Arrangement:

The troop forms a horseshoe around table.

Ceremony:

Narrator/Leader: The horseshoe formation in which we stand symbolizes the open friendship circle. In the open end of our horseshoe stand our sisters of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world who are not able to be with us on this particular day, but are thought about as though they were actually here. We will use candles to remind us of the meaning of Thinking Day in our ceremony. My candle represents February 22, Thinking Day.

Girl Scout 1: Today, we light these candles as symbols of our friendship for ten* million sister Girl Scouts and Girl Guides throughout the world.

Girl Scout 2: I light my candle in memory of Lord Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting and Guiding. February 22nd was his birthday.

Girl Scout 3: I light my candle to represent Lady Olave Baden-Powell, the Chief Girl Guide of the World. February 22nd was her birthday.

Girl Scout 4: Because February 22nd is the birthday of both Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, it was set aside in 1926 as Thinking Day – the day when Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world think of each other and of what Scouting and Guiding means to them.

Girl Scout 5: My candle is for the World Pin which symbolizes our membership in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. It is worn by Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in 146* countries. The light of my candle is a brave light and we ask those Girl Scouts and Girl Guides who can openly give and uphold their Promise to think seriously of its meaning.

Girl Scout 6: My candle represents the Thinking Day Symbol. The World Trefoil at the center represents the World Pin. The arrows that point toward the trefoil represent action; give direction for that action, and how World Association members can be helped. The round shape represents a world-wide movement.

Girl Scout 7: I light my candle for the money donated by girls to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund. It is used to support the four World Centers: Our Chalet, Our Cabaña, Sangam, and Olave House and sends Girl Scouts to member countries to visit.

Girl Scout 8: I light my candle to represent the service Girl Scouts are prepared to give to others.

Girl Scout 9: Because the Promise is the same for all Girl Scouts and Girl Guides although it is said in different languages, this candle represents the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise.

Girl Scout 10: Let us renew our Girl Scout Promise. [*Girl Scout Promise recited.*]

Narrator/Leader: We will close with the Dutch Padvindster's Goodnight.

"I am a link in the golden chain of world Scouting
And I must keep my link strong and bright."

[*Close with Friendship Circle and an appropriate song.*]

* numbers given are per wagggsworld.org as of 07/31/2016

Sample Thinking Day Ceremony

Sample of The Candles of Friendship #1

Equipment:

Thirteen candles
Logs or wood candleholders
Matches or lighter

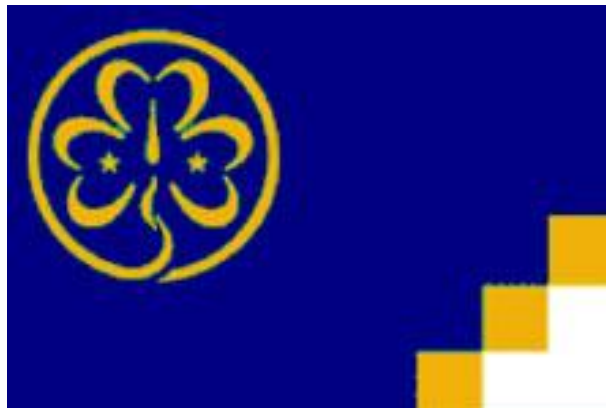
Candlesnuffer
Table

Arrangements:

The troop forms a horseshoe around a table. Number of speakers may be adjusted.

Ceremony:

- Girl Scout #1: We light the candles of Friendship.
- Girl Scout #2: These are the symbols of our pledge as Girl Scouts.
- Girl Scout #3: Our flames are small but are steady and bright.
- Girl Scout #4: We light them with thoughts of friendship glowing and steadily burning in our hearts.
- Girl Scout #5: We watch the glowing flames with hopeful hearts, for children here and abroad, that they may enjoy all the rights of the child.
- Girl Scout #6: For the Founder of all Guiding and Scouting, Lord Baden-Powell.
- Girl Scout #7: For the Founder of all Girl Scouting in these United States, Juliette Gordon Low.
- Girl Scout #1: This candle is for the hope of peace in every land.
- Girl Scout #2: This one is for service to our country.
- Girl Scout #3: For all Girl Scouts and Girl Guides wherever they may be tonight.
- Girl Scout #4: This one says, "Good luck to all who are away."
- Girl Scout #5: For the Girl Scout Law and for the Promise we make as Girl Scouts together.
- Girl Scout #6: Let us now renew our Girl Scout Promise. *[Participants recite the Promise.]*



Sample Thinking Day Ceremony

Sample of The Candles of Friendship #2

Equipment:

Ten candles
World Association pins for each girl (as needed)
Table with candle holders (optional)

Arrangements:

The participants may enter in a line with unlit candles as narrator begins to speak. Each candle is lit as Girl Scout speaks about that candle.

Ceremony:

Narrator: We carry the candles of friendship. These are the symbols of our pledge as Girls Scouts of the United States of America, of friendship to all the world and of special friendship for Girl Scouts and Girl Guides everywhere. The flames, though small, burn steadily and brightly.

