



Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan

Girl Scout Investiture Ceremony

Overview

An investiture ceremony welcomes new members into the Girl Scout family. It's a very meaningful step because it commemorates when new girls and adults become active in Girl Scouts for the first time. The ceremony requires preparation by troop leaders, volunteers, parents, and Girl Scouts.

Timing

The investiture is typically held once Girl Scouts can recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law. You may want to plan this for your third or fourth meeting.

Framework

Investiture ceremonies have three basic parts:

- **Opening:** Girl Scouts gather and troop leaders welcome Girl Scouts to the ceremony and explain what Girl Scouts will do in the troop.
- **Pinning:** Troop members receive their Girl Scout membership pin. Troop leaders give each girl a Girl Scout handshake.
- **Closing:** Troop leaders welcome new members to Girl Scouts. Troops may also sing a song to close the ceremony.

Resources

As you work with your troop to plan their investiture ceremony, there are several resources to help you guide Girl Scouts through the planning process, including:

- Search “bridging awards” on www.gssem.org to find Brownie–Ambassador bridging awards.
- Social media sites such as YouTube has videos of others’ ceremonies, and Pinterest has ceremony ideas.
- Internet searches for investiture scripts.
- Review the [Bridging Ceremony Guide](#).
- The Girl Scout Bridging Ceremonies Short & Snappy can be accessed in [gsLearn](#), by logging into MyGS.

Girl-Led Planning

Ceremonies Girl Scouts like best are the ones they help to create. Encourage Girl Scouts to plan and participate in their own ceremonies and ask questions to understand their vision. Remember that younger levels of Girl Scouts such as Daisies or Brownies need more guidance.

For Daisies, you may wish to bring different Investiture scripts to the meeting and see which one they like the most. From there, you can go through the ceremony and edit it to the troop’s liking.

Brownies and Juniors can design ceremonies with your help by asking them open-ended questions and giving them options to choose from.

Who do we want to invite to our ceremony?

- How will they be invited? Will leaders invite via email or social media, or will the troop create invitations?

When during our meeting do we want to have our ceremony?

- Do we want it in the beginning, middle, or the end?

How will the ceremony begin?

- How will everyone stand?
- Will Girl Scouts speak, or will leaders speak?
- What do we want to say?
- Do we want to talk about Juliette Gordon Low?

Do we want any songs, poems, or quotes to be included?

- What songs do we know that are about friends?
- What sayings do we know about friends?

In the main part of the ceremony we say the Girl Scout Promise and Law and give out your membership pins. How do you want to receive your pin?

- Should everyone come to the front one at a time, or should everyone get their pin in their spot in the horseshoe?

Should we say anything else after you get your pins?

- Do we want to sing a song?
- Do we want to form a friendship circle?

What things will we need for the ceremony?

- Do we want to have a banner? Do we need flowers?
- Do we want to have food at the ceremony? What kind of food do we want to have?
- What can we make ourselves?