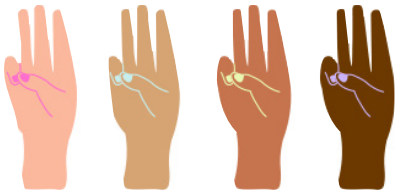


# Tradition Tips & Tricks

## Actions

*Learning to do things the Girl Scout Way!*



### Girl Scout Sign

The Girl Scout sign is made when you say the Girl Scout Promise. The sign is formed with the right hand, by using the thumb to hold down the little finger, leaving the three middle fingers extended to represent the three parts of the Promise.

### Girl Scout Handshake

The Girl Scout handshake is the way many Girl Guides and Girl Scouts greet each other. They shake their left hands while making the Girl Scout sign with their right hand.



### Quiet Sign

The Quiet Sign is a way to silence a crowd without shouting at anyone. The sign is made by holding up the right hand with all five fingers extended. It refers to the original Fifth Law of Girl Scouting: A Girl Scout is courteous.

### Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle is often formed at the end of meetings or campfires as a closing ceremony. Everyone gathers in a circle and each girl crosses her right arm over her left and holds hands with the person on each side. Once everyone is silent, the leaders start the friendship squeeze by squeezing the hand of the person next to her. One by one, each girl passes on the squeeze until it travels around the full circle.



**girlscouts**   
of montana  
and wyoming

“Ours is a circle of friendship united by ideals”

- Juliette Gordon Low

## Court of Awards

Court of Awards is a special ceremony recognizing girls' accomplishments. Girls are presented with their badges, year pins, and other recognitions earned during the year. Volunteers may also be recognized during the ceremony. The Court of Awards can be held anytime during the year, at any location, and as often as the troop wants.

## Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, and Gold Award Ceremony

*Highest Award Recognition!*

A Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award ceremony honors Girl Scouts who have earned these special awards and is usually held at the troop/group level or combined with council recognition.



GSMW holds a Highest Awards Ceremony annually where the council recognizes the hard work of these inspiring girls!

## Girl Scouts' Own Ceremony

A Scout's Own is a ceremony with a theme. It is called Scouts' Own because girls and their volunteers plan it themselves. It is not a religious service or ceremony and does not take the place of attending religious functions. It is an occasion in which girls express their deepest feelings about subjects that are meaningful to them. A Scouts' Own can be held at any time, indoors or out, at a troop meeting, inter-troop gathering, or at camp. It is difficult for Daisies and Brownies to plan a Scouts' Own. However, in being present at one, Brownies may begin to sense the deeper values of Scouting as they hear girls express their feelings, aspirations, or ideals.

## Flag Ceremony

A flag ceremony honors the American flag as the symbol of our country and all the hopes, dreams, and people it represents. If your group includes girls from other countries, invite them to honor their flags too, and together conduct an international flag ceremony. Flag ceremonies may take place indoors or out. The American flag is carried by a color guard for protection during a flag ceremony. All flag ceremonies share one thing - respect for the flag.



Flag ceremonies may be used for:

- Opening or closing meetings
- Opening or closing special events
- Beginning or closing a day
- Honoring a special occasion or special person
- Retiring a worn flag