<u>Direct Delivery Girl Scout Parent/Caregiver: Cookie Program 101</u>

Welcome! When you sell Girl Scout Cookies, you're doing more than helping your customers stock up on delicious treats (and having lots of fun). You have a goal in mind: to power life-changing programs, experiences, and learning for yourself and your troop all year long. Because no matter what obstacles pop up, we know that you'll face them with resiliency and creativity—it's the Girl Scout way. This interactive guide will be useful throughout the Cookie Program for tracking due dates and finding answers to frequently asked questions.

2026 Cookie Program Calendar

What's New on the Menu?

"How does the Cookie Program work?" Girl Scouts participate in the cookie program by selling door-to-door in the neighborhood, standing outside businesses interacting with customers and taking orders through the Digital Cookie storefront where Girl Scouts can share their site online. A Girl Scout of Historic Georgia Council Staff Member will act as your Troop Cookie Program Manager (TCPM).

Step 1: Complete the Parent Checklist! This checklist contains the steps required to participate in the Cookie Program.

- ✓ Register your girl for the current Girl Scout membership year. To verify, call Customer Care at 1-888-689-1912.
- ✓ Opt in to receive emails. Ensure that your correct email address is in your myGS account and verify that you opted in to receive emails to receive your Girl Scout's online site invitation.
- ✓ Submit the 2025-2026 Product Program Parent Permission Form Direct Delivery with your troop number, service unit name, and region before January 2, 2026. If you are unsure of any of this information, please contact your Council Staff Member.
 - o All Girl Scouts participating in the Cookie Program will pre-pay for cookies.
 - Submission of any product program forms does not require your participation in either program.
- Step 2: Watch the training videos! Head to www.gshg.org to access available training resources.
- Step 3: Mark your calendar! Be aware of all deadlines set during the Cookie Program.

Cookie Program - FAQs

"How do I set up my Girl Scout's Digital Cookie account?" Check your myGS account. The email listed under Primary Caregiver for your Girl Scout is the email attached to your Girl Scout's Digital Cookie storefront. If you would like this to be changed, contact your Regional Product Program Manager for assistance. Not sure who that is? Visit www.gshg.org. Watch: Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver Site Setup.

"Can I share my Girl Scout's Digital Cookie link online?" Yes! Social media announcements to market a Girl Scout's Cookie Program should only be made on personal, private accounts or in safe, closed groups in which the parent or girl knows all members. Girl Scout Cookies or Digital Cookie links should never be posted on online retail sites like public yard sale groups, Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist, or eBay. Always review your Social Media Guidelines before posting! Watch: Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver Marketing to Customers

"Is my troop participating in Girl Scout Cookie Booths?" Ask your Troop Cookie Program Manager! On January 10, your TCPM has the option to participate in the Initial Round of cookie booth selections.

"When will my Initial Order cookie arrive after I order them in early January?" Your Initial Cookie Order will arrive between January 30 – February 4 to your local Girl Scout office. Your Troop Cookie Program Manager will then arrange a time to pick up your troop's cookies. Make sure you know exactly what cookies are to be picked up and always sign a receipt.

"What if I received additional orders after I submitted my Initial Order back in January?" Starting February 8, your Troop Cookie Program Manager can begin placing reorders to our Cookie Cupboards for additional cookies. Complete the <u>Girl Scout Cookie Order Form – Direct Delivery</u> to place a reorder. Orders must be placed before Sunday at midnight from February 8 to March 1 for pickup on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at your local Girl Scout office.

"Can I do a booth sale just me and my girl?" Yes! Lemonade Stands are cookie booths that you host in your driveway or neighborhood. Do you live at the end of a busy cul-de-sac or have a close-knit neighborhood? Hosting a Lemonade Stand on your private property does not require council approval and can be set up at any time. Mommy & Me sales are located at council-approved booth locations. Talk with your Troop Cookie Program Manager about cookie booth locations near you. Watch: Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver Mobile App Booths

"What if I do not have the funds to complete half of my Initial Order?" Contact your Troop Cookie Program Manager immediately. Your TCPM can request a decrease in the Initial ACH Draft allowing you more time to collect funds.

