



Family Guide

Important Dates

Fri., Jan. 8 Girl Scouts start setting up Digital Cookie sites. Digital Cookie Family Training go.gsoh.org/cookie-family-training		Tues., Jan. 12 2027 Girl Scout Cookie Program begins!
My troop's deadline to enter Initial Order card totals in Digital Cookie.	Fri., Feb. 12-Sat., March 27 Girl Scouts deliver cookies, collect payments & participate in cookie booths.	My troop picks up Initial Order cookies and rewards from our TCPC.
My troop's deadline to submit additional orders to our TCPC.	Sat., March 27 2027 Girl Scout Cookie Program ends.	
Sun., March 28 Final day for shipped orders and in-person payments in Digital Cookie.	Mon., March 29 Deadline to submit final payments to my TCPC.	Early May Pick up final rewards from TCPC. Celebrate your Girl Scout and her troop's successes!



**Questions?
Contact Us!**

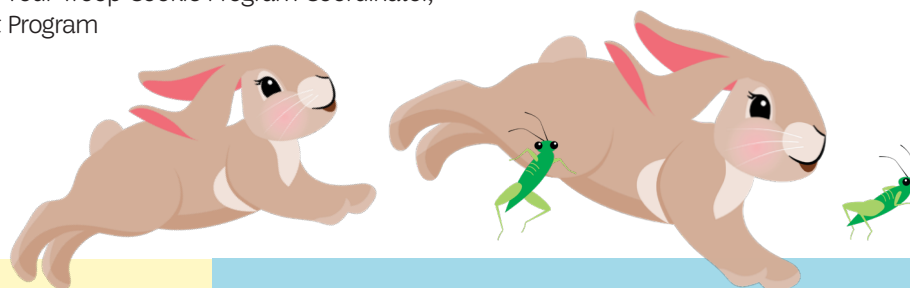
Need help with Digital Cookie or have a question your Troop Cookie Program Coordinator can't answer? Submit a help request at go.gsoh.org/cookie-support.

It's Cookie Time!

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led entrepreneurship program in the world. It teaches valuable life lessons and leadership skills through real world experience. Girl Scouts learn the power of their own determination and how to represent themselves with confidence. Family support and encouragement make a Girl Scout unstoppable! We want you to succeed, so reach out whenever you need help. Your Troop Cookie Program Coordinator, the GSOH Customer Care Team, and the Product Program Team all stand ready to support you.

Happy Cookie Season! Have fun!

— *Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland*



The Five Skills

The Girl Scout Cookie Program helps Girl Scouts develop important skills in five essential areas:



Goal Setting

Determine goals, identify steps to achieve them, and break them down into small, frequent wins.



Decision Making

Explore many options and confidently make an informed choice.



Money Management

Manage all aspects of cookie business, like creating a budget and making change.



People Skills

Build confidence by working with others and interacting with customers.



Business Ethics

Practice making difficult decisions and learn the value of delivering on a promise.

What Cookies Fund

All funds generated by the Girl Scout Cookie Program remain in the Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland council to:

- Provide financial assistance to make Girl Scouting available for all.
- Keep programs and camp fees at a reasonable rate for all members.
- Improve and maintain camps and other sites.
- Train and support adult volunteers.

Where Do the Funds Go?



23%
Proceeds & Rewards

23%
Cost of Product

54%
Girl Programs & Volunteer Training

Cookie Promotional Toolkit

Troop volunteers, girls, and families can find these and more at gsoh.org/cookie-resources:

- Social media graphics
- Operation Salute resources
- Door hangers, recipe cards, and more

Ways to Participate

Troop Cookie Program Coordinators (TCPCs) and families work together to pick the right experiences to help their Girl Scouts learn, grow, and reach their goals.