Girl Scout #1: We light this candle with thoughts of friendship flowing in our hearts.

Girl Scout #2: We watch the glowing flames with grateful thoughts of Girl Scouts and Guides who have put their friendship to a special test these past few years and found it true.

Girl Scout #3: This candle is for the founder of all Guiding and Scouting, Lord Baden-Powell.

Girl Scout #4: This candle is for the founder of all Girl Scouting in these United States, Juliette Gordon Low.

Girl Scout #5: This candle is for service to our country and mankind.

Girl Scout #6: This candle is for the hope of peace in every land.

Girl Scout #7: This candle is for all Girl Scouts and Girl Guides wherever they may be tonight.

Girl Scout #8: This one says, "Good luck and safe return to all who are away from home."

Girl Scout #9: This candle is for the Girl Guide and Girl Scout Law, may we use it in our daily lives.

Girl Scout #10: This candle is for the Promise we make as Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, may it become a way of life for all who say it.

Narrator: Let us now renew our Girl Scout Promise. *[Participants recite the Promise.]*

Narrator: *[Place World Association pin on girls]* This is your badge of Friendship throughout the world.

Narrator: We quench the flames of our candles, but the lights of friendship still glows in our hearts. May we always be true and helpful to friends, to our sister Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, and to all mankind.

Sample Countries of the World Thinking Day Ceremony

The countries in this ceremony were chosen for contrast of cultures and location, but any other countries in the World Association could be substituted.

Equipment:

Seven small candles with holders

One large candle with drip catcher

Large cardboard cutout of the World Trefoil in appropriate colors [See Additional Materials section of this booklet.]

Arrangements:

The speakers form a horseshoe around a large World Trefoil symbol, which is placed on the floor. Girl Scout #1 standing at the top of the trefoil represents the Spirit of Friendship. She carries a large candle with the drip catcher. It should be lit before the ceremony begins. Eight other girls representing Finland, Brazil, Italy, India, Ghana, Japan, Great Britain, and America, carry small, unlighted candles. These eight girls should be evenly distributed around the trefoil.

Ceremony:

- Girl Scout #1: [taking several steps forward] My name is Friendship. Every night and day, I knock upon the doors of the world. I cry to be let in. Too many times I'm turned away, because the people fear; but when youth lifts the latch, I walk straight in! You bid me welcome, Sisterhood of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts of the world. So, on this day when thoughts and friendship travel fast and far, I come among you to renew our pledge of fellowship, and to hear once more your law.
- Girl Scout #2: A Girl Scout will do her best to be a sister to every Girl Scout.
- Girl Scout #1: Let us call from many lands the pledge of friendship and sisterhood. From Finland...
- Girl Scout #3: [Speaker steps forward, walks to Friendship, lights her candle, returns to the left base of the trefoil where she places her candle in the holder and kneels beside it.] Finland's my home, where sun at midnight shines on mountain snow; where work and service lights us, like our sun. Friendship and peace are the aims of Girl Guides in our land. Our hope is that soon in all the world there shall be no more night.
- Girl Scout #1: From Brazil...
- Girl Scout #4: [Speaker repeats same actions as Finland, except that candle is placed at right base of trefoil.] Brazil is my country. Beneath the Southern Cross the mountains plunge into a palm fringed sea. This wonderland, our home, teaches us Guides reverence for all creation, and love for our friends.
- Girl Scout #1: From Ghana....
- Girl Scout #5: [Goes to Friendship, lights candle, returns to trefoil, puts down candle and stands beside it.] From yet another continent am I, bringing you greetings from Ghana. At home, the trefoil makes us all as one, links us, regardless of our race or creed. So, to our sisterhood, honor and love.
- Girl Scout #1: From Japan....
- Girl Scout #6: [Same action as Ghana.] Happy are we, in far Japan, because we are your sisters, too. We share the Law and Promise, and the fun of being Girl Guides. I light this candle for my friends at home.

- Girl Scout #1: I call now on the country where your dream of fellowship became born the dreamer of the dream, who made it come to life throughout the world; the birthplace of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell: Great Britain.
- Girl Scout #7: [Same action as Ghana.] Greetings from Great Britain's Guides who reach across the sea to grasp your hands.
- Girl Scout #1: Lastly, on the United States I call. One nation formed from many states, where men and women live at peace together, and where friendship walks at will.
- Girl Scout #8: [Same action as Ghana.] Many millions strong, we Girl Scouts of the United States seek understanding and true fellowship among us at home. With our friends around the world, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides, we shall keep faith to build a better world for all.

Entire troop now sings, "Make New Friends" as the countries pick up their candles and return to their places in the semicircle. The Spirit of Friendship also returns to her original position. The troop leaves as it came, in silence.

OTHER CEREMONIES

Sample Eternal Flame Ceremony #1 (aka Passing the Light Ceremony)

This can be used at most ceremonies, but it is preferred to be performed at troop camping, bridging, court of awards, encampments, or Investiture/Rededication.

