

Ceremonies for Girl Scouts

Sample Ceremonies for All Occasions



Girl Scouts Carolinas Peaks to Piedmont

This booklet accompanies **Planning Ceremonies with Girls Enrichment Training**

DAISY INVESTITURE



You will need: Daisy petals equal to the number of girls in your troop, a golden yellow center, a long green stem reaching toward the seated parents (wide enough for the girls to walk on), a leaf for each leader and assistant.

Tape all parts in place on the floor before the meeting. Daisy pins and certificates for each girl may be placed on a small table by one of the leaders. Simple Daisy name tags may be made for girls and parents. (Be sure these are pinned to the right side of the dress or tunic of the girls to eliminate confusion when the girls receive their pins.)

Placement: Girls take their places in a circle around the Daisy. The leaders stand at the end of each leaf.

Leader: Where are the girls who want to be Daisy Girl Scouts?

Girls: Here we are!

Leader: You have agreed that you are ready to make a promise and receive your pin as Daisy Girl Scouts. Let us make that promise together "On my honor..."

Assistant: _____ (naming girl), as a Daisy Girl Scout would you come forward?"

(Girl walks down stem to leaders.)

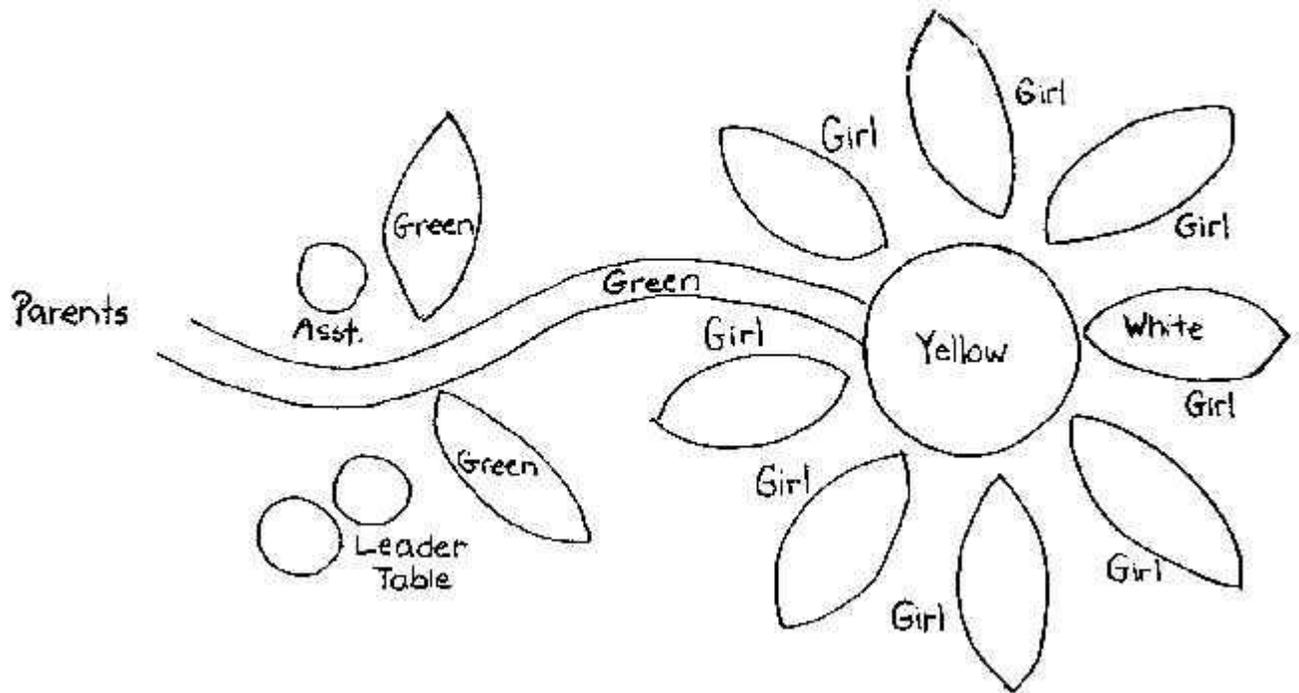
Leader: "Welcome, _____. Here is your Daisy Girl Scout pin." She pins girl, shakes her left hand and makes the Girl Scout sign with her right hand. "And here is your certificate." (And so on ---- until all of the girls are invested.)

Leader: "Now let's sing our Daisy Girl Scout song. (Or "When'er You Make a Promise.")

