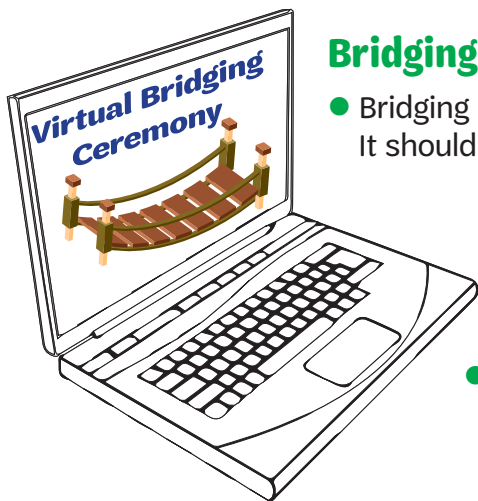




Tips for hosting a Virtual Bridging Ceremony



Bridging Ceremony Preparation

- Bridging is honoring and celebrating a Girl Scout's advancement to the next level. It should be a fun, personalized and a memorable event.
- To host your virtual bridging ceremony be sure that you have a reliable internet connection and distraction-free environment so you can focus on the girls and their accomplishments.
- Each girl can make a memento on her own after the ceremony to remember her virtual bridging experience. This can be done with materials they have on hand or you can plan to mail supplies ahead of time.
- Plan a ceremony that fits your troop's personality. Each of the ceremony's part offers plenty of room for the girls' creativity and individuality. Having girls be a part of the ceremony planning is important. Just as planning badges and awards should be girl-led, this should be too.
- Girls that have not completed the bridging award requirements can still attend the bridging award ceremony, however girls should be encouraged to earn the award.
- Have a meeting to rehearse the ceremony before hosting the actual ceremony.
- View this Short & Snappy video that gives you several ideas for your troop's bridging ceremony. You may need to adapt things to fit a virtual environment.
<https://youtu.be/pVgfkhhUzgs>
- You and your co-leader should decide on a day and time to host the ceremony. Make sure to communicate these details to the parents.
- Plan the ceremony with the girls. Have the girls agree on a theme and start planning the details.
- Decide on what the girls and the adults will wear. Girl Scout uniforms should be worn by the girls, especially during troop ceremonies.
- The girls can make invitations for the parents and the guests.
- You may want to invite a guest speaker. You could invite a school teacher, principal, or the service unit manager.



Bridging Ceremony Structure

OPENING:

Flag Ceremony— leader can display the flag of the United States and everyone will say the pledge. Welcome your guests and share the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Each girl can recite a line of the Girl Scout Law.

MAIN SECTION:

Presentation—Girls, symbolically, cross a bridge and are welcomed to the next Girl Scout level. Leader can call out name of each girl and say that this girl has bridged to the next level of girl scouts.

CLOSING:

Girls participate in a virtual friendship circle and thank their guests.

How to do a virtual friendship circle: have each girl say the name of another person in the virtual circle after she makes her wish.

ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR THE PRESENTATION

- Display a slide show of the badges, pins and patches that the girls have earned.
- Have each girl share a favorite memory.
- Then announce that the girls have advanced to the next level.
- End the meeting with a virtual friendship circle.

- Make a photomontage of the activities, trips and other events of the year.
Older level girls can create this (parent/s can help too).
- Then announce that the girls have advanced to the next level.
- End the meeting with a virtual friendship circle.

- Girls can sing a favorite song or share a memory.
Have girls practice with their parents beforehand, so they don't get tongue tied.
- Then announce that the girls have advanced to the next level.
- End the meeting with a virtual friendship circle.

- Have a candle ceremony using battery operated- candles.
Each girl can recite a line of the promise and law and then switch on her candle.
- Then announce that the girls have advanced to the next level.
- End the meeting with a virtual friendship circle.