Equipment: Candle for each person, matches/lighter, water bucket with water in it.

Arrangement: A circle of persons present is best but other arrangements can be made depending on size of group and physical location.



Ceremony:

Speaker: Long ago a special ceremony was formed. Juliette Low wanted her original girls to carry a special spark with them as their Girl Scout group broke up. Some from the troop were moving away, working to help their families or wanted to help a group of girls a little younger than themselves. But whatever their reasons, Juliette knew no other group would ever quite be the same.

As the girls stood in a circle holding candles that they had made, Juliette knew what spark it was that she wanted to pass on. She lit her candle and spoke.

"With this candle I give you each something very special to pass on. As I light the candle on my right I ask each of you to light the candle to your right and pass it on. I want you to carry this thought with you wherever you go. This is the ETERNAL FLAME for Girl Scouts. Each of you after having a lit candle before you will repeat the Girl Scout Promise with me, then pause and recall a few of the things we have done together as a group. I will hold my candle up and as I do so you will all raise yours and we will blow them out together. Before we separate from our circle, I want to ask you to keep this candle as a very special candle. It is not to be used for any purpose but passing on the ETERNAL FLAME. You may use it in other Girl Scout ceremonies such as camps, encampments, campfires, bridging or court of awards ceremonies. I'm glad we were able to start a special tradition based on our ETERNAL FLAME."

Sample Eternal Flame Ceremony #2

Part of most Eternal Flame Ceremonies is the passing on of the history of the candle used to start the passing of the flame. Below is the ceremony used by Sandy Hook Region of the Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore at their annual Adult Recognitions Ceremony on May 15, 2012.

Equipment:

Candle with cardboard collar for each person Matches or lighter
Card with history of candle printed on it Water nearby

Card used on May 15, 2012 read:

"Candle History

Lady Baden-Powell lit a candle at the opening of the World Conference in 1963 in Nybourg, Denmark. She sent it to Loli Hirschman in Raleigh asking that the light be passed on to other Girl Scouts and Girl Guides just as Girl Scouting and Girl Guiding is passed from person to person.

Loli Hirschman to Ilia Lively, Burlington, NJ, 1997
Denise Harris to Renee Glover, Greater New York Council, January 2000
Renee Glover to Pat Rise, Camp Rickabear, Kinnelon, NJ, October 2010
Pat Rise to Priscilla Rackliff, Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore, February 2012
Priscilla Rackliff to YOU, May 15, 2012"

Arrangements:

Persons present were at round tables, speaker was a podium, one person per table came to podium to have her candle lit. She returned to the table and lit one person's candle who then turned and lit the next one until all were lit. **Note that the person whose candle is lit holds it upright and the unlit candle is tilted to it.** The candles light better this way and does not drip wax.

Ceremony:

Speaker: When Juliette Gordon Low established Girl Scouting in 1912, the tradition of candlelight ceremonies was an important part of the various activities. Through the early years, she passed the light and spirit of Girl Scouting onto others through investitures and campfires. They, in turn, continued to pass the light and the spirit.

Over the years, the light and spirit of Girl Scouting has taken many different paths. With this candle I give you each something very special to pass on. As I light the next candle, you will each pass along the Eternal Flame for Girl Scouts. After each of you has a lit candle, we will raise our lit candles together with our left hand and repeat the Girl Scout Promise. Then, I will lower my candle and as I do so you will all lower yours and we will blow them out together. You have been given a written history for your candle. Please keep this candle as a very special candle. It is not to be used for any purpose but passing on the Eternal Flame. You may use it in other Girl Scout ceremonies such as camps, encampments, campfires, bridging or court of awards ceremonies. I'm glad we are adding tonight to the history of our Eternal Flame.

[Speaker starts the lighting of the candles and then all follow the directions as given.]

Speaker: We will now say The Girl Scout Promise.

All: On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

Scouts' Own

A Scouts' Own is a special program in Girl Scouting designed to provide an opportunity for girls or adults to express their serious thoughts and deeper feelings. It is an opportunity to reaffirm their ideals, and a way to express these ideals to others. It is not a religious service, but an inspirational one.

The program is one planned by the girls with the help of their adult leader and not the other way around. [Adults can also hold a Scouts' Own at all adult functions.] Its value as a means to spiritual growth lies in their expression of their own convictions, aspirations and ideals. They may express these in several ways, "I'm grateful that _____", "I'm glad that _____", "I'm proud that _____".

There is no audience in the formal sense of the word, but rather one group joining in spirit and action to create the program.

The first thing to do is to explain to the girls just what a Scouts' Own is. Then, a theme must be decided upon. Decide ways to carry out the theme: story, poems, talk, slides, songs, play, pictures, speaking chorus. A short period of silence, where each person can listen to the sounds around them, can be very effective. Some small part should be available for everyone. The program should not be rehearsed, just planned and prepared. Original works of the girls themselves should be used whenever possible.

A Scouts' Own should not be too long, but long enough to get the idea across to those experiencing the Scouts Own.

