

Safety Activity Checkpoints (SACs)



Cookie and Product Programs

ACTIVITY	DAISY	BROWNIE	JUNIOR	CADETTE	SENIOR	AMBASSADOR	Is Prior Council Approval Required?	Is Activity Training, Certification, or Verified Experience Required?
Cookie and Product Programs	D	B	J	C	S	A	No	No

Sharpen your business skills—goal-setting, decision-making, money management, people skills, and business ethics—as a part of the world’s largest girl-led entrepreneurial program.

General Checkpoints

Refer to the [Safety Standards](#) for general standards about supervision, transportation, first aid, and emergency plans, as well as inclusion and accessibility considerations.

Activity-Specific Checkpoints for Cookie and Product Programs

Follow these basic reminders for each phase of planning. Check off items as you complete them, making sure to consider each sub-bullet.

These general guidelines apply to the Girl Scout Cookie Program and Fall Product Program. Your council will provide specific training and resources, including information about other money-earning activities

Learn More

- Get cookie history, resources, and inspo at [GSUSA](#).
- Cookie Seller [Resources](#)
- Volunteer Cookie [Resources](#)

Decision-Making Phase

- ☐ **Consider readiness.** Discuss with the group the different options for engaging customers. Online, door-to-door, and booths are all ways Girl Scouts can run their cookie business. Choose the option(s) that work best for your group based on their readiness, time commitments, and skill progression.
- ☐ **Daisy Girl Scouts.**
 - Help Daisies focus on engaging with their circle of family, friends and neighbors—only people they know—during product programs.
 - Daisies may need to start with fewer, shorter booths, rotating workers throughout a shift.
 - Role-play scenarios with Daisies and set safety and behavior expectations at a meeting prior to the booth.

Planning and Preparation Phase

- ☐ **Arrange for adult supervision.**
 - Adults must accompany Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors when they are marketing, taking orders, and delivering products.
 - Adults oversee Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors, must be aware of how, when, and where they are conducting their business, and must be readily accessible. Girl Scouts should never market or deliver products alone. Instead, they should bring either an adult or a buddy along.
 - Parents, guardians, or caregivers must approve all member-delivered online orders and supervise all communications and deliveries.
 - Follow your council’s instructions for volunteer training and background checks.

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- **Teach Girl Scouts safety skills.** Discuss and role-play so Girl Scouts:
 - Don't share personal information like last name, address, phone, email address, or school.
 - Don't interact online or through social media platforms with people you don't know.
 - Always use the secure sales link from product program vendors, not personal platforms.
 - Keep a first aid kit handy at booths and during "walkabouts."
 - Have immediate phone access to an adult—and to 911—for Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors.
 - Know what to do when someone says or does something that makes Girl Scouts uncomfortable.
- **Set up online marketing.** Girl Scouts may use the internet to share their Cookie or Product Program order links, stories, and learnings with these guidelines:
 - Follow GSUSA and your local council's policies.
 - Partner with their family to review [Digital Marketing Tips for Cookie Entrepreneurs and Families](#).
 - Review and adhere to the Girl Scout [Internet Safety Pledge](#) and the [Digital Technology SAC](#).
 - Follow the [Digital Cookie Safety Pledge](#) when using that platform.
 - Avoid using personal email or street addresses. Instead, use one of the following:
 - An anonymous return address hosted on a secure site. Product program vendors provide such addresses, where personal info is not revealed to customers.
 - A group email account monitored by an adult.
 - An adult's email account.
- Sales links should never be posted to online resale sites (eBay, Facebook Marketplace, Facebook Swap). Be aware. Posts on Facebook containing the use of a dollar sign (\$) may automatically move the post to Facebook Marketplace. To prevent this, the posting party must disable the automated function.
- All web pages and postings should be approved by a parent/caregiver.
- Be aware of social media and website legal guidelines.
 - **Youth under 13:**
 - Parents/caregivers should post on behalf of children under 13.
 - Parents/caregivers must personally upload any photos or videos to their under-13 child's social media accounts.
 - **Youth 13 and older:**
 - May use social networking sites to market products, including posting images.
- **Door-to-door sales.** Share reminders for group members going door to door:
 - Identify yourself. Wear a membership pin, uniform, or Girl Scout clothing to signify you're a Girl Scout.
 - Stick to familiar areas. Avoid alleys.
 - Go during daylight, unless accompanied by an adult.
 - Walk safely. Use crosswalks and signal lights when available. Be careful of backing cars when crossing driveways.
 - Never enter someone's home or vehicle.
 - Do not carry large amounts of money. Have a plan for safeguarding cash.

Specific Situations

Keep these considerations in mind for the following specific cookie sale situations.

Connecting with Customers

- **Connecting with customers virtually.**
 - With caregiver supervision, Girl Scouts may call, text, and send email messages to alert friends and family about product programs. Girl Scouts may accept customer commitments sent via email, text, or phone.

Cookie Booth Participation

- **Adult supervision is required for all cookie booths.**
 - All booths where any Girl Scout is not accompanied by their own parent/caregiver requires two unrelated, registered, background-checked Girl Scout volunteers.
 - Cookie booths that have all members only under the direct supervision of the their own parent/caregiver must be approved by the service unit product program manager or council staff. **Parent/Caregivers must be registered, background-checked Girl Scout volunteers.**
 - Best practice is to have two adult volunteers present in case of accidents or necessary breaks to ensure there are always safeguards in place for cash and products.

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Types of Booths

Below are examples of the types of cookie booths that a Girl Scout may use in marketing cookies. For ALL types of booths:

- Adults must always oversee Girl Scouts' interactions with customers.
- Always follow your council's policies for booth approval and sign-up.
- Locations that Girl Scouts are not legally allowed to patronize are not appropriate for booths.
- Locations must be secured through the council's sign-up system (via the baker software) or by the Service Unit Volunteer Booth Managers with business permission.
- Check council guidelines for out-of-council or out-of-area booths that require special permission.

Cookie Stand

- A small, lemonade-stand-style booth run by one or more Girl Scouts from the same household, supervised by their parent/caregiver(s). For safety, two adults are recommended.
- Check council guidelines to determine where stands are allowed (such as your own property, or with council permission, a locally owned business).

Drive-Thru

- Set up in a parking lot or open area where customers stay in their vehicles.
- Create a safe lane and keep Girl Scouts away from traffic.
- Always obtain permission from the property owner before setting up.
- Typically run by a larger group of Girl Scouts with appropriate adult supervision.

Standard Cookie Booth

- Locations must be secured through the council's sign-up system (via the baker software) or by the Service Unit Volunteer Booth Managers with business permission.
- Set up at the entrance or exit of a business or retailer.
- Operated by two to four girls with appropriate adult supervision as required by your council.
- Before scheduling, check council guidelines to determine where booths are allowed.

Safety Tips for All Booth Types

- Make sure Girl Scouts wear their uniforms, other Girl Scout-branded clothing, or their membership pin to clearly identify themselves as Girl Scouts.
- Follow all council safety guidelines.
- Watch for traffic while unloading supplies.
- Ensure there's enough space for the booth, products, and Girl Scouts while keeping pedestrian pathways clear.
- Keep a safe distance from cars and bicycles.
- Never block store entrances or exits.
- Let Girl Scouts handle making change, but supervising adults should safeguard the cash.
- Keep cash out of sight; use a front-facing zippered pouch if possible.
- Deposit cash frequently as required by your council to reduce the risk of theft.