

## Service is the Heart of Girl Scouts Patch Program

SERVICE is sending "Care" packages overseas, but it is also sharing your lunch with your friend.

SERVICE is baking cakes for children at the orphanage, but it is also setting the table for your mother.

SERVICE is singing songs at a nursing home, but it is also writing a cheerful letter to a faraway relative.

SERVICE is helping pack Red Cross boxes, but it is also bandaging your little sister's skinned knee.

SERVICE is cleaning up a river, but it is also picking up your room.

Whether large or small, far or near, SERVICE is lending a helping hand!

-Myra Nagel

The Girl Scout program offers informal learning to girls at all times. The learning may be expressed in a variety of ways, one of which is service. This patch program has been designed to help girls experience a variety of learning activities as they participate in community service. Service should be continuous, not just once a year. Get in the service habit!

Remember that there is a difference between service and Take Action. Community service projects are a one-time event with a short-term impact. Take Action picks up where community service leaves off. Take Action is sustainable, has a measureable impact and the girls are benefiting from Take Action by learning new skills.

All the journeys have a Take Action component. Use this patch as a springboard of service to help your girls discover their interests, connect to the needs in your community and then take the service they have done to create a Take Action project. If you would like more information on the difference between community service and Take Action, you can view the Community Service vs Take Action projects' short and snappy training on our website at <http://www.girlscoutsgwm.org/ShortAndSnappies>.

Please remember as Girl Scouts we don't endorse any other organizations (like religious organizations, political parties, or community groups) but we can raise awareness (like encouraging people to vote) and provide needed community support. If there are any activities that involve girls earning money, they must earn funds as Girl Scouts following all the council guidelines.

### Patch Requirements

- ❖ **Daisy Girl Scouts** complete 4 projects (one for your community, one for your sponsor/owner of meeting place, and two other projects chosen from the list below).
- ❖ **Brownies** complete 5 projects (one for your community, one for your sponsor/owner of meeting place, and three other projects chosen from the list below).
- ❖ **Juniors and Older Girls** complete 6 projects (one for your community, one for your sponsor/owner of meeting place, and four other projects chosen from the list below).

### Service Projects may be done for your:

1. Council - Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains. Contact [customercare@girlscoutsgwm.org](mailto:customercare@girlscoutsgwm.org) before starting any council service project.
2. Local Girl Scout community
3. Sponsor or owner of meeting place\*
4. Community\*
5. Leaders
6. Troop

7. Parents/families

8. Your choice - such as youth organizations, religious groups, or another service for one of the above.

**Here are some ideas to help you along the way. Feel free to encourage girls to come up with their own service ideas based on the needs they see.**

### The Arts

- ❖ Dress a doll (or dolls), or make and donate toys for holiday distribution.
- ❖ Make and donate tray favors for a hospital/nursing home at least 3 times. Remember non-holiday occasions such as "spring," "smile day," "April Fool's Day," etc.
- ❖ Make and donate Christmas or other holiday ornaments/decorations to shut-ins, library, or other organizations.
- ❖ Make, set up and donate a monthly display in a public place (bank, children's room in library, Head Start program). Be responsible for changing it on time!
- ❖ Learn dances and put on a dance program for a nursing home, sponsor, senior citizens group, or your parents and friends.
- ❖ Plan and carry out your own activity. Please share what you did on your patch program evaluation form.

### Outdoors

- ❖ Make and place bird feeders in a community place, or give to shut-ins and then keep them filled at least all winter. Organize and carry out a games day or games relay event. Invite your families or another troop(s) to participate. Don't forget safety rules or fair play!
- ❖ Work with an existing agency to help carry out projects planned by them. Assist with a long event or two to three shorter activities.
- ❖ Adopt a stream. Trace its route on a map, if possible, or discover its route as thoroughly as possible. Keep a designated area free from litter/pollution as an ongoing project.
- ❖ Prepare a booklet of information about "what to see" along an established trail on camp property. Leave copies for others to use.
- ❖ Plan and carry out your own activity. Please share what you did on your patch program evaluation form.