Initial Order Phase
January 12-24
(Order Taking)



Booth Phase
February 12-March 27 (Cookie
Booths, Stands, and Walkabouts)



Entire Program
January 12-March 27 (Girl Delivery,
Shipped, Operation Salute)

		Girl Scout Experience	Family Experience
Order Taking	Use order cards and collect payments when cookies are delivered.	Hands-on practice with people and money management skills while interacting with customers they know and trust.	Help Girl Scout contact friends and family or go door-to-door, submit orders to TCPC, deliver cookies, collect payments from customers, and submit money to the TCPC.
Cookie Booths	Set up shop at pre-approved locations around the community.	Work as a team to reach new customers while communicating their goals, interacting with customers, and safely handling money with adult support.	Help with decorations, practice money math, or chaperone booths one-on-one with your Girl Scout or as a volunteer helping to support the troop.
Cookie Stands	Hold a cookie booth in your yard or driveway.	Set up and decorate a lemonade-style cookie stand near home.	Help Girl Scout set up and decorate booth, fill orders, and take payments, using existing inventory or new cookies received from troop.
Walkabouts	Take cookies door-to-door.	Go door-to-door with help from their family to sell their cookie inventory and practice people and money management skills.	Help Girl Scout make a safety plan, fill orders, and take payments, using existing inventory or new cookies received from troop.
Girl Delivery	Learn new skills through prepaid online orders in Digital Cookie.	Practice setting and sharing goals, learn how to create a video, practice digital safety and wellness, deliver orders, and thank customers.	Help track sales, request inventory from the troop, and deliver cookies to customers without handling money. All sales are prepaid through Digital Cookie.
Shipped Orders	Reach more customers with orders shipped directly to customers through Digital Cookie.	Share goals with friends and family near and far to help promote their business online safely and fairly.	Support your budding entrepreneur without handling cookies or money.
Operation Salute	Motivate customers to donate cookies to military personnel, veterans, and their families.	Practice discussing a philanthropic effort and the value of giving back to the community.	Track progress toward goals and help brainstorm creative ways to engage customers.

Supporting Your Girl Scout

Financial Responsibilities

Caregivers who sign the Girl Scout Permission Slip at go.gsok.org/cookie-permission agree to:

- Notify the TCPC when you need additional cookies, pick up all cookies ordered for your Girl Scout, and sign a receipt every time you receive cookies from the troop.
- Approve or decline Girl Delivered Digital Cookie Orders and deliver orders promptly.
- Not accept checks at cookie booths or from customers you do not know.
- Submit all payments to the troop by the given deadlines and sign a receipt each time.
- Replace lost or stolen money collected from customers prior to being turned into the troop.



Operation Salute

Operation Salute is a council-wide service program that benefits military personnel, veterans, and their families. Customers make a \$6 donation to purchase a package of cookies to be donated to Operation Salute. Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland delivers all donated cookies to various military organizations within our council, including:

- Blue Star Mothers
- MASH Pantry
- Various VA Hospitals throughout council
- Defense Supply Center Columbus
- And more!



Girl Scouts get to learn the importance of giving back while also earning rewards and money for their next Girl Scout adventure! And if they achieve 10+ packages for Operation Salute, they earn the exclusive 2027 Operation Salute patch!

Digital Cookie

Digital Cookie is the online portion of the Girl Scout Cookie Program, helping prepare Girl Scouts to be leaders in a fast-paced e-commerce world.

On **Fri., Jan. 8**, Girl Scout caregivers will receive registration emails from "Girl Scout Cookies" (email@email.girlscouts.org) with subject "Register for the Digital Cookie Platform Today".

Fri., Jan 22-Sun., Jan. 24, Girl Scouts can use the My Cookies tab in Digital Cookie to enter the totals from their paper order cards instead of giving their order cards to their TCPCs to enter. TCPCs will review the submissions and submit them with the troop's Initial Order.

Having trouble accessing Digital Cookie?



Check your Spam folder, then visit go.gsok.org/cookie-support if you need assistance.

- 1 Follow the prompts to log in, set up, and publish your Girl Scout's site. Links will be activated when the cookie program begins **Tues., Jan. 12**.
- 2 Use the **Customers** tab to enter customer names and email addresses, learn about marketing emails, and reach out to customers directly.
- 3 Check your email daily for Girl Delivered orders to approve or reminders and updates from your troop and Girl Scout staff.
- 4 Use the **Orders** tab to approve or decline Girl Delivered orders. Orders that are not approved within five days will be automatically canceled or donated.
- 5 Notify your TCPC every time you need cookies to fulfill orders after **Sun., Jan. 24**. This allows them to plan cookie cupboard trips and distribute cookies to your Girl Scout and their customers sooner.