"When should I tell my troop cookie program manager about my digital cookie orders?" Always check with your TCPM on cookie inventory before approving an online digital order. Watch: Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver Approving Orders

"When will my rewards arrive?" Rewards begin arriving to your local Girl Scout office beginning in April. Your TCPM will communicate pickup times once all items have been accounted for.

"What is the Extreme Team Level?" The Extreme Team Level is for our super seller Girl Scouts that have sold over 1,200 packages of cookies during the 2026 Cookie Program. This reward lineup is non-cumulative meaning that girls will choose one item from the reward levels they have reached. Girl Scouts that have sold 1,501 packages of cookies, can choose one item from the 1,200+ and 1,500+ level. A Girl Scout that reaches the 5,000+ achievement level may choose two Extreme Team Rewards. Thee items must be from different levels.

Cookie Program - Deadlines

January 2 - Cookie Program starts and your Girl Scout can begin taking orders! Use your paper order card to collect orders from friends and family or use your Digital Cookie link. On January 2, you will receive an email invitation to set up your Girl Scout's digital storefront. Don't forget to look at your <u>Social Media Guidelines</u> to ensure you are following safe and effective social media guidelines. Refusal to adhere to these guidelines will result in your Girl Scout's digital site to be shut down for the remainder of the 2026 Cookie Program.

Watch these videos to help you navigate your digital storefront!

How to Make a Digital Cookie Video (2024)

<u>Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver</u> MyCookies Delivery Settings (LBB)

<u>Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver</u> <u>My Cookies Inventory Varieties (LBB)</u> <u>Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver</u> <u>My Cookies Inventory Category</u>

<u>Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver</u> <u>My Cookies Financials (LBB)</u>

<u>Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver</u> <u>Mobile App</u>

January 2 – January 13 - the Initial Order taking period of the cookie program. After January 13, all orders will count towards Final Rewards. On January 13, you should enter all paper card orders into Digital Cookie. Orders placed through the digital site by your customers have already been submitted and you will not need to enter those orders twice. Your Girl Scout paper card orders are due by 11:59 p.m. on January 13 in Digital Cookie. Watch: <u>Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver My Cookies Initial Order (LBB)</u>

February 6 – Cookie Booth time! Make sure you review the Cookie Booth Program Etiquette and Cookie Booth Program Guidelines with your Troop Cookie Program Manager before your first cookie booth. Failure to adhere to these rules will result in your troop losing the opportunity to participate in the cookie booth portion of the program.

Cookie Booth Program Guidelines for Girl Scouts

- Water bottle
- Uniform a Girl Scout is in uniform
 if: she is wearing her sash or vest,
 and/or wears her insignia tab and
 pins.
- Be prepared with the appropriate outerwear. Girl Scouts host cookie booths in all kinds of weather.
- Make sure your Girl Scout knows her Cookie Business!

February 17 – First half of your Initial Order is due to your Troop Cookie Program Manager. Double-check with your TCPM that you have paid for at least half of all the cookies you have received from your Initial Order. Your Troop Cookie Program Manager may request this money earlier than this due date. February 20 – 22 - National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend! Girl Scouts are encouraged to go to local organizations and talk about the 5 skills they learn by participating

in the Girl Scout Cookie Program and earn the National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend patch. National Girl Scout Cookie patches can be purchased at your local GSHG Shop throughout the cookie program! Visit www.gshg.org to place your order.

March 8 – Girl Scout Cookie Program Ends! After this date, your Digital Cookie site will be locked for customers, and your share link will be deactivated. If you receive any additional orders, make sure you check with your Troop Cookie Program Manager before you approve the customer's order. All money you receive should be deposited to your TCPM.

March 9 - Make your reward selection in Digital Cookie! Watch: <u>Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver My Rewards</u> If your Girl Scout is a Super Seller and sold over 1,200+ packages, they qualify for the Extreme Team Level! Complete the <u>2025-2026 Cookie Program Extreme Team Rewards</u> before March 10, 2025.

Congratulations! You just successfully completed the 2026 GSHG Girl Scout Cookie Program.

Now that the Product Program Season is over, share your feedback via the <u>Product Program End Survey</u>.

Do your Girl Scouts have ideas for next year's reward lineup? Join our Girl Advisory Team using the <u>Girl Advisory Sign Up Form</u>.