Some suggested themes: Promise and Law, citizenship, international friendship, our world, water, trees, the seasons, sky, stars, rain, Native American lore, experiences in Girl Scouts.

The location can be anywhere but it is useful to move into an area away from the normal work area to emphasize the break from the normal conversation and activities.

Enter and leave in silence to encourage and maintain an atmosphere of serenity.

A suggested pattern (but remember there is no set pattern, creativity is best!)

1. Introduction to the theme
2. A song or two that sets the tone
3. Development of the theme
 - Skits, poetry reading, choral reading
 - Different girls speaking
 - Listening to music
 - Short film or video
4. Song
5. Reciting a poem or having a dialogue with everyone participating
6. Closing – song, poem, etc.



Sample Gold Award Charge and Pledge

This was used by the Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore as part of the Opening Ceremony at a Gold Awards Ceremony.

Equipment:

Candle for each recipient past and present of Gold Award, Curved Bar, and First Class given to them prior to start Matches or lighter.

Optional – substitute handheld electric candles and screw bulb in to 'light' it

Arrangements:

One person at podium reading charge. Other persons can be anywhere in audience. Have some persons holding lighters or matches at the ready who can 'pass the flame' at the indicated moment in ceremony.

Ceremony:

Speaker: I challenge you to accept this Girl Scout Gold Award in the spirit in which it is given to you. Know that with this award comes responsibility. As you enter this covenant of esteemed women, know that you are regarded with honor and respect. Live worthy of this by living by the Girl Scout Law.

I challenge you to remain honest and fair in all your dealings in this world. Never sell out and never give less than your very best. Always remain true to yourself. Always guard your honor.

I challenge you to be friendly and helpful to everyone you meet as you go through life. Celebrate the diversity of your fellow human beings. Give service freely, expecting nothing in return. Seek to improve life for others.

I challenge you to be considerate and caring to all living things, human and animal. Always being mindful of those in need, and the feelings of others. Treat others as you would like to be treated.

I challenge you to be courageous and strong in all you do. Stand strong in the face of adversity and share your courage with those around you, especially those smaller and weaker than you.

I challenge you to be responsible for what you say and do. Think before you speak and act. Be sure everything you say and do reflect well on you and your family.

I challenge you to respect yourself, so you may respect others. Continually strive to improve your mind, body and spirit. Strive for excellence in all you do and recognize the accomplishments of others.

I challenge you to respect authority. Follow the laws of your country and nature. Be mindful of your rights as well as your responsibilities as a citizen of this great nation. Remember that freedom is not free.

I challenge you to use resources wisely. Never waste the resources of nature or those of yourself and the people around you. Use your talents to better the world, and to protect our planet. Seek out the beauty that is all around you.

I challenge you to make this world a better place. Use all your abilities to leave this world in a better condition than you found it. By your words, actions and deeds you can make a difference.

I challenge you to be a sister to every Girl Scout. Help younger girls to reach the top as you have. Support them on their road to the Girl Scout Gold award. Do your best to give back to Girl Scouting that which has been given to you and a little more.

By accepting this challenge you become a changed woman. You become part of an elite group who recognize that receiving this Girl Scout Gold Award is not one celebratory moment but a lifetime commitment.

May I please have all Gold Award Recipients, past and present, as well as, all women who have received the Golden Eaglet, Curved Bar or First Class Award please stand and light your candle.

[pause while candles are lit]

If you accept this challenge, please repeat after me:

I affirm my dedication to live by the Girl Scout Promise and Law. I understand my obligation to live with honor and to lead by example because the highest award of Girl Scouting has been entrusted to me. I will remain worthy of respect as one forever bound to the ideals of Girl Scouting.

Please pause for a moment to reflect on your accomplishments and then blow out your candle.

Sample - A Personal Survival Kit

This is a fun way to acknowledge the volunteer's work. It should be part of a larger ceremony. You can make your own version with these or other common items that you use to acknowledge the work of the volunteers.

Equipment:

A small bag or envelope for each recipient with the following inside: band aid, match, small birthday candle, rubber band, paper clip, small hard candy, and button.

Ceremony:

Narrator: It's that time again to pause and reflect
And look at the year in retrospect.
A problem or two arose here and there
Not one went unconquered because you care.
You gave your best to the world of Girl Scouts.
Our Promise upheld without any doubts

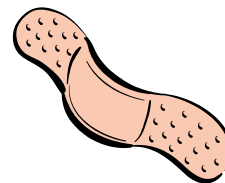
But maybe, just maybe you grew rather weary
And wondered if you could remain bright and cheery.
If so ... open this packet. It's a small compensation
For damages done. Use without reservation!

The Band-Aid you use to heal the small hurt
If someone to you got a little curt.
To match you then strike up, this friendship renew.
Touch the match to the candle, let more light shine through.
And why the rubber band you're ready to ask?
Flexibility and giving it means for each task.

Next, a small paper clip is in this bag, too
It keeps it all together for you.
The candy... your guessed... is to sweeten your day
Your support and kindness we'd like to repay.