Leader to Parents: Daisy Girl Scouts are named after the founder of Girl Scouting in the United States, Juliette Gordon Low, whose nickname was Daisy. She brought Girl Scouting to the United States from England. Notice that the stem of our daisy leads to you. As parents, you are very necessary to the growth and development of our Daisy Girl Scouts. We need to know your expectations for how "high" our Daisies will grow and ways that you can help us to reach that growth. We would appreciate your suggestions and participation. Would you please join us in a friendship circle (explains that) as our closing and stay for refreshments?

Girls move back into larger circle--admitting parents as part of the group.

Have a friendship circle and refreshments. As refreshments are being set up, parents may help their daughter's place their invitations and the girls' certificates in the girls' scrapbooks.



Daisy Candle Ceremony

Use a piece of felt 3'x5', (light color for background, Daisy Blue?) Cut three logs from brown felt and glue two of them across the bottom one at each end the third right above the two in the center. Cut 13 candles from white felt and attach three on center log and five on each of the other two logs. Cut 13 flames from yellow felt, use Velcro dots put on board above candles and the opposite Velcro dot on the flames the girls say one line of promise or law and light candle by attaching the Flame. Highlight logs with black marker and flames with orange.

DAISY GIRL SCOUT BRIDGING CEREMONY

Supplies:	Daisy Girl Scout Ending Certificate for each girl Brownie Girl Scout Pin for each girl A symbolic bridge (or real bridge outdoors) A mirror to represent the "pond"
Preparation:	Read the Brownie Story to your troop the week before the ceremony, so they will understand the meaning of the ceremony. (Brownie Story can be found in the old Brownie Handbook or on the internet type "brownie story")
Formation:	The Daisy Girl Scout troop should be on one side of the bridge with their leader. The Brownie Girl Scout troop that is helping to bridge them should be on the other side of the bridge with their leader in a circle. A Brownie Girl Scout goes to the bridge and calls out the name of a Daisy Girl Scout. The Daisy Girl Scout goes to her leader to receive her Ending Certificate. Then she goes over the bridge and enters the Brownie Circle. Continue this until every Daisy Girl has gone over the bridge and into the circle.

Daisy Girl Scout Leader says: We all remember the Brownie Story. We too will perform a little magic of let's pretend. Close your eyes. **(While the leader is reciting the poem, the Brownie Girl Scout leader sets up the "pond")**

Cross your little fingers, stand upon your toes,
That's a bit of magic every Brownie Girl Scout knows.
Now we all are standing in a forest glade
Listen very carefully; see the magic made. (Open your eyes)
Here we are in the big woods, before you is a pond
You can almost hear the Wise Old Owl
and the friends of which you're fond.

(One at a time, a Brownie Girl Scout takes a Daisy Girl Scout to the "pond" and repeats):

Twist me and turn me and show me the elf,
I looked in the water and saw "myself". (Daisy Girl says "myself")

The Brownie Girl Scout then takes the Daisy Girl Scout to the Brownie Girl Scout leader who pins the Brownie Girl Scout pin on her uniform upside down, gives the Girl Scout Handshake and asks the new Brownie Girl Scout to repeat the Girl Scout Promise. The Brownie Girl Scout then takes the new Brownie Girl Scout back to the ring. Repeat this procedure for each Daisy Girl Scout.

Brownie Girl Scout Leader says: You are now all Brownie Girl Scouts. The Girl Scout Slogan is "Do a Good Turn Daisy." Go now and do three good turns for your family - one for each part of the Girl Scout Promise. When your good turns are done, have a member of your family turn you pin right side up.

Daisy Girl Scout Leader says: Uncross you little fingers, come down from off your toes. Then the magic goes away, as every Girl Scout knows.
End with an appropriate song.

Daisy Bridging Song

Written by Gina Michael, Troop leader (tune: Frère Jacques)

Goodbye Daisies (waving hand by opening and closing fingers)

Goodbye Daisies (waving hand by opening and closing fingers)

Sooo long (big arch with hand and arm)

Sooo long (big arch with hand and arm)

We're becoming Brownies (pointing thumb in chest)

We're becoming Brownies (pointing thumb in chest)

Ooh La La (hands in front, wiggle whole body while open and closing hands)

Ooh La La (hands in front, wiggle whole body while open and closing hands)

Look out Brownies (pointing finger and moving it up and down)

Look out Brownies (pointing finger and moving it up and down)

Here we come (arms outstretched, encompassing the whole group)

Here we come (arms outstretched, encompassing the whole group)

