

## ON YOUR OWN BADGES

Girl Scouting can be a rewarding, educational and fun experience for you and your Girl Scout. Girl Scouting emphasizes individual potential, development of values, relating to others, and good citizenship. One of the ways to cultivate these goals in the girls is to encourage them to earn badges at home with your help.

Girls are welcome do any of the badge activities and complete any badge not otherwise covered by the troop. Please check with your troop leader first before beginning to work on a badge. There is a work sheet that you and your Girl Scout can fill out to verify that the requirements have been met.

Girls can work on Journeys, Legacy Badges, My Promise Pins, Cookie and Financial Literacy badges and Skill Builder Badges. All resources may be purchased at your local Council Shops.

- Journey – 3 different Journeys for each age level.
- Legacy Badges – 7 badges that have been around since 1912. The badge requirements are found in the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting.
- Cookie Business Badges are found in the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting.
- Financial Literacy badges are found in the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting.
- Make Your Own Badge – [www.gsmakeyourown.com](http://www.gsmakeyourown.com)
- My Promise – My Faith Pins are found in the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting.
- Skill Builder Badges – Each Journey has a set of skill builder badges that enhance the activities in the Journey. The small booklets have the requirements of 5 Skill Builder Badges.



### HONOR SYSTEM

Badges earned at home are done on the honor system. Girl Scouts of any age should learn the concept of honor. You can help your Girl Scout learn about honor by insisting that she complete all of the activities that are required.





The best way to begin is to look at any Girl Scout badge is to plan which one she will earn together. Look through the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouts you should:

1. Decide on some that interest her or that present something that is new to her.
2. Decide on which badge she should start with and then read through all of the different activities.
3. Decide on which activities are going to be performed for the badge. Girls complete at least one activity in each of the 5 sections of the badge.
4. Please discuss your selection with the Troop Leader, before you start. She may be planning to do the same badge as a troop activity.
5. As your Girl Scout completes an activity, note the date on the badge work sheet. Sign the worksheet, and give it to the Troop Leader when all five of the listed activities have been accomplished. The Troop Leader will probably ask your Girl Scout to demonstrate an activity, bring something that she has made, keep a journal about the activities, or to bring in photos in order to share her experiences with the rest of the troop. This type of sharing helps to build self-confidence.
6. One of the most important things to remember when working on Girl Scout Badge activities is that badges are designed to expose girls to new hobbies, skills, and fun activities. The emphasis is on trying new experiences, not gaining proficiency. Ideally, the activities for the badges would be done in a group. Many of them are, however, flexible enough for girls to work on them alone or with just one other person. Many activities require adult assistance.
7. Your Girl Scout should not feel pressured to complete a badge if she is not really enjoying the activities. She may choose to do one or two activities in a badge and then move on to another one. Also, she should not feel that having more badges than someone else is a measure of who has done better. She is, however, encouraged to try a variety of activities.

### **BADGE ACTIVITY RECORD**

Attached is a list a "generic" badge recordkeeping page. Please make copies of the recordkeeping page should your daughter decide to work on more than one badge at home. As your daughter completes each activity, please help her write in the activity title and date the entry. When she has completed at least 5 of the activities for the badge, you should sign the form, help her gather her journal, photos, demonstrations or whatever and have her bring it in to her troop leader. The leader will discuss it with the girl and arrange for sharing time with the troop.

Have a good time helping your Girl Scout with badges!





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Girl Scout Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Girl Scout Badge \_\_\_\_\_

**Girls must complete one activity from each of the 5 Steps of the badge.**

Step #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Initial: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates activity was begun and finished: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
This is what I did:

Step #2 \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Initial: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates activity was begun and finished: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
This is what I did:

Step #3 \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Initial: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates activity was begun and finished: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
This is what I did:

Step #4 \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Initial: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates activity was begun and finished: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
This is what I did:

Step #5 \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Initial: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates activity was begun and finished: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
This is what I did:



**I chose this badge because:**

**My favorite activity was, and why:**

**This badge taught me about:**

**The activities for this badge fit under what parts of the Girl Scout Law:**

Girl Scout: I have finished the requirements for this badge.

Girl Scout Signature: \_\_\_\_\_/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervising Adult: Scout has finished the requirements for this badge:

\_\_\_\_\_

Troop Leader Signature: \_\_\_\_\_/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Badge received by Girl Scout on: \_\_\_\_\_ **(DATE)**