

Troop Camper

Objectives:

Earning this patch will help expand the world of troop camping for Brownie through Ambassador Girl Scouts. Camping is one of the best programs to develop a sense of responsibility for self, others, and the world around us.

Girls will have the opportunity to visit each of the camps in the North-Central Alabama area for a day or overnight. They will increase their knowledge of camping skills, planning, health and safety, outdoor cooking, nature and ecology, and celebration of ceremony. Camping with Girl Scouts has the added benefit of developing a close bond with friends and troop members, while acquiring an understanding of the environment.

NOTE: This patch is different from GSUSA-earned awards (try-its, badges, and interest projects). Follow the listed activities to complete/earn the badge or patch.

Requirements

To earn this patch, a troop may begin the activities at any time of the year, but must complete all the requirements listed below within two years. The required number of campouts must be held at any of the Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama camps.

- The patch cannot be earned by an individual girl.
- Each camping trip must be at a different camp.
- Troops must have a trained GSNCA leader or volunteer qualified in basic troop camping. The volunteer must work actively with the troop in the planning phase and must be on-site during the campouts.
- Girls must be involved in all phases of planning: meals, activities, when, where, etc.).
- As the troop completes the activities, the girls must record their activities in a troop logbook, diary, or photo story.
- Only one patch can be earned in two years.
- When a troop completes all the necessary activities, the leader approves the patch and purchases the patches at one of the Girl Scout Shops.

Grade Level Requirements:

	OVERNIGHT CAMPOUTS	HIKES/NATURE ACTIVITIES	COOKING METHODS	CAMPFIRES	SERVICE PROJECTS	GIRL SCOUT'S OWN OR CEREMONIES
Grade Level	Number of Required Troop Camper Activities					
Brownie	(2) 1-night	1	2	1	1	1
Junior	(1) 1-night (1) 2-nights	2	3	2	2	1
Cadette	(1) 1-night (1) 2-nights	3	4	3	2	3
Senior/Ambassador	(1) 1-night (2) 2-nights	5	5	4	3	4

Details of Activities:

Overnights – The number of overnight campout events.

Hikes/Nature Activities – May be done as either/or, or a combination of both. Your troop camper will be able to suggest ideas.

Cooking Methods – One-pot meals, Dutch-oven cooking, foil cooking, stick cooking, open fire, charcoal, etc.

Campfires – This may be done in a designated fire circle. Girls should plan a program for each campfire. (Try a variety of themes, songs, skits, etc.)

Service Projects – Do a good turn by helping maintain and improve our camps. Talk to the Camp Director or Ranger and get a list of projects he/she needs assistance with. Select one that your troop would like to work on. Let the Director/Ranger know before you arrive so he/she will have it ready for you. Or make a monetary donation to one of the Council camps to be used in the preservation and improvement of the facilities or grounds.

Girl Scout's Own – This inspirational (but not religious) ceremony is an appropriate ending to a Girl Scout campout.