Whether committee member, sponsor or one who consults*
You are ever concerned to get best results
With thanks, many thanks, our troop (*or other group*) burst with pride.
The button they popped is contained inside.
Now keep or use this survival kit small
And, we hope to see you back again in the fall.

[* could list other positions such as leader, cookie manager, etc.]



Sample of Linking Friendship Ceremony

This simple ceremony is based on the Dutch Girl Guide's Benediction, "I am a link in the golden chain of Girl Scouting (or world friendship), and I must keep my link strong and bright." Suggested uses for this ceremony are bridging or international programs.

Equipment:

Paper strip with tape on one end or a piece of rope for each participant.

Arrangement:

Participants stand or sit in circle holding their own chain 'link'

Ceremony:

The first person begins the ceremony by taping together her paper link (or tying her rope with a square knot) and repeating the benediction. Going around the circle, each person adds her link to the previous one while adding a thought on friendship. When the circle is completed, it could be completed with a friendship or international themed song.

Sample of Joining Ashes Ceremony

Equipment:

Campfire

Markers, possibly tape

Ashes taken from a previous campfire(s)

List of previous campfires may need to be pre-printed if extensive

One container for each participant to take ashes with them

Arrangement:

During the campfire, ashes from previous campfire(s) are sprinkled over it and mingled with new campfire. The next morning (or whenever the ashes are cold), some ashes are put into each container and labeled with the date and place of campfire along with the previous campfire(s). If more than one set of ashes from previous campfires was added than all must be listed. Only those present at the ceremony may take away the ashes and use them in another campfire.

Ceremony:

Speaker: We carry our fellowship with us in these ashes from past campfires with our sisters in other parts of the world. May the joining of these dead fires with the leaping flames symbolize once more the unbroken chain that binds Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world with greetings from the Girl Scouts of the USA and everywhere.

Sample of a Sound Effects Story of Juliette Low

Arrangements:

Divide the group in eight sections. Have each group learn the sound it will make when it hears its' name.

Little Girl(s) Stand and giggle

Juliette Low..... Curtsy and say "Be my friend"

Georgia (state of)..... Say "Hey, y'all!"

Horses..... Make neighing sound

Lord Baden-Powell..... Bow formally and say "How do you do"

London Sing one line "London Bridge is Falling Down"

Boy Scouts Make Girl Scout sign and say "Be Prepared"

Girl Scouts Sing one line "Girl Scouts Together"

Narrator reads story and when a group hears their name, they make the appropriate sound. Narrator should begin slowly and allow time for responses.

Ceremony:

Narrator:

One upon a time, there was a Little Girl named Juliette Low who lived in Georgia and loved to ride Horses. After she grew up, she went to London where she met Lord Baden-Powell who founded Boy Scouts. She was fascinated by the work he was doing. She studied with him awhile and decided to start a troop of Girl Scouts for her little friends who like to ride Horses in Georgia. So, Juliette Low said goodbye to the Boy Scouts in London and came home with the idea that Lord Baden-Powell had given her. She formed a group of Little Girls, who like to ride Horses and be together, into a troop of Girl Scouts. They loved it so much that the idea spread and now there are troops all over the world.

Aren't we glad that a [*speed up from here on*]

A Little Girl named Juliette Low from Georgia who liked Horses, grew up and went to

London and met Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scouts, and came home to start the wonderful world of Girl Scouts!

Sample of Action Story of Juliette Low World Friendship Fund

Traditionally, contributions to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund are collected as part of Thinking Day activities held around the birthday of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell on February 22.

Arrangements:

Girls are prepared by learning motions to use when certain words are mentioned in the story.

World.....stand up and spin around once

Juliette Low.....join hands with persons on right and left

Girl Scouting or Girl Scouts.....big smile and Girl Scout sign

Narrator reads the following story, pausing and waiting for motions to be performed by participants.

Ceremony:

Once upon a time, there was lady whose name was **Juliette Low**. She became interested in **Girl Scouting** through her friends, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, when she visited them in England. They started Boy Scouting and **Girl Scouting**.

Juliette Low thought **Girl Scouting** was a wonderful idea. When she returned to America, she decided to start a Girl Scout troop. So, on March 12, 1912, in her hometown of Savannah, **Juliette Low** started the first **Girl Scout** troop in this part of the **World**.

After she traveled all over the country, helping to start our **Girl Scout** troops, **Juliette Low** believed **Girl Scouting** was such a fine thing that she wanted to see **Girl Scout** troops all over the **World**. She knew **Girl Scouting** would help girls to become friends and would help toward **World** peace and goodwill.

When **Juliette Low** died in 1927, her friends decided that the greatest tribute that could be paid to such a charming lady would be to continue working toward the realization of her dream of **World** friendship. A memorial fund was started. It is called the **Juliette Low** World Friendship Fund. Each year, all **Girl Scouts** in the United States are given the opportunity to support this fund which helps **Girl Scouting** all over the **World**.

