

Smart Start patch



Show off your troop's bright beginning! Girls and troop volunteers work together to earn The Smart Start patch. A strong start leads to troop success!

When a troop earns the patch, both girls and adults may wear it proudly. Girls wear it on the back of their vest, sash or tunic. Patches are \$2 each.

Troops earn the "Smart Start" patch for requirements fulfilled in the troop's first year. To earn the patch retroactively, your troop must still be active, review your past experiences, and affirm completion of requirements during your first year (Oct. 1-Sept. 30).

After the first year, keep working together on cool and rewarding activities that go beyond the patch requirements!

Smart Start patch requirements: Complete all items with a * , choosing *at least one* from each category (more is great!)

Training Your Grown-ups (both 1 and 2 are required for all troops):

1. * At least one adult needs to take *Getting Started with Your Troop* (online) and *Intro to Girl Scouts* (in person) within three months of the troop starting.
2. * Have a grown-up who's trained in First Aid/First Aid/AED at every troop meeting and outing.
3. Have at least one adult attend a specialized class for the troop's program age level (e.g. *Diving Into Daisies* or *Blasting Into Brownies*).

Troop Management:

1. * Log onto the Volunteer Toolkit (click [MyGS/VTK](#) on the www.sdgirlscouts.org website). Explore the year plans available for your program grade level. See which one the girls want to start with.
2. Open your troop bank account. Email troopbanking@sdgirlscouts.org to get started.
3. Send an adult volunteer to attend at least two service unit meetings.
4. Get at least ¾ of parents to register and get background-checked, so they're ready to help out. Hold a parent meeting and talk about program goals and troop communication.

Traditions and Girl Scout Ways:

1. Take part in a service project or outing led by other Girl Scouts.
2. Learn about a different culture or country, or make a craft or food from another country.
3. Welcome new Girl Scout sisters: Have a "bring a friend" meeting or open spots in the Opportunity Catalog.

Program and Outdoors:

1. Talk as a group about what kinds of activities each girl wants to do this year.
2. Hold at least one meeting and one field trip every month.
3. Take at least one *outdoor* field trip — go to the park, walk around the neighborhood, or hike on a trail.

Leadership and Entrepreneurism:

1. Earn a Financial Literacy leaf or badge.
2. Complete: ○ a Leadership Journey *or* ○ at least five petals *or* ○ two badges.
3. Complete a Take Action project, where you identify a problem in the community and take steps to make the world a better place.