



Name: _____

Troop/Group#: _____

Girl Scouts of Shagbark Council

Silver Award

Guidelines and Project Journal



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Introduction*

The Girl Scout Silver Award is recognized as the second highest award in Girl Scouting. It is a national award with national standards, awarded by your council on behalf of Girl Scouts of the USA. The Girl Scout Silver Award represents a girl's accomplishments in Girl Scouting and her community as she grows and works to improve her life and the lives of others. The first four requirements of the Girl Scout Silver Award help girls build skills, explore careers, gain leadership skills, and make a commitment to self-improvement. The Girl Scout Silver Award Project can be undertaken when the first four requirements are completed. It can be done as an individual or with a group. If done with a group, a girl must be responsible for a specific part of the project and evaluate her contribution to the project and the group.

Girl Scouts of Shagbark Council uses three documents to help you through the process of earning the Silver Award. These documents are:

- Silver Award General Guidelines and Project Journal – a roadmap for the journey
- Silver Award Project Proposal – sent to Council for approval
- Silver Award Final Project Report –sent to Council upon project completion

The Girl Scout Silver Award Guidelines*

- You must be registered as a Cadette Girl Scout to begin work on the Silver Award. Work started prior to Cadette Girl Scouting may not be applied toward this award.
- A girl must be going into the sixth grade to begin work on STEPS 1-4 of the Girl Scout Silver Award.
- The first four steps can be done in any order but must be completely finished before you work on Step 5, and in grades 7 or 8 to begin work on your project.
- Keep in mind that the first four steps serve as a foundation to build upon and to provide ideas for designing your Girl Scout Silver Award project.
- Do your best work possible. Shortcuts, hurrying through and bending the rules not only defeat the purpose of your project, but they are not in keeping with the meaning of the Girl Scout Promise and Law. It's rewarding to challenge yourself and to do things well.
- Work completed for one recognition may not be counted for other recognitions requirements.
- Work with an advisor. Your advisor does not need to be your Girl Scout Leader or a parent. This is an opportunity to learn from other adults who have expertise

in project areas. The adult advisor should give you guidance and assistance in completing the work.

- Keep a record of all your work in this enclosed Journal packet. Keep it in a safe place. It is your responsibility, not your leader or advisor's, to keep track of your documentation. It might be wise to keep another copy for safekeeping.
- Your project should provide a needed service to others and must reflect some aspect of community service. If you are doing a project with Girl Scouts, you must determine how you are going to involve the larger community.
- GSUSA suggests that Girl Scouts Silver Award projects should be designed so that they are realistically within the girl's/troop's financial assets. Projects which require financial support from the girl's family are not recommended.
- Review *Safety-Wise* for do's and don'ts. As with any other project you must have approval from the Council if you need to raise funds or solicit donations of materials. You CANNOT raise money for another organization.
- After you have completed Steps 1-4, the Girl Scout Silver Award Project Proposal must be submitted to the Council for approval by the Advisory Committee.
- The Silver/Gold Advisory Committee will review your Project Proposal and may make suggestions based on safety, timeline or project standards. You CANNOT start your project without the Advisory's approval.
- Allow plenty of time for each requirement. Some requirements may take several days or weeks to complete. A single interest project could take six months to a year to complete. You may want to work on more than one at a time. An interest project or focus book cannot be completed in a day.
- Select interest projects that help you personally. You should learn interest project activities well enough to be able to teach them to others.

The Girl Scout Silver Award Requirements

The following criteria are required for the Girl Scout Silver Award. Each step is outlined in the Journal portion of this packet and is easy to follow and document your progress.

Step 1: Organize

Become organized to help you with the next five steps.

- Meet with your advisor
- Make a timeline

Step 2: Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award

- Earn three interest projects
- Earn the charm for the STUDIO 2B focus book: *uniquely me! The Real Deal*
- Spend 15 hours in leadership roles.

Step 3: Girl Scout Silver Career Award

- What's out there?
- Who's out there?
- Earn the *Your Own Business* interest project award
- Journal it

Step 4: Girl Scout Silver 4 B's Challenge

- Become: Set an improvement goal
- Belong: Earn the charm for the STUDIO 2B focus book: *Looking in, Reaching Out*
- Believe: Use your voice for your issue
- Build: Suggest a solution to your issue

Step 5: Girl Scout Silver Award Project

Steps 1-4 must be completed before step 5. The project portion requirement is a minimum of 40 hours. A girl must be in grades 7-8 before starting the project.

- Plan it: Use the issue you worked on in the 4 B's Challenge or select a new one.
- Know More About it: Collect as much information as you can.
- Map It: Write down steps; make a timeline, organize people and resources
- Do It: Put your plan into action.

Step 6: Reflect

- Think about it
- Report – What I learned most

Silver Award Journal

STEP 1: ORGANIZE

Get Ready:

Read through the Girl Scouts of Shagbark Council Silver Award General Guidelines to understand the requirements to earning the Silver Award. Record the date completed at the bottom of this page and again on your Project Proposal.

Create an agreement with your advisor. Your advisor will support you by letting you know about important policies and procedures particular to the Girl Scout Council and also by contributing ideas, asking questions to help you make your plans and advising you about your project.

Meet with your advisor and develop a plan and timeline describing when and how you'll earn each of the three awards in steps 2-4 and when you'll be ready to submit to the Council your project proposal before starting step 5. Remember this will serve only as a guideline, setting goals is an important part of the process. Use *Form A in the Project Proposal packet* for your timeline.

