

Becoming a Troop Leader in Girl Scouts



for adults



Caring and supportive adults partner with Girl Scouts of the USA to inspire 2.7 million girl members to achieve their dreams.

Troops are the cornerstone of Girl Scouting.



Troops have existed since 1912 when Juliette Gordon Low gathered a group of girls in Savannah Georgia on March 12th to start a movement that would give all girls the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually.



Juliette with girls in Savannah in the early days.

The troop setting is an extremely valuable developmental environment as it provides a safe place for girls and meets regularly to support girls in building confidence and accumulating skills and knowledge over time.



Times have changed since 1912, girl's needs have changed, and our mission statement has changed over the years, but the need for a nurturing, self-development-focused, all-girl learning environment, led by knowledgeable and supportive adult mentors, is as important as ever. Perhaps more.



Girls and adults participating in a troop usually stay together for an entire school year and meet once or twice a month – how often is up to you and the girls.

The girls that you are matched with will depend on your location and your age preferences.



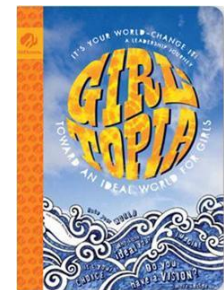
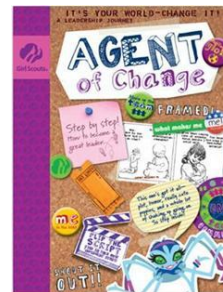
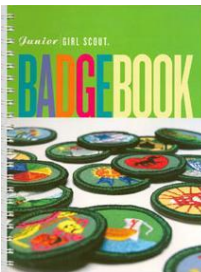
The specific activities you do with your girls will depend on grade level and interests, but the basics of managing a troop are essentially the same across all grades:

- Program Delivery
- Safe Space and Low Risk
- Families & Networks
- Money Management
- Healthy Role Model



◇ Program Delivery

Working in partnership with your girls, you will organize fun, interactive, cooperative activities that are based on Girl Scout Program Resources (curriculum) and girls' interests. A wide variety of contemporary and traditional resources are available to you.



◆ Safe Space and Low Risk

One of your responsibilities as a troop leader is to ensure that girls are in a safe place physically and emotionally by adhering to policies and procedures (and doing the necessary paperwork) to keep risk at a minimum.



◆ Families and Networks

You don't need to do it all on your own. Developing networks of parents and other adults in your community will allow you to share the workload and offer girls a variety of experiences and role models.



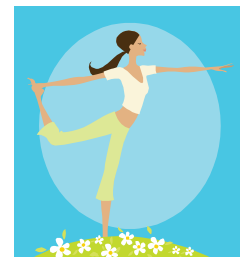
◆ Money Management

Troops sometimes collect dues and engage in fundraising (including the famous Girl Scout Cookie Program) to generate the funds for supplies and special activities. Your responsibilities as a troop leader will be to manage the troop bank account (or have a troop treasurer that will do so) and adhere to all policies regarding money management.



◆ Healthy Role Model

Everything you say and do, with the girls and with other adults in their presence, is being watched closely by the girls. You have the opportunity to make a lasting impression by modeling healthy leadership and sharing your knowledge, experience, and skills with a positive and flexible approach.



Thank you for your time!

If you are interested in becoming a Troop Leader, or would like more information, please call the Girl Scout office nearest you...

Treasure Valley: 377-2011

Central Idaho: 733-9623

Pocatello: 234-9076

Idaho Falls: 524-4649