We're becoming Brownies (pointing thumb in chest)

We're becoming Brownies (pointing thumb in chest)

Ooh La La (hands in front, wiggle whole body while open and closing hands)

Ooh La La (hands in front, wiggle whole body while open and closing hands)

We've worked so hard (swiping hand across brow)

We've worked so hard (swiping hand across brow)

All year long (hands open out front, palms pointed up)

All year long (hands open out front, palms pointed up)

We're becoming Brownies (pointing thumb in chest)

We're becoming Brownies (pointing thumb in chest)

Ooh La La (hands in front, wiggle whole body while open and closing hands)

Ooh La La (hands in front, wiggle whole body while open and closing hands)

Our time has come (tapping wrist as if pointing to a watch)

Our time has come (tapping wrist as if pointing to a watch)

We've crossed the bridge (fingers make walking moving in front of their face)

We've crossed the bridge (fingers make walking moving in front of their face)

We are now Brownies (pointing both thumbs in chest)

We are now Brownies (pointing both thumbs in chest)

Ooh La La (hands in front, wiggle whole body while open and closing hands)

Ooh La La (HAPPY DANCE - hands in front, wiggle whole body while open and closing hands)



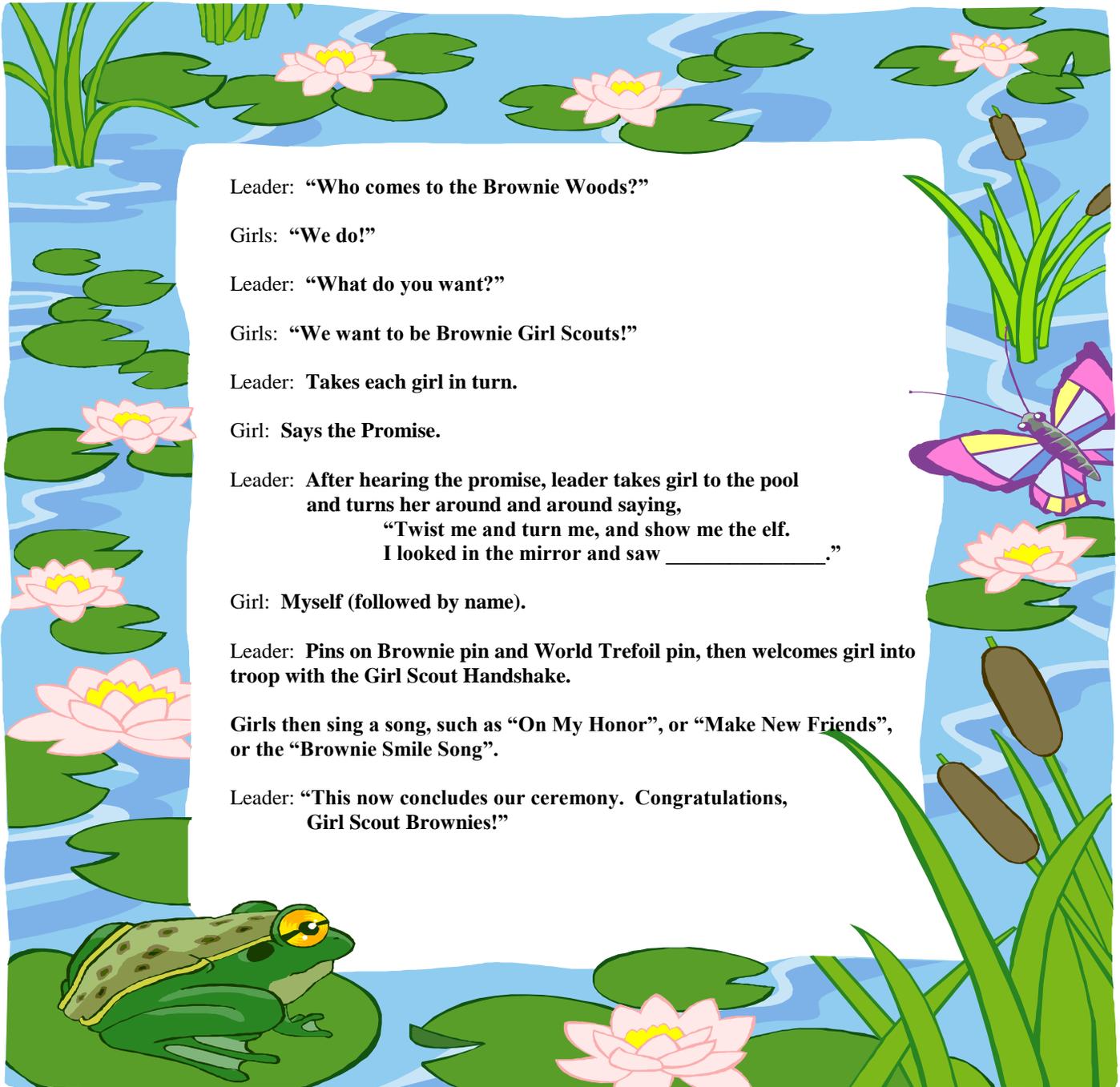
BROWNIE INVESTITURE CEREMONY

Equipment needed:

- **Mirror** (represents the pond in the story)
- **Greenery** (arrange around edges of mirror)

First the leader reads the troop the story of the Brownie elf in the handbook.

The leaders and the girls form a ring around the Brownie Girl Scout Pond (a mirror edged with greenery).



Leader: "Who comes to the Brownie Woods?"

Girls: "We do!"

Leader: "What do you want?"

Girls: "We want to be Brownie Girl Scouts!"

Leader: Takes each girl in turn.

Girl: Says the Promise.

Leader: After hearing the promise, leader takes girl to the pool and turns her around and around saying,
"Twist me and turn me, and show me the elf.
I looked in the mirror and saw _____."

Girl: Myself (followed by name).

Leader: Pins on Brownie pin and World Trefoil pin, then welcomes girl into troop with the Girl Scout Handshake.

Girls then sing a song, such as "On My Honor", or "Make New Friends", or the "Brownie Smile Song".

Leader: "This now concludes our ceremony. Congratulations, Girl Scout Brownies!"

Brownie Court of Awards Play

Open with Flag Ceremony
Say Promise & Law

Act 1: What is Girl Scouting?

New Girl Scout - "What is Girl Scouting? What do you do?"

Each girl in troop answers with a one sentence explanation "we help others", "we earn badges", etc.