Cookie Booths

Cookie booths are one of the most exciting parts of the Girl Scout Cookie Program, giving Girl Scouts the opportunity to work individually or as a troop to meet their goals, gain confidence, and interact with their communities. For some customers, cookie booths are the only time they will interact with a Girl Scout all year! Talk to your Girl Scout about how she wants to represent her troop and show what it means to be a Girl Scout to her community.

Some Council rules to plan for:

- Girl Scouts should participate in setting up, cleaning up, talking to customers, and making change.
- Everyone present at a booth must be courteous of booth hosts, neighboring businesses and other troops, and take all trash and supplies with them when they leave.
- Troops should arrive and leave on time and take orders only within their assigned timeslot.

Supporting Your Troop

Your Troop Cookie Program Coordinator (TCPC) is a volunteer who needs your help to deliver a fun and successful cookie program to the troop. Your TCPC does so much behind the scenes to help your Girl Scout!

Here are some ways you can help your TCPC and troop. Most do not require much time commitment or being a registered volunteer, so pick one thing on this list that you can commit to, tell your TCPC that you can help, and put it on your calendar now:

- Help the troop create a Digital Cookie video for the troop site.
- Lead a troop meeting or activity during the Cookie Program.
- Create a troop cookie calendar.
- Help pick up cookies as a driver, or help count.
- Help sort and distribute cookies.
- Pick up cookie booth decoration supplies.
- Lead booth decoration activities with Girl Scouts.
- Attend a cookie booth as an approved volunteer.
- Pick up cookie cupboard orders as an approved volunteer.
- Help sort and distribute rewards and patches.

What other skills do you have that would be helpful to the troop?

Contests

Kickoff Contest

Tues., Jan. 12-Sun., Jan. 17

All Girl Scouts who publish their Digital Cookie sites and send 10+ emails by **Sun., Jan. 17** will be automatically entered to win exclusive Kickoff Rewards. Rewards and winners will be announced on **Wed., Jan. 20**, and rewards will be distributed to troops at Initial Order deliveries in February. Follow GSOH Product Program on Facebook to join the fun!

Cookie Content Creator Contest

Join the challenge for an opportunity to enter a weekly drawing for a \$50 reward card! Follow the GSOH Product Program Facebook page for weekly themes. Winners will be announced the following Wednesday on the Facebook page and by email.

Enter the contest at: go.gsah.org/cookie-content

Ready to Explore Contest

Girl Scouts wear many hats and you're going to want to add this one! Online entrepreneurs earn an entry for every shipped order received in January. You could be one of 300 Girl Scouts to win a fun Lift-a-Lop Plush Bunny Hat!



Great Job, Girl Scout Patch Program

Cookie booth experts will be on the lookout for Girl Scouts at exceptional cookie booths to reward them on the spot with a special patch!

5 for 5 Promotion

Use this contest to encourage customers to purchase more packages! Troops receive 5 for 5 tickets with unique codes which Girl Scouts, then Girl Scouts mark with their initials and troop number. Give customers one ticket for every five packages they buy at a booth and show them the QR code to submit their contact information and unique code for a chance to win five cases of cookies. We'll randomly select five winners on **Mon., Mar. 8**, and **Mon., Mar. 29**. As an extra bonus, Girl Scouts with winning customers get credit for an additional 12 packages sold in eBuddle!

Cookie Rewards

- Junior through Ambassador troops receive an additional \$0.05 per package if all participating Girl Scouts vote to opt out of individual rewards. These Girl Scouts are still eligible for all patches, Initial Order, and troop rewards.
- At most levels, Girl Scouts can choose to receive a physical reward item, donate to The Shoe That Grows, or receive a GSOH reward card.

Reward Cards

Reward Cards can be used towards GSOH memberships, programs, shops, camp, site usage, Girl Scout Destinations, or GSOH approved travel. Girl Scouts receive one card with the total amount they earned after the cookie program ends.

