

What is an Investiture Ceremony?

An **investiture ceremony** is a ceremony which honors Girl Scouts of all ages officially into the Girl Scout and Girl Guide family. The investiture part is where girls say the Girl Scout Promise and are invested into Girl Scouts receiving their daisy membership and world trefoil pins. There is no "right way" for girls to be invested, as long as each girl has a chance to make her Promise and receive both of her pins. Typical Girl Scout investiture ceremonies are made up of three parts:

- Opening-which begins the ceremony
- Main-which is the reason for holding the ceremony
- Closing-which ends the ceremony

Ceremony Dress Code: official Girl Scout or adult uniform, unless costumes are being worn for skits or plays.

Story of Daisy Investiture

Opening:

- Leader(s) welcome families and explain the meaning of "investiture" ceremony.
- Girls sing their favorite Girl Scout song or recite "Daisy" poem.
- Girls lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Main:

- Girls sit in a half circle facing their troop leader(s), one troop leader faces the audience, reads or tells the story of Juliette Low; explaining how Daisy Girl Scouts got their name.
- Girls give the Girl Scout sign and make their Promise.
- Leader(s) pin each girl with her Girl Scout Daisy and World Trefoil Pins, give each girl a Girl Scout handshake, and welcome her into Girl Scouting.

Closing:

- Make a friendship circle and sing "Make New Friends" song.
- (Optional) Girls invite parents to share refreshments

Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden Investiture

Opening:

- This ceremony style is appropriate if your girls have been working on "The Daisy Flower Garden" Journey.
- Supplies Needed-daisy flower poster or felt board, flower center, petals, stem, and leaves, plus a way to attach the center and petals to the poster if you are not using a felt board.
- Leader(s) welcome families and explain the meaning of "The Daisy Flower Garden is an amazing place filled with flowers of all colors, shapes, and sizes-just like Girl Scout Daisies!"
- Girls lead the Pledge of Allegiance or song (poem, etc.).

Main: Girls Sing

I'm a Girl Scout Daisy! Take a look at me. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, happy as can be. I'm going on a journey, With friends along the way, I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, Hip, Hip, Hurray! I'm a Girl Scout Daisy! Take a look at me. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, happy as can be. We're having fun and sharing, Each and every day. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, Hip, Hip, Hurray!

First Leader says: (places flower center on board). The first Girl Scout Daisy was Juliette Gordon Low. Her nickname was Daisy and she was amazing! She brought Girl Scouting to America in 1912.

Second Leader says: Each petal of our Daisy has a place in the Girl Scout Law. The Law shoes how Girl Scouts try to act toward each other and the world.

Daisy Flower Garden Investiture Continued

Daisy says: (placing first petal-Lupe) "I will do my best to be honest and fair,"
Daisy says: (placing second petal-Sunny) "friendly and helpful,"
Daisy says: (placing third petal-Zinni) "considerate and caring,
Daisy says: (placing fourth petal-Tula) "courageous and strong, and"
Daisy says: (placing fifth petal-Mari) "responsible for what I say and do,"
Daisy says: (placing sixth petal-Gloria) "and respect myself and others,"
Daisy says: (placing seventh petal-Gerri) "respect authority,"
Daisy says: (placing eighth petal-Clover) "use resources wisely,"
Daisy says: (placing ninth petal-Rosie) "make the world a better place,"
Daisy says: (placing tenth/last petal-Vi) "And be a sister to every Girl Scout."

Leader says: the most important part of being a Girl Scout is The Girl Scout Promise. When you make a promise, it means you will do what you say you will do. Girl Scouts promise on their honor, to serve God and their country; to help people at all times, and live by the Girl Scout Law. If you are ready to make this promise, make the Girl Scout sign with your right hand. Girls all around the world make this sign; the three fingers help us to remember the three parts of our Promise.

All say: promise together or call girls one at a time to say their 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."

Leader(s): This is your Girl Scout Daisy pin. It shows you have made your Promise and are a member of Girl Scouts of the USA. You always wear if on your left side above your heart. This is your World Trefoil pin. Girls Scouts all around the world wear this pin. The blue and gold colors stand for the golden sun in a blue sky over all children of the world. The World Trefoil pin is worn above your Girl Scout Daisy pin. After each girl is pinned, follow with the Girl Scout handshake using your left hand.