Last Girl - "It can be fun!"

New Girl Scout - "When can I start?"

All girls shout - "Today!"

Act 2: GS Cookie Sale

Stage set up Booth sale - half the girls are scouts, half are customers.

(Have girls write own script of lines of what a customer or scout would say at a booth sale – demonstrate sales manners and money math.

Act 3: Earning a Try It (Badge): Space Explorer

Each Girl in troop gives a one sentence description of their favorite activity they did to earn a (Try-it or Badge)

Act 4: Community Service

Have girls act out their favorite community service project they did

Act 5: Leaders give out Try-its (badges) to girls.

End with Make New Friends



Sample Brownie Fly-up

[Girl Scouts form two horseshoes facing each other, Juniors in one, Brownies in the other with the bridge separating them.]

BROWNIE LEADER:

- "Brownies, you are just about
- To become a Junior Scout.
- Next year you will find
- that Junior Scouts are true and kind.
- So now I give you Brownie Wings
- so you may fly to bigger things."

[She pins the wings on each Brownie. Brownies all take a few steps forward.]

[JUNIOR LEADER:

"Hello there. Who are you all dressed in brown with such cheerful smiles and not one frown?"

BROWNIES:

- "We are the Brownies and we like to have fun.
- Junior Scouts we'd like to become."

JUNIOR LEADER:

"By what right do you ask?"

BROWNIES:

"By the right of our wings." [Point to wings]

JUNIOR LEADER:

"We welcome you to Juniors. Please cross the bridge one at a time."

[As each girl crosses, she is met by the Junior Leader and a Junior Scout. She is given her Junior Pin and lead to the Junior horseshoe by the Junior Scout. After all the brownies are in the Junior horseshoe:]

JUNIOR SCOUTS:

- "Welcome to Girl Scout Juniors
- you're a Brownie nevermore.
- We'll have lots of fun and lots of games
- as we teach you Girl Scout lore.
- WELCOME BROWNIES!"

[All sing, "Make New Friends"]

Rededication and Investiture

Flowers

Welcome to our Investiture and Rededication ceremony. Today we are here to show our belief in the Girl Scout Promise and Law and to recognize the achievements of our girls.

Girls, please join me in reciting the Girl Scout Promise.

This candle that I light shall shine forth as a symbol that a Girl Scout is true to God and her Country.

The second candle shall shine forth as a symbol that a Girl Scouts' greatest desire is to serve.

The third candle shall shine forth as a symbol that a Girl Scout will try her best to live up to the Girl Scout Law.