### Science and Technology

- ❖ Distribute information/brochures for an established community service organization - for example, pamphlets for the League of Woman Voters, P.T.A., or the library.
- ❖ Make and carry out a plan to conserve energy in as many ways as possible in your meeting place. Chart your savings.
- ❖ Teach others to construct and fly kites. End activities with a party or contest.
- ❖ Plan and carry out a career fair for others or assist an established organization with career activities. Provide publicity from your troop or Girl Scout community on a regular basis to your local newspaper.

Plan and carry out your own activity. Please share what you did on your patch program evaluation form.

### People/Culture

- ❖ Following safety procedures go Halloween caroling with "Pumpkin Carols" or Christmas caroling. Make and distribute crossword-type puzzle books in nursing homes/hospitals.
- ❖ Organize a campaign to collect food for a food pantry.
- ❖ Plan and carry out a community improvement project such as collecting litter, planting and caring for flowers, raking leaves or trimming and clipping lawns.
- ❖ Plan and carry out a traditional party event for younger Girl Scouts or children of your sponsor. Try an Easter egg hunt, Valentine's Day party, or Juliette Low birthday party.
- ❖ Plan and serve refreshments for a Girl Scout community event/meeting. Plan and carry out a surprise party for your leaders.
- ❖ Help plan and take part in an event to show Girl Scouting to your community. Plan and carry out a flag ceremony for your sponsor.
- ❖ Plan and carry out your own activity. Please share what you did on your patch program evaluation form.

### Health/Fitness/Nutrition

- ❖ Make and donate toys or activity books (sections to teach how to snap, tie, lace, etc.).
- ❖ Babysit for children of leaders when the leaders attend training events or Service Unit meetings.
- ❖ Collect ethnic recipes for desserts or whole meals. Try some and invite your parents to a dessert party or dinner to sample your success with cooking projects.
- ❖ Make a coupon booklet with coupons to be redeemed by parents. Have each girl make coupons describing specific tasks that girls will do when the coupons are presented to them. Have the girls report results to the troop.
- ❖ Plan and carry out a project to make your school, playground or meeting place a safer place.
- ❖ Plan and carry out your own activity. Please share what you did on your patch program evaluation form.

## Service is the Heart of Girl Scouts Evaluation

\*Troop Age Level(s): **Daisy** **Brownie** **Junior** **Cadette** **Senior** **Ambassador**

\*Please write the number of girls per level

Troop Leader:

Street:	City:	State:	Zip Code:
Day Phone #:	Night Phone:	Cell:	

1. Which activities did your troop enjoy the most?
2. In what way(s) did the girls give service in relation to this patch?
3. Did you change or adapt any activities? In what way?
4. How did the Journey suggestions help you connect this to your age-level Journey?
5. Would you suggest any changes?
6. Comments:

**SERVICE IS THE HEART OF GIRL SCOUTS PATCH ORDER FORM**

Please return your Service is the Heart of Girl Scouts patch order form AND evaluation forms together!

Troop Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Night Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Troop Age Level(s): Daisy \_\_\_ Brownie \_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_ Cadette \_\_\_ Senior \_\_\_ Ambassador \_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ # of patches @ **\$2.00 each:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Shipping/handling: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**VISA and MasterCard are also accepted.**

Please charge my (circle one): **VISA** or **MasterCard**

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ CVC \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(A signature is required on all Credit Card orders)

\*For shipping and handling rates, please go to <https://www.girlscoutsgwm.org/en/our-council/shop.html>.

If you have any questions, please contact Customer Care at 603-627-4158 or 1-888-474-9686. You may also email Customer Care at [customercare@girlscoutsgwm.org](mailto:customercare@girlscoutsgwm.org).

Please mail this order form **AND** your evaluation to:

**The Mountain Top Shop  
Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains  
1 Commerce Drive  
Bedford, NH 03110**