

Guide to Creating a Troop Agreement

Creating a troop agreement is a great way to establish clear expectations for your girls and to facilitate discussion about supporting appropriate conduct and behavior during Girl Scout activities. A troop agreement can be created each year, and is a great way to incorporate new members, and allow for growth and development. Complete the following steps with your troop to guide girls through the creation of your own troop agreement:

Step 1- What is a troop agreement?

- Share with the girls that a troop agreement is a document, created together by the troop, with guidelines for behavior that every troop member agrees to follow.
- Share that a troop agreement helps to make sure everyone can feel safe and have fun at Girl Scouts.

Step 2- Review the Girl Scout Promise & Law

- Review the Girl Scout Promise & Law with the girls
- Ask the girls what words or phrases stand out to them, or that they like. How does it feel to be friendly? Helpful? Etc. How does it feel when someone is friendly or helpful to you?

Step 3- Brainstorm topics to be included in the troop agreement

- Ask the girls to give examples on how they should behave at troop meetings.
- Share the golden rule "Treat others as you would like to be treated". Ask the girls what they think that means. How should you treat others at troop meetings?
- Brainstorm ideas for your troop agreement. Topics could be related to materials, how to treat others, cell phone use, arriving/leaving, confidential communication, etc. Make sure each girl has a chance to share.
- As a troop, choose at least five items to be included on your final troop agreement. These can be words, short ideas, or detailed sentences depending on your troop. Some examples include:
 - Live by the Girl Scout Law
 - What happens at Girl Scouts, stays at Girl Scouts
 - Be a friend, not a bully
 - Finances are everyone's business
 - Tag-a-longs are never guaranteed attendance
 - Treat adults and guests with respect
 - Leave the space cleaner than you found it
 - Be a good listener; don't interrupt
 - Work as a TEAM
 - Girl-Led includes ideas, goals, planning...

Step 4- Brainstorm consequences for not following the troop agreement

- Brainstorm with the girls what they think the consequences should be, should someone not follow the agreed upon rules of the troop agreement.
- Make sure to reel the girls in, if necessary. Consequences should be stern without being too punitive.
- Examples of consequences might include:
 - Asked to review the Promise & Law
 - Asked to sit out of an activity
 - Asked to be picked up from a meeting
 - Request the Parent/Caregiver's assistance

Step 5- Sign the troop agreement

- Once you and the girls come to a consensus on the items for your troop agreement, type it up.
- Have the girl and her parent/caregiver sign it, acknowledging they understand what is expected throughout the Girl Scout year.
- Once signed, collect for your records. Make sure the girl and her parent/caregiver have a copy as well.

Step 6- *Optional* Create and Sign a troop agreement poster

- Use poster board, pencils, and markers to create a poster of your troop agreement. Girls can work as a group or take turns writing each item and decorating their poster. Have each girl sign the poster just like she signed her individual troop agreement.
- Display the poster at each troop meeting, to remind girls of the agreement they created together.

Sample Girl Scout Troop Agreement

Troop _____



The Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God* and my country, To
help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

* Members may substitute for the
word God in accordance with their
own spiritual beliefs.

The Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be
honest and fair, friendly
and helpful, considerate
and caring,
courageous and strong, and
responsible for what I say and do and to
respect others, respect authority, and
myself
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place, and be a
sister to every Girl Scout.

I understand my attitude and behavior are important to my success with as a Girl Scout. I also understand as a member of the Girl Scout community, it is my responsibility to do my best to adhere to the Girl Scout Promise and Law, and to abide by the following rules, decided upon by my troop:

I will:

- Work cooperatively
- Keep what happens at Girl Scouts private
- Be a friend, not a bully
- Treat adults and guests with respect
- Leave the space cleaner than you found it
- Be a good listener; don't interrupt

If I do not abide by these rules and the Girl Scout Promise and Law, troop leadership may:

- Ask me to review the Promise & Law
- Ask me to sit out of an activity
- Ask for me to be picked up from a meeting
- Request my Parent/Caregiver's assistance to resolve the issue



I have read, understand, and agree with the above responsibilities, decided upon by my troop.

(Girl Name)

(Girl Signature)

(Date)

I have read, understand, and agree with the above responsibilities of my daughter.

(Parent/Caregiver Name)

(Parent/Caregiver Signature)

(Date)