Girls, please join me in reciting the Girl Scout Law.

Flowers have always played an important part in human life. From the earliest times they have been given as signs of love and respect and have been used in ceremonies of all types.

The flowers in this ceremony represent the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law.

1. I will do my best to be honest and fair,
This part of the law is represented by the white chrysanthemum. It shows truth, honor, trustworthiness, equality and fairness
2. I will do my best to be friendly and helpful,
The zinnia represents thoughtfulness about friends, while Baby's Breath represents generosity.
3. I will do my best to be considerate and caring,
Together, a red and a white Rose stand for a warm and caring heart.
4. I will do my best to be courageous and strong,
The garlic plant, grows anywhere and has a strong flavor. It represents courage and strength of character and body. The Indian paintbrush shows cheerfulness even in difficulty.
5. I will do my best to be responsible for what I say and do,
The gladiola symbolizes strength of character, maturity, and responsibility. Binding it with straw, we show that we honor our word and keep our agreements.
6. I will do my best to respect myself and others,
The white Rose and white zinnia show that we hold ourselves worthy and good. Winter Greens symbolize the harmony we try to keep between ourselves and others.
7. I will do my best to respect authority,
The daffodil represents careful thought, attention, and concern. With the daffodil, we are saying that we hold others in high regard.

8. I will do my best to use resources wisely,
The foxglove shows thriftiness.
9. I will do my best to make the world a better place,
The cattail represents the peace we are trying to bring to the world when we help others.
The Caladium shows the great joy and delight we take in the world around us.
10. I will do my best to be a sister to every Girl Scout.
With the striped carnation, we are saying that we think about those Girl Scouts and Guides who are not here with us. It helps indicate our love for our fellow Scouts and Guides.

Alternative flowers and their meanings:

honest and fair,

-this part of the law is represented by the white chrysanthemum, showing truth, and honor, and the ivy which represents a faithfulness to duties and keeping promises, and being reasonable in dealing with others. The color green is for new growth and being open to new ideas.

friendly and helpful,

-the daisy shows warmth and concern for friends.
-the Indian paintbrush shows cheerfulness even in difficulty.

considerate and caring,

-the carnation shows caring for others.
-the baby's breath shows generosity and thoughtfulness toward others.

courageous and strong, and*

-the climbing wild rose stands for perseverance and exploring possibilities. Where it is firmly established it continues to grow and adapt even to extreme conditions. Its thorns protect it fiercely while its blossoms show that strength can also be beautiful.

responsible for what I say and do,

-Our words and actions can be like the lily of the valley with each flower representing all the things we say and do. Each word and action says something of our character, and paints a picture of who we are. We must take care with all our words and deeds so that we can be the beautiful people that we wish to be.

and to respect myself and others,

-the church bell symbolizes moderation and represents thoughtfulness and kindness toward each other and ourselves.

respect authority,

-the forget-me-not shows careful thinking, attention, and faith in common values.

use resources wisely,

-the foxglove shows thriftiness.

make the world a better place, and*

-the sunflower shows a love of nature. It also can represent our place in the world. Its habit of turning toward the sun reminds us to "look on the bright side" and realize that our own attitudes go a long way toward making the world a better place for ourselves and the people

near us. With a sunny disposition, we will find ways to make the world a better place almost without effort, because it will be a joy.

be a sister to every Girl Scout

-the rose shows love for our sisters in Scouting and Guiding. Roses come in all colors and varieties of fragrances, and though they are all different, they are all beautiful, just like our sisters in Scouting and Guiding.

The sachet represents our rededication to the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Its sweet fragrance will remind us of our commitment to the principals of Girl Scouts.

Other flowers and their possible meanings...

