

Color Guard Council Patch Program



Through this patch, Girl Scouts are trained in leading color guards! Complete this patch to join the council's list for Color Guards. Your troop can represent Girl Scouts throughout Utah by leading flag ceremonies and presentations of the colors.

GSU will send opportunities to represent Girl Scouts and our council throughout the year to troops who complete this patch program or a GSU Color Guard training. For this reason, all age levels must complete all requirements with an asterisk* and any additional requirements they would like to learn more about. Color Guard resources are available in Forms & Documents on our website.

**If the requirement is starred (*) then it is a mandatory activity for all age levels.*

Discover:

- A. Learn about the American flag. What do the stripes stand for? What about the stars?*
- B. Learn what order the flags (U.S.A., State, and Girl Scout) go in when setting up a flag ceremony and why they go in that order.*
- C. Research Daughters of the American Revolution or other similar groups. Learn what they stand for and what they do.
- D. Learn how to properly retire a flag. If you can, attend a flag retirement ceremony in the community, such as with the American Legion.*
- E. Learn what it means to be the "caller" in a flag ceremony. What are the commands you will speak?*
- F. Learn what it means to be the "color guard" in a flag ceremony. What actions will you perform?*
- G. Learn what it means to be the "flag bearer" in a flag ceremony. What are your responsibilities?*

Learn about flag ceremonies from fellow Girl Scouts

- [What Girl Scouts should know about flag ceremonies](#) (YouTube, Nassau County)
- [Flag Ceremony Training](#) (YouTube, Central California South Troop 105)



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Connect:

- A. Watch a Color Guard ceremony (see videos above). What did you find interesting? What role are you most interested in? *
- B. Practice being part of a Color Guard ceremony by setting up a Color Guard Training with GSU. Email info@gsutah.org to set up a training for your troop.
- C. Hold practice ceremonies with your troop or service unit. Try being the caller, flag bearer, and color guard. *
- D. Learn about other possible roles in a flag ceremony, like the silent bridge.
- E. Learn about your state's flag. What is its symbolism, meaning, and traditions?
- F. Learn how to properly fold and unfold a flag and practice doing so. *

Take Action:

- A. Think of three different places you could lead a Color Guard ceremony. After completing the patch, ask a troop leader or caregiver if you can participate in one.*
- B. Teach a friend or family member about Color Guard ceremonies. Tell them everything you've learned—the traditions, the different roles in a ceremony, what the flag symbolize, and anything else you'd like to share.*
- C. Participate in leading a Color Guard ceremony with your fellow Girl Scouts, friends, or family, such as at a troop or service unit meeting.*
- D. Research 10 different countries flags and find the following: what the symbolism of the flag is, the history of the flag, and one interesting fact about each of them. Share what you've learned with your fellow Girl Scouts, friends, or family.

Finished all your requirements for the Color Guard patch? Send the following information to programs@gsutah.org to be added to our color guard roster:

- Troop leader and co-leader names and their emails
- One contact phone number
- Number of Girl Scouts in the troop
- Levels of Girl Scouts in the troop (Brownies, Multilevel K-5, etc.)
- Location of your troop and where you are willing to travel