

## Girl Scout Parent/Caregiver: Cookie Program 101

**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 GSHG Girl Scout 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 Girl Scout Cookie Program work?"* Girl Scouts participate in the cookie program by going door-to-door in the neighborhood, standing outside businesses and interacting with customers and by using the Digital Cookie storefront where girls can share their site online.

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**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 invite.
- ✓ **Complete the [2026 Parent Debt Procedure](#)** before December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
  - Completion of this form allows Girl Scouts to receive packages/cases without pre-paying for cookies.
- ✓ **Submit the [2025-2026 Product Program Parent Permission Form](#)** with your troop number, service unit name, and region before December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025. If you are unsure of any of this information, please contact your troop leader.
  - 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](http://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](http://www.gshg.org). Watch: [Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver Initial Login](#) and [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 Service Unit Product Program Manager. Your Troop Cookie Program Manager will then have to plan a date to pick up your troop’s cookies. Make sure you know exactly what cookies are to pick up and always sign a receipt. Ask your TCPM how you can help!

*“What if I received additional orders after I submitted my Initial Order back in January?”* Starting February 8, your TCPM can place a reorder to our Cookie Cupboards for additional cookies. Make sure you reach out to your TCPM before that date, so your troop volunteers have time to calculate the reorder and pick-up cases.

*“Can I do a booth sale just me and my girl?”* Yes! You must submit the Parent Debt Procedure and send a copy to your Troop Cookie Program Manager to have your own “Cookie Inventory”. Lemonade Stands are cookie booths that are hosted in your own 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 held at any time. Mommy & Me sales are located at council-approved booth locations. Talk with your TCPM about booth locations near you. Your Service Unit Product Program Manager has final approval for Mommy & Me sales. 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 is able to 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 about cookie inventory before approving an online digital order. Some TCPM allow Girl Scouts and parents/caregivers to have their own cookie inventory. Talk with your TCPM if this is something you want to do and complete the [2026 Parent Debt Procedure](#). Watch: [Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver Approving Orders](#)

*“When will my rewards arrive?”* Rewards begin arriving to your SUPPM in April. Your Service Unit volunteers must then check that they have received everything before organizing and distributing rewards to the troops in your service unit. Ask your troop leader if you have any fun plans to celebrate cookie season!

*“What is the Extreme Team Level?”* The Extreme Team Reward 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. These rewards 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 [Social Media Guidelines](#) 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 being 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 \(2024\)](#)

[Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver My Cookies Inventory Category](#)

[Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver MyCookies Delivery Settings \(LBB\)](#)

[Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver My Cookies Financials \(LBB\)](#)

[Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver My Cookies Inventory Varieties \(LBB\)](#)

[Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver Mobile App](#)

**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 order card sales onto Digital Cookie. Orders placed through the digital site by your customers are already entered and you will not need to enter those orders twice. Your Girl Scout paper order card sales and Initial Reward selection is due by 11:59 p.m. on January 13 in Digital Cookie. Watch: [Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver My Cookies Initial Order \(LBB\)](#)

**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 Scouts know their Cookie Business!

**February 17** – First half of your Initial Order is due to your Troop Cookie Program Manager. Double-check with your Troop Cookie Program Manager that you have paid for at least half of all the cookies you have picked up 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 visit 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](http://www.gshg.org) to place your order.

**March 8** - 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 order. All money you receive should be given to your TCPM and a record of all cookies left over in your inventory should be noted on a receipt. Your Troop Cookie Program Manager is able to request a decrease in the Final ACH if you are left with excess cookie inventory.

**March 9** - Make your reward selection in Digital Cookie! Watch: [Digital Cookie 2025 Girl Scout & Caregiver My Rewards](#) If your Girl Scout is a Super Seller and sold over 1,200+ packages, they qualify for the Extreme Team Level! Complete the [2025-2026 Cookie Program Extreme Team Rewards](#) 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 [Product Program End Survey](#).

Does your Girl Scout have ideas for next year's reward lineup? Join our Girl Advisory Team using the [Girl Advisory Sign Up Form](#)