Amaryllis-pride	Jasmine Yellow-elegance; White-amiabile
Anemone-forsaken	Lavender-distrust
Apple blossom-temptation	Lilac Purple-love begins; white-innocence
Aster-love	Lily-purity
Bachelor's button-celibacy	Lily of the valley -return of happiness
Begonia-warning	Lotus-admiration
Bluebell-loyalty	Magnolia-dignity
Camellia -loveliness	Marigold-grief
Carnation- red- aching heart; white- innocence; yellow-disdain; striped-refusal	Mistletoe-kiss me
Chrysanthemum red-love; white-truth; yellow-slighted love.	Narcissus-egotism
Clematis-intellect	Nasturtium-patriotism
Columbine-folly	Orange blossom-innocence
Cornflower-delicacy	Orchid-beautiful lady
Crocus-good cheer	Palm-triumph
Cyclamen-departure	Pansy-remembrance
Daffodil-chivalry	Peony-bashfulness
Daisy-innocence	Petunia-anger
Dandelion-faithful	Phlox-agreement
Forget me not-true love	Pine-hope
Forsythia-anticipation	Pineapple-welcome
Gardenia-secret love	Poppy Scarlet-extravagance; White-sleep
Gentian-injustice	Primrose-youth
Geranium Dark-melancholy; Pink- preference; Red- comforting	Rose Red-love; White-innocence; Yellow- infidelity;
Gladiolus-recovery	Snapdragon-indifference
Gloxinia-sudden love	Snowdrop-renewal
Hibiscus- grace	Sunflower-haughtiness
Holly-protection	Sweet William-forever a gentleman
Hollyhock-ambition	Tulip Red-declaration of love; Variegated- beautiful eyes; Yellow- hopeless love
Honeysuckle-sweetness	Violet-modesty
Hyacinth-sorrow	Wallflower-faithful
Hydrangea-my thanks	Water lily-pure heart
Iris-messenger	Weeping willow- deep mourning
Ivy-fidelity	Wisteria -friendship
	Zinnia-thinking of you

Simple Standard Flag Ceremony

You need one girl to carry the American Flag, one girl to carry the Girl Scout Flag (if you have it), one girl is your caller, two or more girls are the color guard. The color guard's job is to watch the flag in case it falls and catch it before it hits the ground.

Caller says - Color Guard, Attention

At this time the girls each pay attention to the caller

Caller says - Color Guard, Advance

Girls carrying the flags walk forward with the color guard behind them to the flag stands. American flag is always on the right and higher than the other flag(s)

Caller says - Color Guard, Post the Colors

Girls carrying flags put the flags into their stands

Caller says - Please Stand and Join us in the Pledge of Allegiance

Audience stands, puts right hand over their hearts, and says the Pledge of Allegiance with girls. Color guard and color bearer do not speak.

Color Guard faces the American Flag.

Caller says - Color Guard, Dismissed

After audience has sat down, the color guard returns to where they started and then to their seats.

Variation

Right before "Please stand and join us in the Pledge of Allegiance," have the caller say, "Color Guard, salute the Colors. Each girl then faces the flag, takes a step back on her right foot, and places her right hand over her heart for just a couple of seconds, then returns to attention.

This ceremony can be adjusted for use out of doors, when flags will be placed on pole instead of into holders.

Pledge of Allegiance

From entertainer, Red Skelton.

Red Skelton said, "I remember this one teacher. To me, he was the greatest teacher, a real sage of my time. He had such wisdom. We were all reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and he walked over and said:

"I've been listening to you boys and girls recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester and it seems to me as though it is becoming monotonous to you. If I may, may I recite it and try to explain to you the meaning of each word.

I -- Me, an individual, a committee of one.

PLEDGE --Dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self-pity.

ALLEGIANCE --My love and my devotion

TO THE FLAG --Our Standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there is respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody's job.

OF THE UNITED STATES – Individual communities that have united into 50 great states, 50 individual; communities with pride and dignity and purpose, all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common Purpose, and that's love for country.

OF AMERICA, AND TO THE REPUBLIC –A state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

FOR WHICH IT STANDS. ONE NATION UNDER GOD –Meaning so blessed by God

INDIVISIBLE --Incapable of being divided.

WITH LIBERTY --Which freedom and the right of power to live one's own life without Or fear of some sort of retaliation.

AND JUSTICE -- The principle or quality of dealing fairly with others.

FOR ALL -- Which means "It's as much your country as it is mine."

Ceremony For Retirement of Old Flag

This ceremony was written for a Canadian flag retirement and has been adapted here for your use. (See also: the ceremony in [Let's Celebrate! Girl Scout Ceremonies](#) which features cutting the flag up into its stripes and stars.) This is done outside with a campfire and the troop in a circle around the campfire.

Place the flags on the fire one at a time. (A suggestion: fold the flags so the fabric does not catch and fly back at the circle members)

As the flags are being placed on the fire the first reader says:

These flags once flew proudly,
They billowed and floated on their staffs through the air,
Free like all Americans.
They flew in bad weather as well as fair.

Second reader:

These flags stood on guard for our country,
They waved proudly for all to see,
Flew far and wide
Over mountains and vales and from sea to sea.

