

Cookie Booth Essentials

How to Maximize Your Booth Experience, Interact with Customers, and Stay Safe



Cookie booths are a great place for Girl Scouts to leverage and grow their entrepreneurial skills. This opportunity comes with some important responsibilities.



Use this flyer for helpful tips on how to talk to customers about the cookie program and how to navigate difficult situations that may come up.

Booth Requirements



Remember to follow all guidelines that your council sets, like approved and designated booth locations, as well as requirements for setting up, running, and taking down a booth.

- All booth sales must take place in a designated, council-approved area.
- Check with your troop cookie volunteer to determine who is authorized to approach locations to request permission to hold a booth and how to sign up for expanded cookie booths opportunities if offered by your council.
- Girl Scouts should not sell in or in front of establishments that they themselves cannot legally patronize.
- Girl Scouts must be present at cookie booths; follow your council's guidance for minimum/maximum attendees.
- Have a minimum of two adults (at least one of whom is a registered Girl Scout volunteer with the required background check) present at all times.
- Always have a first-aid kit and caregiver contact information available at the booth.
- Only Girl Scout Cookies may be sold at booths.
- Girl Scouts may not engage in any direct solicitation for money; however, Girl Scouts may promote their cookie donation program at cookie booth locations.

Preparing for Cookie Booths

- Determine if your Girl Scout is ready to booth. Consider things like the length of time for the booth shift, if they will be okay standing in the same area for the duration of the booth, and how they will react if rejected or ignored by customers.
- Work with your troop cookie volunteer to schedule the booth, and consider volunteering to help supervise at the booth.
- Encourage Girl Scouts to unleash their creativity to make signs and decorations to attract customers.
- Check your council shop or girlscoutshop.com for tablecloths, booth kits, and other cookie gear.
- Have Girl Scouts practice their sales pitch and replies to potential customer responses.



Preparing for Cookie Booths

- Check with the troop cookie volunteer to determine if you will use troop cookies or an individual Girl Scout's cookies at the booth. If using troop cookies, determine who will deliver them to the booth location and who will return any unsold cookies back to the troop cookie volunteer.
- Determine how much change to take to the booth and whether it will be supplied by the troop.
- Check with the troop cookie volunteer to verify the troop's Digital Cookie troop link is set up to allow for electronic payment processing; verify your access and review any instructions for use to ensure smooth payment acceptance from customers.

Booth Etiquette

- While at a cookie booth, make sure Girl Scouts wear their uniforms, other Girl Scout-branded clothing, or their membership pin to clearly identify themselves as Girl Scouts. It's a great way to show your Girl Scout pride!
- Booths should not block a store entrance or exit.
- Make sure there is enough room for both the cookie display table and the participating Girl Scouts. Ensure that pedestrians, bikes, and cars can safely pass by.
- Arrive early enough to set up, but do not encroach on the time of troops selling before you.
- Begin packing up before the end of your shift so troops following you can start on time.
- Be sure to clean up after your shift, taking empty cases with you.
- Set up—and remain—in the designated area.
- Always be courteous and polite; avoid yelling at customers.
- With adult supervision, Girl Scouts should do the selling.

Cookie Booth Finances

- Reduce cash transactions by offering council-approved electronic payment options whenever possible.
- Follow council and troop rules for accepting large bills or checks.
- After receiving cash and making change, Girl Scouts should hand the money to a volunteer for safekeeping and to deposit into the cash box as soon as possible.
- Keep the cash box in a safe place or behind a barrier of cookie packages; consider using a money belt or apron in place of a cash box.
- Use an inventory worksheet to reconcile sales at the end of the booth.
- Turn booth funds over to the troop cookie volunteer promptly and avoid keeping money at home or at school.