

Girl Scout Challenge Awards

The Girl Scout Challenge is a new set of awards for Brownie Girl Scouts, Junior Girl Scouts, and Girl Scouts 11-17. These awards are part of a national effort to create a consistent, national Girl Scout experience. The awards unite girls across the nation by age-level, engaging them in similar learning experiences. When girls take the Challenge, they explore some of the values and leadership skills that are at the very heart of Girl Scouting: courage, character, confidence, and the ability and desire to make the world a better place.

Courage

Confidence

Character



Girl Scouts.



Girl Scouts

The Girl Scout Challenge – FAQ

FAQ: *Can girls choose which Girl Scout Challenge she takes?*

Answer: No. The Girl Scout Challenges are divided into three age-appropriate challenges.

Challenge 1: Making the World a Better Place (Brownie Girl Scouts)

Challenge 2: Living the Girl Scout Law (Junior Girl Scouts)

Challenge 3: Courage, Character, and Confidence (Girl Scouts 11-17)

FAQ: *What will girls learn by taking the Girl Scout Challenge?*

Answer: The activities for the Girl Scout Challenge are designed to engage girls in discovering key Girl Scout values, building leadership skills and taking action by applying these values and skills to their everyday lives. The Girl Scout Challenge provides a meaningful experience for all girls regardless of their length of time in Girl Scouts. Leaders can use the challenge to shed new light on what matters most in Girl Scouts or introduce new girls to what makes Girl Scouts special and unique.

FAQ: *Can girls take the challenge together?*

Answer: Sure! Girls can work on the Challenge individually, in pairs, as a group, or however their needs are met.

FAQ: *Can the activities count toward other awards?*

Answer: Although girls might find some of the suggested activities similar to other things they've done, these activities do not count toward any other award. Use this opportunity to encourage girls to use their imaginations to adjust plans so they're constantly learning something new.

FAQ: *Is it important for girls to reflect on the completed challenge?*

Answer: Yes! More important than doing the activities to perfection is helping girls process what they learn and apply it to their daily lives. Each award has questions to guide girls to reflect on what they have learned through the activities. It's important for girls to have the ability to converse and reflect on the topic.

FAQ: *How can leaders/advisors help girls who are taking the challenge?*

Answer:

- I. Use a By Girls, For Girls leadership approach - provide girls with options, help with association, assist in setting realistic goals, make yourself available as a resource to girls, etc. Assistance will vary depending on age level.
- II. Have Fun - The most important tip is to make it fun! Girls will enjoy the experience more if they engage in activities together, are flexible with timing, and celebrate each step along the way.

FAQ: *Do girls have a certain amount of time to complete the Girl Scout Challenges?*

Answer: Girls can do these age level challenges at any time while they are in that age range. There's no need to rush! You can also stretch the Challenge over an extended period of time.

Discuss it with the girls to get their opinion.



Brownie Girl Scouts

Making the World a Better Place

Activity 1: Courage

- Courage means being brave. It takes courage to try
- new things. Have you ridden a two wheeler for the
- first time? Made a new friend? What have you al-
- ready done that took courage?
- Use your courage to make the world a better place.
- Think of someone at school or in Girl Scouts you would
- like to help or cheer up. Do you know someone who
- needs a friend? Think of something really nice you
- can do for that person.
- Now do it!

Activity 3: Confidence

- Confidence is believing in what you do. When you can do
- something really well, you can teach it to a younger kid.
- What is a game that you are good at and have a lot of fun
- playing?
- Make a little kid's day extra special by using your confi-
- dence to teach her or him your game.
- What did you learn? How does it feel to help a younger kid
- have a special day?

Activity 2: Character

- Character is the type of person you
- are. Are you honest, a good listener,
- friendly, and helpful? These words
- describe a person who's got the char-
- acter it takes to make the world a bet-
- ter place. Have you noticed they are
- also words in the Girl Scout Law?
- What's your favorite line in the Girl
- Scout Law? Why? Make up a cheer
- explaining your answer. Be creative!
- Now share your cheer with three peo-
- ple. What did they say? What did you
- learn?

The 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.

Congratulations! You've finished the Girl Scout Challenge. Now you can add the Brownie Girl Scout Challenge Award Patch Pin to your sash or vest.

The Girl Scout Challenge 1

I used my courage to

I can make
the world a
better place.

I showed confidence
by teaching

An example of
character is

The Girl Scout Challenge 2

<i>The Girl Scout Law</i>	<i>Your Pledge to Build Character</i>
<i>I will do my best to be...</i>	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
<i>Honest</i>	
<i>and fair,</i>	
<i>Friendly</i>	
<i>and helpful,</i>	
<i>Considerate</i>	
<i>and caring,</i>	
<i>Courageous</i>	
<i>and strong, and</i>	
<i>responsible for what I say and do,</i>	
<i>and to</i>	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
<i>respect myself and others,</i>	
<i>respect authority,</i>	
<i>use resources wisely,</i>	
<i>make the world a better place, and</i>	
<i>be a sister to every Girl Scout.</i>	

<i>The Girl Scout Law</i>	<i>Your Pledge to Build Character</i>	<i>Two Ways to Stay on Track</i>	<i>How are You Doing?</i>
		1. 2.	
		1. 2.	
		1. 2.	