Third reader:

Their stars and stripes fluttered in the breeze
and we felt pride in our Country.

Fourth Reader:

Tonight we must say goodbye to these flags which so proudly flew,
Now that they are unfortunately unfit for display.
They are beyond mending and cleaning and
must be destroyed in one piece, by burning.
Their fabric can not be used for some other purpose.

Fifth Reader:

They are old, faded, worn and torn beyond restitution and they deserve and must receive respectful destruction. So they will never fall into vicious and thoughtless hands.

Then, while it is burning, sing The Star Spangled Banner.
Follow with Taps.
(Make sure that the fire is stirred so all the fabric burns.)

What Is A Girl Scouts' Own?

A Girl Scouts' Own is a special type of ceremony that expresses the spirit of Girl Scouting. It is called a Girl Scouts' Own because the girls and their leader plan it themselves. It is an opportunity for girls to express their thoughts and feelings. Planned and carried out by the girls with the help of their leaders, the Girl Scouts' Own is a ceremony, but it is not a "performance." If parents and public are part of the group, the program goes on just the same. The "audience" is expected to participate. It is NOT a religious ceremony and does not take the place of going to church, synagogue, or temple. It may be held on any day of the week, in troop meetings or at camp.

Baden-Powell, the founder of Boy Scouting, describes the Scouts' Own as "A voluntary uplifting of their hearts...in thanksgiving for the joys of life, and a desire to seek inspiration and strength for greater love and service for others."

A Girl Scouts' Own can be held at any time, indoors or outdoors. You may use it to open or close a meeting or special occasion. Girls usually like to pick a special spot to hold a Girl Scouts' Own—one that they really like or that is especially scenic. It is a Girl Scout custom to walk quietly to the place where the ceremony is held and leave quietly after it is over. A good way to do this is to designate a "silent arch" that girls enter and become quiet as they approach the ceremony. This might be a tree branch, special rock, doorway, path, etc. As girls leave, they remain quiet until they pass back through the arch.

A Girl Scouts' Own is usually planned around a theme. The Theme can be anything the girls want, but usually it is about important or inspirational ideas, such as the meaning of the Promise, friendship, the beauty of nature. Your troop might have a Girl Scouts' Own on a national holiday or one of Girl Scouting's special days. A small group usually plans a Girl Scouts' Own with the help of the leader. If you have a large troop, a patrol or small group of girls can be responsible for planning the ceremony.

These are some ways to express your theme:

- Songs for everyone to sing
- Shadow play scene
- Music played by one or two girls
- Poems or Quotations
- Words a troop member writes for the ceremony
- Choral reading
- Stories and legends
- Girl Scout Promise
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Thoughts about what the theme means to each Girl Scout

What Makes a Good Girl Scouts' Own?

First, it should have a central idea to give it unity. Sometimes Girl Scouts choose some aspect of the Promise or one or all parts of the Law as a theme. A special occasion, such as the Fourth of July, Thinking Day, or Mother's Day may provide the basic idea. In camp, the sun, the moon, or the countless aspects of nature lie around in dazzling profusion, waiting to be used in a Girl Scouts' Own. In the city, too, the wonders of nature are there to be observed, to be searched out and recognized by those who have eyes to see and ears to hear. A well-loved poem or legend may motivate the entire Girl Scouts' Own.

Next, the theme must take form. This does not imply elaborate preparation. It simply means careful planning by the girls themselves, with the aid of their leaders. They may decide to use one way, or a variety of ways to present the theme: dramatization, solo or choral singing, solo or choral reading, musical interludes, and background music. Participation by all is desirable but not mandatory.

An attitude of quietness will make a more meaningful experience for all involved. But, it is the spirit of an "uplifting of hearts" that really makes this ceremony a Girl Scouts' Own.

Girl Scouts' Own Ceremony "Trees"

Reader: Those of us who are here are fortunate to have come in contact with the organization which believes in taking care of our environment. Let's imagine that we are in a great forest. The clearing through which all Girl Scouts must enter is our ethical code. All who enter must make the Girl Scout Promise and Law. But, once inside, we find many trees along the paths, all of which lead to a way of life on which we can build a wholesome future. In Girl Scouting, we are able to help all girls take these trails.

Girl 1: Reads Joyce Kilmer's poem, "Trees."

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;
A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;
A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.
Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.



Girl 2: I am the Oak Tree—as sturdy and long-lived as I, so is a Girl Scouts’ honor.

Girl 3: I am the Holly Tree—constantly green and holding tight to my leaves as a Girl Scout is ever loyal.

