





2024-2025 Girl Scout Cookie Program®

Troop Guidebook

Girl Scout Cookie™ entrepreneurs are forces of nature. They are bold, curious and bring a go-getter spirit to every challenge, no matter how big or small.

Whether Girl Scouts are planning their own cookie stand or making a splash on their Digital Cookie® pages, they are determined to achieve their goals, and have lots of fun doing it!



A Girl Scout's potential to succeed is limitless—especially if they're among the 6 in 10 girls* who have entrepreneurial mindsets. Research has shown that these girls:

- Want to change the world and are confident in their abilities to make their mark
- · Embrace challenges, take risks and see failing as an opportunity to learn and grow
- · Are curious and innovative self-starters
- Excel as team players who are open to new ideas and suggestions

We're willing to bet that you know Girl Scouts in your area—or a whole troop—who are ready to get started, so let's encourage them to embrace the possibilities!

Find council info, forms, training, activities & more online at $\underline{www.gssc.us/cookies}$

Questions? Email productsales@gssc.us or call (631) 543-6622



Important Dates

Cookie Program Begins	January 2	Service Unit Deliveries Begin	Week of Feb. 3
Cookie Palooza 2025	January 17	National Cookie Weekend	February 14-16
Online Girl Delivery Pauses	January 22	Wicked Booth Weekend	Feb. 28 - Mar. 2
Troop Initial Order Due	January 24	ACH Pull - Initial Sale	Week of Mar. 3
Catch Up Order Taking Begins	January 25	Booth Bingo Weekend	March 14-16
Online Girl Delivery Re-opens	January 27	Pandamazing Weekend	April 11-13
Cookie Cupboards Open	January 29	Online Girl Delivery Closes	April 15
Booth Sales Begin	January 31	Cookie Program Ends	April 22
Froze Your Cookies Off Weekend	Jan. 31 - Feb. 2	Allocate	April 29
Catch Up Orders can begin to be picked up at the cupboard	Week of Feb. 3	ACH Pull - Final Balance	Week of May 5
		Troops w/ rebates due to them	Week of May 12

Helpful Information



You've volunteered to serve as a Troop Cookie Manager, and this makes you an invaluable part of the Girl Scout Cookie Program[®]. Now that you've stepped up in support of girls, it's time to help them rise to the challenge of becoming Girl Scout Cookie[™] entrepreneurs.

This guide offers you resources, tools and tips to help girls reach their goals. From social graphics for promoting a virtual cookie booth to in-person booth signs, we have everything you need to inspire girls to climb with courage this season.

What's New

- ➤ Cookies will cost \$7.00 per box this season.
 - Due to the rising costs of goods and services nationwide, many councils across the country have made the difficult decision to increase the cost per Girl Scout Cookie package. Several other councils, including Nassau County and Heart of the Hudson are also raising their prices as well. Greater New York raised their prices last year.
- ➤ Troop proceeds have increased from \$.70 to \$1.10 per box with additional ways to earn more.
 - For example, if a troop participated in the Munchies & More program, they had the opportunity to earn an additional \$.05 per box.
 - Also, Cadette to Ambassador troops can still opt out of rewards and earn an additional \$.05 per box.
 - Service Units receive \$.075 cents a box.
- ➤ Troops will deposit all money due into their Troop bank account.
 - Council will pull the money due less the Troop Proceeds according to the dates on the first page. Be sure all funds are made available to pull so your Troop doesn't encounter any additional fees from your bank.
- > Troops will now be submitting their bank info through our ACH form (Volunteer Cookie Resources)
 - If the Troop filled a form out during the Munchies & More season, a new one is not needed unless banking for the Troop has changed since then.
 - Troop Cookie Managers will not be granted access into eBudde until we have a Troop Manager Agreement filled out along with a valid ACH form.
 - All monies collected from families and/or sales from Booth Sales need to be deposited into the
 Troop Bank Account. To figure out what is due, refer to the Sales Report tab in eBudde
 - Stand-a-Bouts will still be paid for online by the parent/caregiver and will not be entered into the site until payment is received.
- ➤ Girl delivery will remain open again the entire sale, however will be pausing for Initial Sale (1/22 1/27)

Troop Cookie Manager (TCM) Tips:

Take the training on **gsLearn**, read this guide, and check our

website/social media for up-to-date info.