Closing: Girls Sing "I'm a Daisy Scout".

I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, standing tall (stand tall) I am a Daisy, friend to all (wave to everyone) I'm caring and helpful, every day (hands reaching out, palm up) A Daisy lives the Girl Scout Way! (make Girl Scout sign)

Daisy Petal Investiture

Opening:

- Leader welcomes families to our investiture ceremony. This special ceremony welcomes girls to Girl Scouting. It is a time when each girl makes her Girl Scout Promise and is invested with the symbols of membership: Girl Scout Daisy pin and World Trefoil Pin.
- Supplies-Girl Scout Daisy membership and World Trefoil pins, blue felt board or piece of poster board (if using poster board place a piece of tape on back of each petal/promise center), blue felt promise center, and ten felt petals one for each color of the law.

Main:

- **Troop Leader says-**The first Girl Scout was Juliette Gordon Low. Her family called her Daisy. When Daisy was a girl, she loved to ride horses and climb trees. She loved to draw pictures and put on plays. As Daisy grew older, she wanted girls to have a much fun as she did. She wanted them to grow up to be whoever they wanted to be in life. That's why she started Girl Scouts.
- **Co-Leader says-** Girls you are about to become Girl Scout Daisies. The most important part of becoming a Girl Scout is making the Girl Scout Promise to serve God and your country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout Law. (Call on girl by name) will you place the Promise Center on the board? (girl places center on board)
- Both Leaders say-The ten petals on our daisy stand for the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law.
- All girls say- I will do my best to:
- First Daisy- (places light blue petal on felt board) Be honest and fair,
- Second Daisy- (places yellow petal on felt board) Be friendly and helpful,
- Third Daisy- (places spring green petal on felt board) Be considerate and caring,
- Fourth Daisy- (places red petal on felt board) Be courageous and strong,
- Fifth Daisy- (places orange petal on felt board) Be responsible for what I say,
- Sixth Daisy- (places purple petal on felt board) Respect myself and others,
- Seventh Daisy- (places magenta petal on felt board) Respect authority,
- Eighth Daisy- (places green petal on felt board) Use resources wisely,
- Ninth Daisy- (places rose petal on felt board) Make the world a better place,
- Tenth Daisy- (places violet petal on felt board) Be a sister to every Girl Scout.
- Leader says-If you are ready to make your Girl Scout promise, raise your right hand and make the Girl Scout Sign (makes sign).
 - All girls make the Girl Scout sign and repeat the Promise, either individually or in a group.
 - Leader(s) pin the Girl Scout Daisy tab with both pins on left hand side of girl's uniform. Welcome girls with Girl Scout handshake.

Closing: Girls choice.

Another Daisy Flower Garden Investiture

Opening:

- For this type of ceremony the girls can be invested by having their parents or older Girl Scouts "plant" them before the ceremony begins. They can be curled up on the floor or squat with their arms around their knees and their heads down.
- The gardener, troop leader, comes along with a watering can. If you don't mind a mess, the girls can be sprinkled with confetti.

Main:

- **First Leader says:** "I wonder if it is time for these Daisy seeds to sprout. I guess before they grow they will have to have the special ingredients needed to make a flower grow and bloom. Let's see if we can sprinkle everything that is needed."
- Second Leader says: "Let's sprinkle them with the Girl Scout Promise."
- First Leader says: "Next, let's use the Girl Scout Law."
- Second Leader says: "I'll sprinkle them with the Girl Scout Motto-'be prepared."
- First Leader says: "And I'll use the Girl Scout Slogan-'Do a good turn daily."
- Second Leader says: "We can use the Girl Scout handshake to help them grow."
- First Leader says: "Now for a good dose of Girl Scout Cookies. That should do the trick!"
- **Daisies:** The "planted" daisies will stretch and grow tall.

Closing:

Daisies sing:

I'm a Girl Scout Daisy! Take a look at me. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, happy as can be. I'm going on a journey, With friends along the way, I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, Hip, Hip, Hurray!

I'm a Girl Scout Daisy! Take a look at me. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, happy as can be. We're having fun and sharing, Each and every day. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, Hip, Hip, Hurray!