Girl 4: I am a Birch Tree—with my bark and my wood, I am useful and help others as every Girl Scout does.

Girl 5: I am a Linden Tree—My heart shaped leaves are like the hearts of Girl Scouts who are friends to all and sisters to each other.

Girl 6: I am the Aspen Tree—My leaves softly whisper, “Courtesy is consideration and caring” as every Girl Scout knows.

Girl 7: I am the Elm Tree—sheltering the little folk of the woods in my gracious branches and roots, I am a friend to animals, and I use resources wisely so as to make the world a better place..

Girl 8: I am the Poplar Tree—tall and straight as a soldier who respects authority, as does every Girl Scout.

Girl 9: I am the Hickory Tree—tough of wood, I keep my nuts stored in strong, tight cases—reminding us that Girl Scouts are strong and courageous.

Girl 10: I am the Dogwood Tree—In spring, I stand clean and beautiful, as do Girl Scouts, who respect themselves and others and are responsible for what they say and do.

All: (The Conservation Pledge) I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country—its soil and minerals, its forests, waters, and wildlife.

At this point, a song such as “This Land is Your Land” may be sung.

Thinking Day Ceremony

Setting: One large candle preferably multi-colored. Six smaller candles on the table, preferably in six different colors. Each participant should have her own candle; mixed colors are best. Start with the large candle lit and light the six candles from the table off it as the following are read:

I light this candle in friendship for all of the people who are older or younger, taller or smaller, richer or poorer than I am.

I light this candle in friendship for all people who worship differently than I do.

I light this candle in friendship for all people of a different nationality or ethnic group than I am.

I light this candle in friendship for all people who are a color different from me.

I light this candle in friendship for all people who come from countries other than mine.

I light this candle in friendship for all people who don't run, walk, see, hear or learn the same as I do.

I light this candle for me, for I am unique and special.

(At this point we passed the light from person to person, with each saying the above line when they lit their candle--after everyone's candle is lit continue with the following parts)

Watch the flames closely please. Notice the light from each candle is the same, even though the outside of each candle is different. So, too, are all of us in the world.

We wear different clothes, speak different languages, follow different religions or beliefs, like different foods, sing different songs, and yet, we all belong to the same human race.

Inside we are all the same. We all wish to be recognized, we all wish to be called by name, we all wish for friends, we all wish for peace.

In the spirit of international understanding, we pledge ourselves to world friendship.

In the spirit of international understanding, we pledge ourselves to peacemaking.

In the spirit of international understanding, we pledge ourselves to accept the challenge to "look wider still."

Stars that shine together form a galaxy
Flowers that grow together create a garden
Buildings that stand together begin a city
People who work together make a difference.

This is what valuing differences is all about.

World Association Trefoil Pin Ceremony

You will need

World Trefoil pin for each girl; flannel board with detachable parts of the pin.

Procedure

Each girl is given a World Trefoil pin to hold in her left hand. Girls form a horseshoe with each girl having a partner. Parts of the pin are placed near the flannelboard. Two girls are involved in each section of the ceremony; one to read and one place a part of the pin on the flannelboard.

Sing: "Make New Friends" or another appropriate song.

Leader reads:

We are one with the Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in other parts of the world, and we wear a special pin as a symbol of our friendship and unity. The World Trefoil pin is always worn above each nation's Promise pin - to signify that the World Association is larger than individual members.

First girl reads:

The gold stands for the SUN which shines over us all.

Her partner places the yellow circle background on the flannelboard.

Second girl reads:

The blue symbolizes the SKY above us all throughout the world.

Her partner places the blue circle flannel on the yellow.

Third girl reads:

The gold trefoil is the symbol of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in all countries of the world. The three leaves stand for the THREE PARTS of the PROMISE.

Her partner places the three leaves on the board.



Fourth girl reads:

The star on the right stands for the GIRL SCOUT LAW.

Her partner places the right star on the board.



Fifth girl reads:

The star on the left stands for the PROMISE which all Girl Scouts and Girl Guides try to keep.

Her partner places the left star on the board.

Sixth girl reads:

The vane in the center is a COMPASS NEEDLE that guides us all.

Her partner places the vane in the appropriate place.



Seventh girl reads:

At the base of the trefoil is a FLAME of international friendship which burns in all our hearts.

Her partner places the flame on the board.



Leader reads:

Will partners now pin the World Trefoil pin on each other and then give the Girl Scout handshake.

Sing "The World Song" or Girl Scouts Together."