When you **Girl Scouts** put your money into the **Juliette Low World** Friendship Fund, you can imagine the far-off places in the **World** to which this money will travel and the ways it will help **Girl Scouts**. Maybe your money will send a **Girl Scout** from our country to Our Chalet, an international center in Switzerland, where **Girl Scouts** from all over the **World** get together and learn about each other. Or, maybe your money will help start new **Girl Scout** troops in other countries.

No one knows to what parts of the **World** this money will travel. No one knows the ways in which it will one day come back to us in new friends. But, we all know that as we give our money to the **Juliette Low** World Friendship Fund, we are helping spread **Girl Scouting** around the **World**.



Sample of The Colors of the Law Ceremony

Equipment:

Ten hand cut-outs in colors given in ceremony

Circle on table

Another option is to use colored candles with candleholders

Still another option is to use white candles wrapped with colored ribbons

Arrangements:

Each participant steps forward, says her line, places her hand cut-out on circle outline on table, and then steps back.

Ceremony:

All: I will do my best to be...

Girl Scout #1: Honest and fair. This purple hand represents a Girl Scout's sense of honesty and fairness. A Girl Scout works honestly and keeps her promise. She is fair in all she does and with those she meets.

Girl Scout #2: Friendly and helpful. This blue hand represents a Girl Scout's sense of friendship and thoughtfulness. A Girl Scout is amiable and loyal to her friends. She helps others whenever and wherever she can.

Girl Scout #3: Considerate and caring. This orange hand represents a Girl Scout's sense of kindness and warmth. A Girl Scout works well with others and looks out for the well-being of others.

Girl Scout #4: Courageous and strong. This red hand represents a Girl Scout's sense of adventure and independence. A Girl Scout attempts new tasks and braves new endeavors. She is confident and self-assured in her actions.

Girl Scout #5: Responsible for what I say and do. This gold hand represents a Girl Scout's sense of ownership and pride in her work. She readily admits her strengths and weaknesses and is aware of the consequences of her actions. A Girl Scout is up front with her intentions.

All: And to...

Girl Scout #6: Respect myself and others. This white hand represents a Girl Scout's sense of integrity. A Girl Scout directs her thoughts and deeds to encompass her own beliefs and to be sensitive to, and respectful of the beliefs of those around her.

Girl Scout #7: Respect authority. This yellow hand represents a Girl Scout's sense of regard for another's position. A Girl Scout understands the importance of having a leader of a group to make final decisions. She works with that leader to make the best decisions for the good of the group.

Girl Scout #8: Use resources wisely. This green hand represents a Girl Scout's sense of being careful with resources. She uses materials, money, time, and energy wisely. A Girl Scout does not waste the Earth's resources.

Girl Scout #9: Make the world a better place. This pink hand represents a Girl Scout's sense of improvement. A Girl Scout strives to be clean, and to conserve and enrich the world around her. She believes it is important to leave a place better than when she found it.

Girl Scout #10: Be a sister to every Girl Scout. This silver hand represents a Girl Scout's loyalty to her sisters all over the world. A Girl Scout is always ready to accept more friends into her ever widening circle. She treats all of her sisters with kindness, acceptance and warmth.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:

To serve God and my country,

To help people at all times,

And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be

honest and fair,

friendly and helpful,

considerate and caring,

courageous and strong, and

responsible for what I say and do,

and to

respect myself and others,

respect authority,

use resources wisely,

make the world a better place, and

be a sister to every Girl Scout.



Girl Scout Sign (*illustrated to right and above right*)

Right hand held up to shoulder height with elbow bent. Place thumb over pinky finger and middle three fingers extended upwards.

Girl Scout Handshake (*illustration below right*)

Make Girl Scout Sign with right hand and shake hands with left hand.

Quiet Sign (aka Magic Sign) (*not illustrated*)

An individual raises her hand up high with open palm. She must not talk while doing this. As others see it, they repeat the raised open hand and cease all conversations. When all is quiet, the person who originated the Quiet Sign, lowers her hand and proceeds with reason with getting everyone's attention.

When E're You Make A Promise (lyrics)

When e'er you make a promise,

Consider well its importance.

And, when made, engrave it upon your heart.



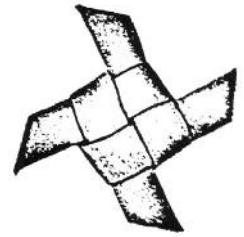
WAGGGS Logo

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts logo can be used as part of a ceremony at any time during the year but is particularly appropriate around Thinking Day. See the index for a listing of ceremonies in this book. This page can be used as a pattern for a recreation of the logo in felt or colored paper or printed in color and used as is.



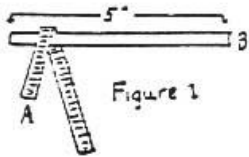
WAGGGS Friendship Knot

This knot symbolizes the ties which bind the girls and adults who belong to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, and is a sign of the continuous friendships they share. The four ends of the knot represent the Promise, the ten parts of the Law, the Motto, and Service to others. The four squares stand for the four world centers. Wear it with pride.