- ➤ Communicate frequently with girls and families. Collect signed Parent/Caregiver Agreements for each participating Girl Scout.
- ▶ Download, save, and print eBudde reports.

Attend <u>Cookie Chats</u> with Kelly virtually via Zoom (Starts at 6:00 pm) and learn about specific topics.

Register online »

- ▶ All Things Initial Sale: January 21st
- ➤ Booths and Stand A Bouts: February 5th
- ▶ How to Allocate: March 13th
- ➤ Cookie Cleanup: April 10th







Troop Manager Checklist



New Troops

☐ GSSC policy requires each troop to have a bank account. If your troop leader has not already opened an account, help her to get an account set up. For assistance, please contact us at customercare@gssc.us.

All Troops

- ☐ Troop Cookie Managers must complete the online <u>gsLearn</u> training and the Troop Cookie Manager Agreement. This must be done annually.
- ☐ After training and signed agreement received,

 Troop Cookie Managers will be invited by

 Council to set-up your troop's management

 site through eBudde.littlebrownie.com. You'll

 receive a welcome email with a login link. Click
 the link and setup a new password.
 - We recommend creating a new email address to help you manage the Cookie Program. This helps emails from getting overlooked in your personal email account.
- ☐ All girls who wish to participate must be registered with GSUSA. Email customercare@gssc.us for help with Girl Scout membership.
- ☐ Meet with your Troop Leader to arrange a date, time & location for training your Girl Scouts & parents/caregivers.
- ☐ Find out first on Social Media: Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest info.
 - Check your email often throughout the program for important updates and critical date reminders from your Service Unit Cookie Manager and Council.

Cadette, Senior, & Ambassador Troops:

- ➤ Older girl troops have the option of opting out of recognitions & earning an additional \$0.05 per box. Select the opt out of rewards button in the Settings tab to let the system know your Girl Scouts would like the extra money.
 - Even if opted out, girls will still receive earned patches, Initial Sale rewards, and Cookie All-Star rewards if they reach those levels.

Getting Started with eBudde™



eBudde[™] is the engine that drives the business of Girl Scout Cookies and is the cookie volunteer's best friend. This cookie order management system links Troops, Service Units, Councils and Little Brownie Bakers, so communication and orders run smoothly.

Here's where you will order cookies, track inventory and more. Sign in once to Cookie Tech Portal to get access to the multiple systems. Log in at <u>eBudde.littlebrownie.com</u>

eBudde™

- ► Council will grant you access.
- ➤ You'll receive a welcome email with a login link.
- ▶ Click the link and setup a new password.

Set up your troop

- ► Click the "Settings" tab, then "Edit Settings."
- ► Enter your troop's package goal.
- ➤ Update the level of your troop if it's not accurate.
- ➤ Click "Opt out" only if your troop is Cadette or above and wants to receive additional proceeds in lieu of girl rewards. (All girls must agree)
- ► Email <u>productsales@gssc.us</u> if any girls are missing

Security Requirements

- ➤ Password email links are unique to you and have a time limit of 7 days.
- ► The password requirements are as follows:
- ➤ Must be 8 characters long
- ▶ Must have at least one capital letter
- ➤ Must have at least one non-alphabetic character



eBudde™ Mobile

Stay in the know, on the go! This musthave app puts power at your fingertips, wherever you are in the cookie season.

What it includes:

- ➤ Streamlined dashboard
- Easy management of orders and rewards
- ► Important messages and upcoming events
- ▶ Help Center









Inspire Girl Scouts to Market Their Cookie Businesses



eBudde™ Tabs

<u>Dashboard</u>: This is each troop's default screen. SU contact information and Girl Delivery orders are available to look at here. You'll also see important messages from your council/SU.

<u>Contacts</u>: From here, you can review contact info and click EDIT to make any changes.