"Gone Fishing" Investiture or Bridging Ceremony

Opening:

• Ahead of time- girls make paper trees and flowers along a "river bank." For each girl to be invested, girls make a paper plate fish tail and two fins. They make a large fishing rod, with string and an extra-large cardboard hook. A fishing net and a great big fisherman's hat would add to the fun!

Main:

- Play any water music in the background or tune of "Row, row, row, row your boat."
- Girls already in the troop or parents hold streamers to form a river (going across or side to side).
- The girls or parents wave the streamers up and down to form waves.
- A fishtail is attached to the back of each girl to be invested, and a fin to each arm. Each girl is then put in the "river" to swim.
- Each new Girl Scout is "hooked" by the troop leader at the top of the river. The girl is asked to recite the Girl Scout Promise, the leader pins her, and puts her back in the water.
- The above step continues until everyone being invested has been "hooked", said her Promise and has been pinned.

Closing:

- Girls' choice of song, skit, etc.
- Refreshments are served: blue punch, goldfish crackers, and other theme related food.

The North Wind Investiture

Opening:

- This type of ceremony works best if holding investiture in December or January.
- Ahead of time-girls make paper snowflakes and snowmen to hang throughout the meeting place. They make snowflake headgear for everyone in the troop except returning Girl Scouts (who play the part of the North Wind).
- Girls make snowflake invites and send out to special guests to attend ceremony.

Main:

- All girls being invested are wearing their snowflake head gear, they are "snowflakes." They are dressed in white.
- The North Wind blows-returning Girl Scouts make howling and whistling sounds.
- The snowflakes are scattered- they move around the room as if the wind blew them around.
- One helper catches one of the new girls and brings her to the troop leader. The troop leader ask the "snowflake" to recite the Girl Scout Promise then pins her.
- The North Wind blows again and the invested "snowflake" rejoins the storm.
- The next helper catches another "snowflake" and the process continues until all "snowflakes" are caught, recite Promise, and pinned.

Closing:

• Refreshments are served-frosty white punch, snow man snacks, and any other winter related treats.

Candle Light Investiture

Opening:

- Girl Scouts have included candles in their ceremonies for many years. Candle lightening ceremonies are a symbolic part of the ceremony, often representing the Girl Scout Promise and Law or The Spirit of Girl Scouting.
- Ahead of time-girls make "candle flames." They will need yellow and orange tempera paint and paint brushes; 13 flat wooden craft spoons; craft knife (adult use only) and 13 sturdy paper cups.
- Girls paint the wider ends of the craft spoons (front and back) to resemble yellow-orange flames.
- Adults cut a ¾ inch slit in the bottoms of each cup. Before the ceremony, the cups are placed "bottoms up" on the table and the girls "light" their candle by inserting the bottom of the wooden spoon flame in the slit of the cup candle.
- Traditionally, each girl inserts their candle one at a time. As each girl "lights" their candle they say the part of the Part of the Law their candle represents.

Main:

- Girls begin with a flag ceremony or song. Troop Leader welcomes families and friends; then gives explanation of Investiture.
- Investiture-new girls make their Promise together, receive their Girl Scout Daisy and World Trefoil pins and are welcomed with the Girl Scout handshake.
- Girls take turns speaking and "lightening candles:
- Girl One, Girl Two, and Girl Three-These three candles stand for the three parts of the Promise we just made:

"To serve God and my country;

"To help people at all times;

"To live by the Girl Scout Law."

• Girl Four-"These ten candles stand for the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law:

Girl Five- "honest and fair; Girl Six-"friendly and helpful; Girl Seven-"considerate and caring; Girl Eight-"courageous and strong; Girl Nine-"responsible for what I say and do, and to Girl Ten-"respect myself and others,

Girl Eleven-"respect authority,

Candle Light Investiture Continued

Girl Twelve-"use resources wisely, Girl Thirteen-"make the world a better place, and Girl Fourteen-"be a sister to every Girl Scout."

• Alternatively: Girls can place a real or artificial daisy in a vase for each part of the Promise and Law, ending with a centerpiece of daisy flowers.

Closing:

• Girls' choice: favorite song, poem, or Friendship Circle.

Thank You Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta for allowing our council to adapt these investiture ceremony samples.