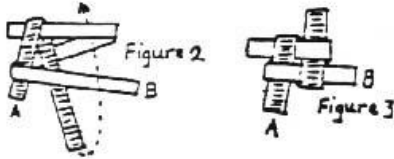


Materials needed:

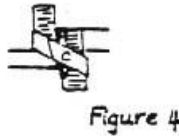
Two pieces of grosgrain or velvet ribbon, 1/4 inch wide and 5 inches long and a small safety pin. One piece could be yellow and one blue to represent the colors of the World Association.



Fold end A over B (Figure 1)



Fold B behind A and around to the front and over A (Figure 2)



Weave long end A over B's end and under B's loop. Pull gently to even four ends of knot.



Check to see that front and back of the knot look like Figures 3 (front) and 4 (back).

Attach small safety pin under C (Figure 4)

Samples of Girl Scout Leader's Poems

Girl Scouts often put their thoughts and reflections into verse. These are two examples among thousands available. But, the most meaningful poem is the one written by you specifically for the occasion.

A Leader's Poem

My dishes went unwashed today
I didn't make the bed
I took God's hand and went with
him
To Girl Scouts instead.

That my house was neglected
That I didn't sweep the stair
In twenty years no one on earth
Will know or even care.

But that I helped a little girl
From child to adulthood grow
In twenty years the whole wide
world
Will look and see and know.

The Great Green Angel

I dreamed I went to heaven
And saw among the dead
An angel dressed bright green
A halo 'round her head.

My jobs on earth were many
Praise and thanks were few.
I did more work in any one day
Than people ought to do.

I taught jumping girls to dance.
I taught parrots to sing.
I made saints out of devils
While Momma had her fling.

She looked a bit outstanding
Among the glaring white
All were asking jealously
What gave her this right?

I was a hiker, a cook,
And campfire baker.
I've been an artist, a sailor,
And stuffed toy maker.

But it was all lots of fun...
Life was never a bore.
You see, this role isn't new to me.
I've been an angel before.

I'm a Girl Scout volunteer
And lay no hold to fame
But being such a person
Means more than just a name.

I sold cookies and nuts
And magazine subscriptions
And this so that girls could
Have better trips.

Sample Play - The Secret of the Brownie Name

This is an example of how the classic story about brownies in the home can be adapted. It will need very simple props and, possibly, set dressing. It could be performed as a stand alone performance for an audience or included in an Investiture Ceremony for new Brownie level Girl Scouts.

If time permits, try having your Brownie troop rewrite the story in Brownie: The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting for themselves. It could be a play, puppet show, or just a reading. It could be a five minute skit with no props or something much more elaborate. Let your girls decide what they want and then write and plan their own performance.

Narrator: Once upon a time there were two sisters named Mary and Betty who lived with their mother and grandmother and baby sister in England. Their mother was a poor seamstress who worked very hard and did her best to clean the house.

Mother: I'm so tired but I must sweep the floor and get wood for the fire. *[She sweeps.]*

Narrator: The Grandmother helped also; but Mary and Betty just played all day.

Grandmother: I'll finish the sweeping and then you can start the fire. *[She sweeps. The baby comes in and stays by her.]*

Mother: Bairns are a burden.

Narrator: Children are called 'bairns' in Scotland and parts of England, you know.

Grandmother: Bairns are a blessing.

Mother: Ah, not my bairns. Look at them! What they take out to play with, they lose. What they bring in to play with, I have to clear away. And they lift not a finger to help me. I would rather do a thing myself than ask them to do it!

Grandmother: But they are not bad bairns, my dear. They are playful as squirrels.

Mother: And about as helpful!

Narrator: Just then the door flew open. Mary and Betty ran in. Their arms were full of moss and acorns which they threw across the floor.

[The baby cries and grandmother pats her on the head.]

Mother: Take that outside. I have swept the floor once today and I will not do it again.

Mary: Oh, Betty, you take it out! *[She sits down by grandmother.]*

[Betty kicks the moss across the floor and out the door.]

Mother: And those acorns, too! *[She walks out.]*

Betty: You pick them up Mary. *[Mary picks up the acorns.]* What makes Mother so cross Granny?

Grandmother: She's tired, my dear, and you two do not help her a bit.

Betty: What could we do, Granny?

Grandmother: Many little things, if you tried. Ah, what this house needs is a brownie or two. The luck of our house left when the brownies left us.

Mary: What are the brownies, Granny?

Grandmother: Very helpful little persons, my dears.

Betty: What did they do?

Grandmother: They came before the family was up. They cleaned the room and watered the flowers and helped in many ways. They always ran off before we could see them. But, often we heard them dancing about the house. They liked to work and made us all happy with their laughter. All we had to give them was a bit of bread and milk.

Mary: Where did they go?

Grandmother: I don't know, my dear. Perhaps, you should ask the Wise Old Owl.

Mary: Who is the Wise Old Owl, Granny?

Grandmother: My mother used to say that when she could not answer our questions. *[She smiles secretly.]*

Betty: Tell us more about the brownies, please! Did they ever live with anybody else?