Settings: You should update this annually:

- ➤ Identify correct program level. Click Edit to make any changes.
- ► Enter number of girls selling and their package goals
- ➤ Cadette troops and older can opt out of rewards here by clicking on the box.

<u>Girls</u>: Here you can see girls' names and grades. If anyone is missing or needs to be removed, contact <u>productsales@gssc.us</u>.

<u>Initial Order</u>: This is where you enter your troop's initial order by girl. Note: Once orders are submitted here they cannot be changed and are not returnable. Carefully review the totals before hitting SUBMIT ORDER.

<u>Girl Orders Tab</u>: Keep track of each girl's packages sold and payments made. This tab is where you allocate additional boxes to each girl from catch up orders and booth sales. Please see additional instructions on how to allocate.

<u>Transactions</u>: Enter pending Catch Up Cupboard order requests. Please see additional instructions on how to allocate. (Normal = C/u)

<u>Rewards</u>: Complete, review and submit rewards orders for your troop. Report available here to assist with distribution of the rewards.

<u>Sales Report</u>: This tab reviews all transactions for the troop, including:

- ➤ Final package numbers
- ➤ Cookies for a Cause donations
- ➤ Keep an eye on this summary tab throughout the sale to ensure the information is correct. This report will note the troop's contact information, PGA, selected incentive plan, all packages received, Cupboard visits, Payments made to Council, and any amounts still due to Council.

DO NOT USE Booth Sales Tab

Cookie Cupboards



All Cookie Cupboards Opens January 29. *They will be closed on February 17 & April 18-19.* (Last updated: 1/22/2025)

Main Office, Commack

(631) 543-6622 - Habla Español

442 Moreland Road, Commack, NY 11725

Monday: 10 AM - 2 PM
Tuesday: 1 PM - 5 PM
Wednesday: CLOSED

Thursday: 1 PM - 6 PMFriday: 10 AM - 2 PM

Saturday: 9 AM - 12 PM

• Sunday: CLOSED

Camp Edey, Bayport

(631) 472-1625

1500 Lakeview Avenue, Bayport, NY 11705

• Monday: CLOSED

• Tuesday: 10 AM - 1 PM

• Wednesday: 10 AM - 5 PM

• Thursday: 10 AM - 1 PM

• Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM

• Saturday: 9 AM - 12 PM

• Sunday: CLOSED

East End Office, Riverhead

(631) 369-9757

854 East Main Street, Riverhead, NY 11901

Monday: CLOSEDTuesday: 2 - 5 PM

• Wednesday: 10 AM - 12 PM

Thursday: 2 - 5 PMFriday: 10 AM - 12 PMSaturday: 9 AM - 12 PM

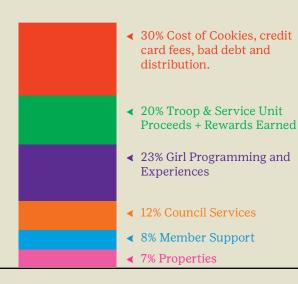
· Sunday: CLOSED

INITIAL ORDERS & CATCH UP ORDERS

<u>CANNOT BE RETURNED</u>. Troops are responsible for counting and verifying the total number of cases.

How the Cookie Crumbles

Girl Scout Cookie[™] fans are especially eager to support Girl Scouts when they have a clear picture of where the money goes. Help them see how proceeds stay local, powering amazing year-round experiences for girls, troops, and volunteers and preparing them for a lifetime of success.







Stand-A-Bouts & Booth Sales



January 31 - April 13, 2025: Booth Sales can be held outside of stores or other safe locations. Set your table up with our delicious products. Make signs showing your troop goals. Remind customers that Girl Scout Cookies make great hostess, bus driver, and teacher gifts! Wrap a few boxes together with colorful ribbon for display and watch the sales soar!