Your Name: _____

Date: _____

Witness' Name: _____

Date: _____

GIRL SCOUTS 11-17

Courage, Character, and Confidence

You demonstrate courage, character, and confidence in everything you say and do. Is your "C" level off the charts or barely visible? Since Girl Scouts is all about confidence, courage, and character, you're already on the right track. Now take your C's for a test drive with

THE CHALLENGE!

Part 1: Discover Character

Your character makes you who you are. Are you honest when it is tempting not to be? Do you take a stand when it's important? Are you a sister to the new kid? Character is how you act and what you do every day.

Sometimes it's really hard to be the person you truly want to be. What can you learn by observing how others strive to live their values? Go undercover in your own world. It's your mission to scope out acts of good character. Choose five items from the list below.

Find a person who is:

- Being honest in a tough spot
- Going the extra mile to help someone
- Respecting himself or herself
- Respectfully disagreeing with another person
- Showing courage by standing up for someone else
- Taking responsibility when no one else will
- Using resources fairly
- Doing something to make the world a better place

Feel like you've heard these words before? Well you have, in the Girl Scout Law. The Law is our standard of character. What did you observe? How hard or easy was it to witness people living these values in your world? What did you learn? How will you apply this in your own life?

Girl Scout Challenge 3

Part 2: Lead With Confidence

Step 1:

There will be a time in your life when you'll really want to step up to the plate. You'll find it easier to be a leader when you are confident in your skills. Practice the leadership skill of identifying an issue that is important to your peers.

Your task is to identify a concern, issue, worry, hope, or need shared by a group of friends at your school, place of worship, neighborhood, or Girl Scouts.

Be a fly on the wall. What's buzzing around in the air? Have more than two people complained of their bikes being stolen? Listen to what's going on.

Step 2:

Now that you have an idea of what the buzz is, get your hands on some facts! Explore the issue further with 20 or more of your peers by using more of these methods:

- A. Interviews
- B. Small group discussions
- C. Surveys

Here are some questions to consider for your fact gathering:

- **What do you care about? Why?**
- **What do you worry about? Why? What do you wish you had help with from adults?**
- **Name one thing you'd like to change at your school, place of worship, Girl Scouts, etc.?**

Step 3:

What did you find out? Summarize your results into a few powerful key messages. Remember to be brief; often less is more. Now, voice your "call to action" messages. Bring them to people who can act on them. Consider talking to your mayor or councilperson, your principal or teacher, a community or spiritual leader, a committee at Girl Scouts, or the student council.

What did you learn about identifying problems? How does it feel to take the first steps toward making your world a little better? How confident do you feel?

Part 3: Act With Courage

Have you ever felt left out? When? How? Why?

As our world becomes more diverse by the minute, it's more important than ever for Girl Scouts to value diversity.

Valuing diversity means appreciating and respecting individual differences, such as racial, ethnic, and cultural identity, as well as differences in background, experience, education, religion, family, age, gender, interests, ability, skills, and style. Making today's world a better place calls upon each of us to celebrate diversity in our communities.

Girl Scout Challenge 3

With courage, you can help others value diversity, too. Complete one of the items from the list below.

- Encourage your group of friends to "cross-pollinate". Get your friends to mix it up at lunch. Commit to sitting with a different group of people every day for a week or two.
- Attend a meeting of a club in your school or community that is totally different from what you would normally do. Start a trend. Encourage three other people to do the same. Or, try it within Girl Scouts by linking up with a group of girls who are different than the girls in your group.
- Write an article or series of articles for a newspaper, newsletter, or website that educates others about the diversity in your community.
- Be the example you want to set. Discourage inappropriate language or hurtful jokes. Practice what to say when someone speaks or acts in a way that is disrespectful to others. Write down at least three points you can make when someone is negatively stereotyping others. Use your courage to act when you are put to the test!

What did you do? Did it take courage? Why? What did you learn and how will you use it to continue promoting diversity?

Congratulations! You've completed the Girl Scouts 11-17 Challenge. Wear your Girls 11-17 Girl Scout Challenge Award necklace with courage, character, and confidence.

When you complete the activities, you'll earn the Girls 11-17 Girl Scout Challenge Award Necklace and you might raise your C's to a whole new level.



Notes

Part 1: Discover Character

Part 2: Lead with Confidence

Part 3: Act with Courage

The 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.

The 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.



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