Grandmother: There used to be many brownies. Some houses had quite a few.

Mary: Oh, I wish ours would come back! They would

Betty: sweep the floor

Mary: wash the dishes

Betty: bring in wood for the fire

Mary: and do everything! Oh, I wish they had not gone away! May we put out some bread and milk for them. Maybe they will come back if we do.

Grandmother: Well, well. They are welcome if they want to come. There is more than enough work for the brownies to do here. *[She leaves.]*

[Mary and Betty put out bread and milk for the brownies and go to bed.]

Mary: *[Suddenly, sits up in bed.]* There is an owl living in the big tree near the pond. Maybe she is the Wise Old Owl. If she is, she can tell me where to find a brownie. *[She wakes up Betty.]* Let's go look for the Wise Old Owl.

[Mary and Betty go towards the woods.]

Owl: Hoot – Hoot! *[Betty holds on to Mary.]*

Mary: *[laughs]* Why, that is an owl. Maybe it is just the one we are looking for. *[She runs to trees.]*

Owl: Come up! Come up! *[Mary and Betty move closer.]* Speak up! What do you want?

Mary: Please where can we find a brownie to come and live with us?

Owl: Oohoo! Is that what you want to know? I know two brownies.

Betty: Tell us, tell us, where do they live?

Owl: In your house.

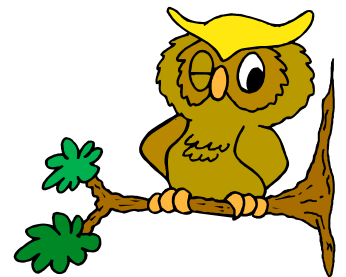
Mary: In our house? Then why don't they help us?

Owl: Perhaps they don't know what has to be done.

Betty: Just tell us where to find those brownies. We can show them what has to be done.

Owl: Can you? Oohoo!

Mary: Of course, we can. There is plenty to do at our house!



Owl: Well, here is the way to find the brownies. Go to the north side of the pond when the moon is out. Turn yourselves around three times while you say:

Twist me and turn me and show me the elf,
I looked in the water and saw _____

Then look in the pond to see the brownies. At the same time that you see the brownie, you will think of the word that ends the magic rhyme.

Mary: The moon is out tonight. We will go this minute. *[Both girls run to the pond.]*

Mary and Betty: Twist me and turn me and show me the elf, I looked in the water and saw...

Mary: Why there is no brownie. *[turns to Betty]*
What did we do wrong? And, there is no word to rhyme with elf.

Betty: Helf?

Mary: Jelf?

Betty: Melf?

Mary: How silly. I am supposed to see a brownie and I see only myself. Myself? Myself? But that rhymes with elf!

Betty: How strange. We have the rhyme but no brownie. We'll have to go back to the Owl. *[They return to Owl.]*

Owl: Oohoo, and what did you see in the pond?

Mary: Nothing but myself.

Owl: And what are brownies like?

Mary: Granny says brownies are helpful little people.

Owl: Ah, and the one you saw was not? Are you sure you did not see a brownie?

Mary: Yes, I am not a brownie.

Owl: Hoot! Hoot! Are you quite sure?

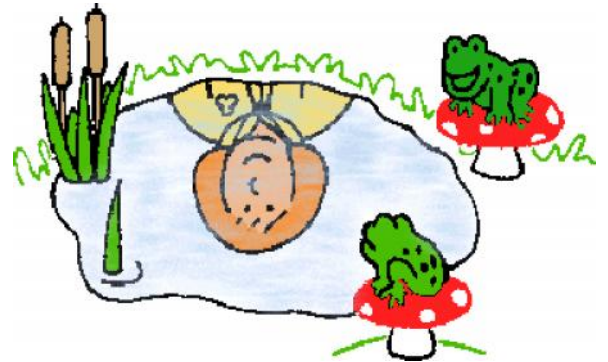
Betty: Do you mean WE are the BROWNIES? *[She laughs.]* Of course!

Mary: Let's go home and clean and sweep and get the wood and do all kinds of helpful things.

Owl: Now that you have found the brownies, come along to our magic Brownie Ring. The Ring meets deep in the woods when the moon is full. There all the brownies talk about helpful things they have done. And I help them find new things to do.

Trees, Owl, Betty & Mary:

Round and round and round about
Turn about and in and out
Come into the Brownie Ring
Ready for most anything!



Worksheet for Planning Ceremonies

Name of Ceremony _____

Purpose or Theme _____

Date of Ceremony _____ Time _____

Place of Ceremony _____ Length _____

Who will attend? _____

How will the ceremony begin?

What songs, poems, quotations will be included?

What activities will be included in the main part of the ceremony?

Will people speak?

Will recognitions or other awards be given?

How will the ceremony end? Who will do each part?

Who will record the ceremony for your troop's archives or records?

What decorations or props are needed?

Who will bring the items?

What refreshments will be served?

Who will bring them?

What will refreshments cost?

Who will pay for them?

When will a rehearsal be scheduled for the ceremony?

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