Important Steps:

- 1. Find a location in your area to have your booth sale. If you are having trouble locating one, call your SU for help. Great locations include banks, supermarkets, and houses of worship.
- 2. Confirm the date, time & location with your Service Unit Cookie Manager.
- 3. Reserve your Booth Sale product for pickup here and sign your booth etiquette agreement. Do Not use the Booth Sales Tab in eBudde! Council will add booth locations into the Cookie Finder.
- 4. Have fun! Sell, sell, sell!
- 5. Return any unsold product to the cupboard **no later than two (2) weeks following pick up**. Please DO NOT Tag/Mark the Cookie Boxes.
- 6. After the booth sale has been entered into the system (about 1 week), be sure to go back to eBudde and assign the product sold to all of the girls that attended that day.

Scan me to reserve your booth online.

Special Booth Weekends

Host a booth sale during these weekends and you'll earn the special patch(es).



Jan. 31-Feb. 2 Froze Your Cookies Off Weekend



February 14-16 National Cookie Weekend (While Supplies Last)



Feb. 28-Mar. 2 Wicked Weekend Decorate your booth, send photos, & you could win a prize.



March 14-16 Booth Bingo Weekend



April 11-13 Pandamazing Weekend

Email <u>productsales@gssc.us</u> learn more and enter raffle.

Host a Stand-A-Bout (SAB) in Front of Your Home!

For All Girl Scouts & Their Family—A great way to earn more rewards and rebates for Troop funds. Here's how to participate:

- 1. <u>Make an appointment online</u> to request product pick up from the cupboard and sign Stand-A-Bout etiquette agreement. You can hold products for 2 weeks.
- 2. Have Fun and Sell, Sell! Decorate your stand to catch the eye of your friends, family, & passersby.
- 3. Return any unsold product to the cupboard during operating hours no later than 2 weeks following pick-up. Must return to the cupboard location you picked up from.
- 4. Pay for your Stand-A-Bout online using the QR code on your cupboard paperwork. Parent/Caregiver is responsible for the payment, NOT the Troop.
- 5. Council Staff will assign/credit sold product to your Girl Scout for rewards and patches.



Inspire cookie entrepreneurs



Meet with Girls and Families! The Girl Scout Cookie Program is a team effort, and parents and caregivers play a major role. With the support, assistance, and encouragement of her family, there's no stopping a Girl Scout.

1. Hold a Cookie specific family meeting

- ► Hold a short family meeting so girls can tell their families about their goals and ask for assistance. At the meeting, adults can complete permission forms and sign up to help.
- ➤ Short on time? Make it a Virtual meeting. Host a Virtual Meeting and email.
- ➤ Parent/Caregiver Permission Forms to families online at www.gssc.us/cookie-volunteer

2. Share your troop's goal and how you'll get there together

- ➤ Open the conversation by outlining the goal or experience the girls are working toward. Talk about the decision-making process and share what the goal means to their girl.
- ➤ Outline the immediate and long-term benefits of the program: The 5 skills girls learn in the cookie program set them up for success in school, extracurriculars and beyond; helping parents and caregivers understand the big picture goes a long way in building the support you need. Explain how the cookie program gives girls an entrepreneurial edge.

3. Review Health and Safety Guidelines

- ► Review the available online materials to come up with your plans and share with families:
 - GSUSA Cookie Resources for Troop Leaders (See Safety Section)
 - GSSC Safety Guidelines
 - · Volunteer Essentials



Entrepreneurs can earn these official Girl Scouts recognitions by completing requirements that help them develop new business skills.

Learn more at girlscouts.org!



Families can support their Girl Scouts as they learn the five skills and think like entrepreneurs. With the encouragement of their family, there's no stopping a Girl Scout!

Inspire families to get involved by reviewing these resources:

- Cookie Program Family Meeting Guides
- Cookie Entrepreneur Family Pins



Participation Options

Get ready for your Girl Scouts to make (cookie) boss moves this year! No matter how they take part in the Girl Scout Cookie Program, they'll grow their people skills, learn to set goals, make smart decisions, and so much more. Talk with them about which options they're excited to explore this year! Participating in the cookie program powers Girl Scouts' adventures throughout the year as they learn key business skills to excel in future careers and in life. By participating in different sales methods, girls gain more skills, including goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics. Don't forget: adult supervision is required at all times. Troop proceeds are \$1.10 per box sold.

