



# Welcome to Girl Scouts!

If you're new to scouting, you might be wondering what the Girl Scout Promise and Law are, and why they matter. These two short passages are the heart of everything we do. They're recited at meetings, celebrated in ceremonies, and lived out in everyday actions. They help shape how Girl Scouts grow into kind, courageous, and responsible leaders.

## What Are the Girl Scout Promise & Law?

The Girl Scout Promise is a pledge each scout makes to live by the values of Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Law outlines those values: like honesty, helpfulness, and respect. It guides how scouts treat others and themselves. These are introduced early, often memorized, and revisited throughout a scout's journey. They are a way of life.



[Printable Resources from GSUSA are found on Online.](#)

## Why Print It Out?

Having a visual reminder of the Promise and Law at home helps scouts:

- Learn and remember the values they're building
- Spark conversations with family about what it means to be a Girl Scout
- Feel proud of their role in the troop and community

## Girl Scout Badges

Badges are a big part of the Girl Scout experience. Each badge represents a skill learned, a challenge met, or a goal achieved. Scouts earn them through hands-on activities, service projects, and personal growth.

## What Are Badges?

Badges are earned by completing a set of activities related to a specific topic: like first aid, coding, outdoor skills, or art. Some badges are earned as a troop, others can be completed individually at home or in the community. They're grouped by level (Daisy, Brownie, Junior, etc.), and GSUSA only allows scouts to display badges from their current level on the front of the official uniform. If a scout earns a badge from another level (or completes a patch program that isn't part of the official badge program) they can still purchase it and wear it on the back of the uniform as a Fun Patch.

In Girl Scouts, badges refer to official GSUSA awards that go on the front of the uniform. Patches (including fun patches and unofficial programs) go on the back. This helps keep the uniform organized and shows which achievements are part of the national badge program.

## Earning Badges Outside of Meetings

Did you know scouts can earn badges on their own? Many families don't realize that badge work doesn't have to happen during troop time. There's no single right way to earn a badge, but having a reliable starting point makes a big difference. That's why [The Badge Archive](#) was created: to help families and leaders quickly understand what GSUSA's booklets and VTK plans actually ask scouts to do.



by [TheBadgeArchive.com](#)

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