

Flag Ceremony Video FAQs

1 What is the purpose of a flag ceremony?

A flag ceremony honors the American flag as the symbol of our country and all the hopes, dreams, and people it represents. They also help girls share in Girl Scout history and traditions—and create their own special memories. Flag ceremonies may take place in casual settings like troop meetings, or for official celebrations, parades, awards ceremonies, etc. All flag ceremonies share one thing, respect for the flag.

2 What do Girl Scouts wear during a flag ceremony?

During casual times, like troop meetings, girls can simply wear their vest or sash over casual clothing. For occasions like parades, awards ceremonies, etc., girls will wear the full Girl Scout uniform. This includes the vest, sash, or tunic over designated official apparel or a white shirt, and khaki pants or a skirt. The full uniform also includes white sneakers, white gloves, and a flag holster.

3 What order do the flags go in?

When a group of flags are displayed, the American flag should be displayed front and center, OR to right of all other flags. An audience's view of flags from left to right should be as follows: American flag, New York State flag, WAGGGS flag, council flag, Brownie flag and Daisy flag. If you do not have one of the flags, simply take that flag out of its place in order. The Girl Scout Council flag is used to represent all Girl Scout levels that are above Brownie.

4 What roles do the girls have in a flag ceremony?

The flag bearer is the person who carries the flag. There is one color bearer for each flag used in the ceremony. The color guard is a team that guards the flags. Each color guard stands a half a step behind the color bearer during the ceremony. Any even number of guards may be used, but usually four or six girls are sufficient. The caller is a designated Girl Scout who announces or calls each part of the ceremony.

5 What do girls say in a flag ceremony?

Caller: "Girl Scouts, attention." Used to announce that the flag ceremony is to begin.

Caller: "Color guard, advance." Signals the color guard to advance with the flags.

Caller: "Color guard, present the colors." Flag bearers should release the flags, and the flag bearer and color guard with the American flag, should take one step forward.

Caller: "Please join us in saying the Pledge of Allegiance." Flag bearers and color guards should stand at attention and not participate, keeping their full attention on the flags.

Caller: "Please join us in saying the Girl Scout Promise." Flag bearers and color guards should stand at attention and not participate, keeping their full attention on the flags.

Caller: "Color guard, post the colors." Directs the color guard to place the flag in flag stands, if leaving them in front of the room or stage.

Caller: "Color guard, retire the colors." Prompts the color guard to remove the flags if they are in stands, or to gather the flags if standing.

Caller: "Color guard, dismissed." Prompts the color guard to leave in formation, with the American flag leaving first. Or if posting the flags, it instructs the Color Guard to leave the stage or platform so the event/program can begin.