Type	Description	Delivery
Phone or Text Friends & Family	Is this your Girl Scout's first time running her own cookie business? Texting or phoning friends and family is a great way to help her feel comfortable connecting with cookie customers. And if your seasoned cookie boss's free time is limited—hello, school, sports, and extracurriculars!—this option has maximum flexibility.	Delivered by girls to customers Last Day: April 22
Online, Digital Cookie	Is your Girl Scout ready to take her digital marketing skills to the next level? With the Digital Cookie® platform, Girl Scouts can ship cookies straight to customers, accept orders for cookie donations, or have local customers schedule an in-person delivery. And she can reach her sales goals no matter what her schedule is like.	Shipped from vendor to customers January 2 - April 15
In-Person, Door-to-Door	They're the perfect way to hone her sales pitch! With door-to-door sales, Girl Scouts can stay local and sell in their neighborhoods—and use door hangers and business cards for customers who aren't home. They'll also grow their people skills by meeting new neighbors (with the necessary adult supervision, of course)	Delivered by girls to customers Last Day: April 22
In-Person, Booth Sale	This option has maximum customer interaction, teamwork, and all the fun! Troops or groups of Girl Scouts work together to market their cookies outside a pre-approved location (like a grocery store, bank, mall, or even a drive-through booth in a parking lot) where they can practice their business skills with new customers. Note: cookie booths must be coordinated by troop cookie managers and approved by SU cookie managers.	Purchased directly from girls by customers January 31 - April 13
In-Person, Stand- A-Bout	Would your Girl Scout feel more comfortable on her own turf? Cookie stands, similar to lemonade stands, are set up in front of a residence on private property, where she'll market her cookies to customers in her neighborhood. They're a great way to ease more introverted girls into connecting with their communities. This can be fun for the whole family!	Purchased directly from girls by customers January 31 - April 13
Connecting with The Community	The possibilities are endless! Girl Scouts team up with their parents/caregivers to sell cookies to their employees and coworkers, at places of worship, and at community groups. They could prepare a corporate pitch to sell cookies in bulk to car dealerships, real estate agents, or financial institutions. When these budding entrepreneurs secure a large sale, they get a taste of sweet success!	Delivered by girls to customers Last Day: April 22
Corporate Cookie Connections Program	This program is designed to help Girl Scouts build their skills in communication, organization, and responsibility as they learn about cookie partnerships and closing a deal! Girl Scouts will learn to identify business prospects and create strategies for engagement. They'll create a proposal to guide their pitch to prospective clients. Plus, they'll receive tools that can be used once a sponsorship is secured to thank their clients and create long-lasting partnerships.	Purchased directly from girls January 31 - April 13

Girl Scout Corporate Cookie Connections Program: *Build Your Entrepreneurial Spirit*





The Corporate Cookie Connections Patch Program is designed to help Girl Scouts build their skills in communication, organization, and responsibility as they learn about cookie partnerships and closing a deal! Girl Scouts will learn to identify business prospects and create strategies for engagement. They'll create a proposal to guide their pitch to prospective clients. Plus, they'll receive tools that can be used once a sponsorship is secured to thank their clients and create long-lasting partnerships.

Selling Girl Scout Cookies® is one of the most iconic activities Girl Scouts engage in. And the Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led entrepreneurial program in the world. Girl Scouts are finding more and more ways to build their business and think outside the box. The Corporate Cookie Connections Program helps our Cookie Bosses connect with Girl Scout Cookie™ fans everywhere!



Scan QR code or visit www.gssc.us/ccc to learn more and start building strong corporate cookie connections!

Questions? Contact us at productsales@gssc.us

Follow the four "P" steps:

- 1. Prospect
- 2. Proposal & Pitch
- 3. Procure
- 4. Partner

and use our flyers and certificates to bring your cookie sale to the next level and become a PRO!



Program at a Glance



December

- Take the Mandatory Training on gsLearn
- Attend your SU Cookie Manager Training and pick up your materials.
- Schedule your Family Meeting and hand out materials to girls.