To use a Reward Card to register for Council programs:

- 1 Find a program at gsoh.org/activities and begin registration.
- 2 At check-out, select Apply for Program Credits and submit the registration.
- 3 Email customercare@gsoh.org or call 614-487-8101 with your Reward Card number(s). *Important: Registration is not complete and space cannot be held until payment is applied. Registrations left unpaid will be cancelled.*
- 4 If the Reward Card does not cover the full balance, the remainder can be paid online through your myGS account or over the phone.

Patches

Girl Scouts receive these patches after the program ends and display them on the back of their sashes or vests to show their successes!



Theme Patch
25+ Packages



Action Patch
Troop's Choice



Booth Sales Patch
Achieve 50+ packages recorded as Booth Sales



Bar Patches
Girl Scouts earn Bar Patches at the highest level they achieve between 100+ and 1,000+ packages



Cookie Crossover

Girl Scouts who created an avatar, sent 18 emails, and shared their site in the 2026 Fall Product Program and achieved 275+ packages in the 2027 Cookie Program earn this patch. *Mailed directly to Girl Scouts in Summer 2027*



Shoe That Grows

Participate in The Shoe That Grows philanthropic reward option. Girl Scouts can select this option instead of receiving a reward beginning at the 300+ package level.



Operation Salute

Achieve 10+ Operation Salute packages donated to active and veteran members of the military and their families.

Troop Rewards



Meet up with your troop and your TPCP to discover additional rewards you can earn as a troop!



Instant Rewards

TCPs will receive these rewards at their cookie delivery in February and distribute them to Girl Scouts as they achieve each level of total packages sold.



25+ Packages
Theme Patch



100+ Packages
Scrunchie Trio

Initial Order Rewards

****Earned exclusively for cookies purchased during the Initial Order phase Jan. 12-24.**** TCPs will receive these rewards at their cookie delivery in February and distribute them to Girl Scouts with their Initial Orders.



200+ Packages – Individual Initial Order
Mini Bunny Dangler



180+ Packages – Troop Initial Order PGA
Matching Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Beanies for each participating Girl Scout & two volunteers

Final Rewards

Girl Scouts earn these rewards based on their total packages achieved by the end of the cookie program.



235+ Packages
Bunny Plush OR \$10 Cookie Reward Card



300+ Packages
Bottle Sling OR \$10 Cookie Reward Card



400+ Packages
Bubble Blanket OR \$15 Cookie Reward Card



500+ Packages
Ready to Explore Duffle Bag OR Girl Scout Uniform OR Membership



700+ Packages
Personalized Baublebar Necklace OR Coleman 2-Person Skydome Tent OR \$30 Cookie Reward Card



900+ Packages
Hammock Camping Chair OR Create Your Own Perfume Kit OR \$50 Cookie Reward Card



1,200+ Packages
Stellar Seller Celebration at Scene75 on May 1, 2027



1,600+ Packages
American Girl Doll OR 2 Tickets to Columbus Fury match OR One session of 2027 or 2028 GSOH resident camp OR \$120 Cookie Reward Card



2,000+ Packages
Animal Encounter Experience at the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium or Mini 3D Printer

Due to availability, a comparable item may be substituted for any reward item.

Familiar Favorites

Available In-Person & Online, \$6 per package

Adventurefuls

Indulgent brownie-inspired cookies topped with caramel flavored crème with a hint of sea salt



Lemon-ups

Crispy lemon cookies baked with inspiring messages to lift your spirit



Trefoils

Iconic shortbread cookies inspired by the original Girl Scout recipe



Do-si-dos

Oatmeal sandwich cookies with peanut butter filling



Samoas

Crisp cookies with caramel, coconut, and chocolaty stripes



Tagalongs

Crispy cookies layered with peanut butter and covered with a chocolaty coating



Thin Mints

Crispy chocolaty cookies made with natural oil of peppermint



Exploremores

Rocky Road ice cream-inspired cookies filled with flavors of chocolate, marshmallow and nutty toasted crème



Toffee-tastic

Gluten free! Rich, buttery cookies with sweet, crunchy toffee bits



NEW Specialty Cookies

Available only through Digital Cookie shipped orders, while supplies last

Girl Scout Sparkables by Partake

Oatmeal chocolate chip cookies with sprinkles. Allergen friendly and delicious!



\$7 per package

Patch Pals by BARK

Girl Scouts' first dog cookie!



\$10 per package