February - March

- Product is Delivered to Service Units.
- Booth Sales & Stand-a-bouts begins.
- Catch-up Orders can be picked up at local cupboards starting February 2.
- · Week of March 3rd Initial Sale ACH Pull

January

- January 2 Cookie Season Begins! Encourage your girls to set up their Digital Cookie storefronts and send emails to friends & family.
- GSUSA kicks off their Cookie Program Marketing in early January.
- Cookie Palooza rally is January 17
- Initial Sale Ends on January 24. Make sure all Digital orders have been accepted in Digital Cookie.
- January 25, Catch-up Order season begins.

April - May

- Continue to have Catch-up Orders & Booth Sales.
- Cookie Program ends April 22.
- Allocate product to girls for Booth Sale transactions by April 29.
- Week of May 5th Final ACH Pull

Cookie Vocabulary



<u>Allocating</u> - Assigning the product to Girl Scouts from catch up orders and booth sales in the eBudde system.

<u>Find Cookies</u> - Visit <u>girlscoutcookies.org</u> & type in your zip code to locate a cookie booth near you.

<u>Cookie Booth</u> - A stationary sale of Girl Scout cookies at a public location.

<u>Cookie Cupboard</u> - Local sites where additional inventory is stored and where troops can pick up additional cookies located in Commack, Bayport & Riverhead.

<u>Cupboard Receipt</u> - This is a 3-part carbon copy receipt that must be signed any time a troop picks up additional cookies from a cupboard. Make sure you keep one copy of the receipt for your records. Troops are responsible for ALL additional cases of cookies taken from a cupboard during the sale. All payments must be made within 2 weeks from the pickup.

Digital Order Card (DOC) - Girls will be able to sell cookies online using the Digital Order Card. Create a custom website and send out a link to your site via email to potential customers. Customers can order cookies and have them shipped to them, girl delivered or choose to donate the cookies to our Operation:Cookie Program.

<u>eBudde™</u> - Bakery website used by Troop Cookie Managers to order cookies, track troop/girl sales, record troop finances, and calculate, order and submit rewards.

<u>Initial Cookie Sale</u> - Portion of the sale that takes place prior to January 25. There are special rewards given for this part of the sale.

<u>Cookies for a Cause</u> - In this council-wide project, customers can purchase virtual packages of cookies that GSSC will deliver to military personnel, Hometown Heroes, First Responders, Essential Workers and other local non-profits. The girls collect the money but do not physically take possession of the cookies.

<u>Service Unit Cookie Manager (SUCM)</u> - Volunteer mentor for troops and individual girl members in an assigned service unit.

<u>Stand-a-bout</u> - Having trouble locating a place to hold a booth sale. Host a stand-a-bout right out in front of your house just like a lemonade stand!

<u>Troop Cookie Manager (TCM)</u> - Volunteer manager responsible for monitoring the cookie sale for a single troop.

Troop Receipt Books - Each troop is given a pocket-sized receipt book to be used when collecting any form of payment from girls & their families. They may also be used at booth sales to keep track of money.

Resources at a glance





All resources can be found at girlscouts.org/cookieresources

About Girl Scout Cookies®

Troop Leader Resources

Cookie Business Badges

Cookie Entrepreneur Family Pin

Digital Cookie®



Found at LittleBrownie.com

Digital Marketing Basics
FAQs and Nutrition Information
Girl Scouts* Cookie Captains and Cookie Rookies
Social Media Tools and Graphics
Own Your Magic Resources
Resources for Girl Scouts to Grow Their Cookie Businesses
Cookie History

Girl Scouts' safety guidelines

One of the most essential steps you can take to have a magical season is to review all safety guidelines with troop members and their caregivers.

- Practical Tips for Parents
- Safety Tips for Product Sales
- Girl Scouts of Suffolk County's <u>Volunteer Essentials</u> and <u>Safety Guidelines</u>

For more information visit: girlscouts.org/cookieresources

Need Inspiration?

Find on Pinterest for quick, easy and exciting ways to make the Girl Scout
Cookie Program a success.

Follow on social for shareable cookie content!