In making your timeline, consider when you'll want to start step 5. Remember you have lots of time. You must be going into the 6th grade to begin work on steps 1-4. You need to be in grades 7-8 when you do steps 5-6. You must complete the Silver Project before the start of grade 9.

Discuss with your advisor events offered through your Council, your Service Unit or your Area that might be applied toward earning any of the pre-requisite awards required for the Silver Award.

You may or may not have a Project Advisor at this step. That is okay. In the process of earning the 4Bs Challenge in Step 4, you will determine what your project will be and you will be able to enlist the help of a Project Advisor at that point.

Date completed Council Silver Award Training: _____

Troop/Group Advisor _____ Date _____

My Signature _____ Date _____

STEP 2: LEAD – Earn the Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award (Charm)

Have you ever thought about what makes being a Girl Scout unique?

You have promised to live by the values expressed in the Girl Scout Promise and law. You can demonstrate leadership by putting the Girl Scout Law into action.

There are four steps to earning the Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award.

EARN IT

From the Interest Projects for Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts, (GSUSA 1997) book (available through the Council Shop, or available for checkout at the Council Resource Library), you must earn three Interest Projects. Use pages 3-8 of this packet to record what you did.

Interest Project # 1 (log your activities on the following page)

a) Choose and earn an Interest Project that you feel will help you practice living by one of these four sets of values:

I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong

Which Interest Project did you choose? _____

How did the Interest Project help you live the law? _____

Interest Project Number 1

Interest Project Name: _____

Write in the activity numbers from each section and dates you completed. (For example: Skill Builders, #2, completed on 6/20/07)

- **Skill Builders**
(Two activities)

Date Completed

- **Technology**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Service Projects**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Career Exploration**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Two Other Activities**
(Category and Activity Number)

Date Completed

Interest Project # 2 (log your activities on the following page)

b) Choose and earn an Interest Project that you feel will help you practice living one of these three values:

responsible for what I say and do,
respect myself and others,
respect authority,

Which Interest Project did you choose? _____

How did the Interest Project help you live the law? _____

Interest Project Number 2

Interest Project Name: _____

Write in the activity numbers from each section and dates you completed. (For example: Skill Builders, #2, completed on 6/20/07)

- **Skill Builders**
(Two activities)

Date Completed

- **Technology**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Service Projects**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Career Exploration**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Two Other Activities**
(Category and Activity Number)

Date Completed

Interest Project # 3 (log your activities on the following page)

c) Choose and earn an Interest Project that you feel will help you practice living one of these three values:

use resources wisely,
make the world a better place
be a sister to every Girl Scout.

Which Interest Project did you choose? _____

How did the Interest Project help you live the law? _____

Interest Project Number 3

Interest Project Name: _____

Write in the activity numbers from each section and dates you completed. (For example: Skill Builders, #2, completed on 6/20/07)

- **Skill Builders**
(Two activities)

Date Completed

- **Technology**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Service Projects**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Career Exploration**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Two Other Activities**
(Category and Activity Number)

Date Completed

BELIEVE IT

Inspiring leaders know what they are good at and what they believe in.

Earn the charm from the STUDIO 2B Focus series (available for purchase at the Council Shop or for checkout from your Service Unit) *uniquely Me! The Real Deal*. By setting and achieving goals in conversations with an adult advisor.

What was one goal you set? _____

If you have already earned this charm for this STUDIO 2B Focus book, read through it again and set and achieve one new goal.

LEAD IT

The Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award

Now it's time to show your leadership skills! Spend 15 hours in one or more leadership roles. Do any combination of the following to add up to 15 hours. Use *Form B in the Silver Award Project Proposal* to log your 15 hours in a leadership role.

- Assist in the leadership of younger children. You can do this in Girl Scouts or someplace else.
- Serve as an officer of a school club or captain of an athletic group or serve in a leadership role in Girl Scouts. You could also serve in a leadership role in a group you start.
- Talk to the volunteers who serve girl Scouts in your area and plan a trip or special event that will include some girls you have never met.

The leadership role I have chosen is: _____

Consider what you have learned in earning your Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award by completing these statements:

I demonstrated a real understanding of the Girl Scout Law by applying it to this situation in my life _____

A talent, quality or skill I have that adds to my leadership ability is: _____

I used it in these ways: _____

I have shown my personal integrity and honor by _____

STEP 3: NETWORK – Girl Scout Silver Career Award

Understanding more about your community and building a network of people you know will benefit you in two ways:

- You'll start to get ideas about the kind of career you may want someday.
- You'll meet people and develop communication skills that can really help you with your Silver Award project.

There are four steps to earning the Girl Scout Silver Career Award.

1. "What's Out There?"

What do you want to be when you grow up? It's hard to know, isn't it? The more you find out about career options, the more choices you'll have. Read newspapers, magazines, go online, visit the library, or talk to adults as a way of finding out about:

ONE job you don't know anything about. Would you like to do it? Why or why not:

ONE job that not many women do. What training do you need for this job? Would you like to do it?

ONE job that requires a college degree plus a graduate degree. What kinds of subjects do you have to study and what kinds of schools offer the degree programs required to enter this field?

ONE job you have to have either artistic or mechanical ability to perform. How would you prepare for this job? What steps would you take to move up in this career?

Record the date completed for:

	<u>Date Completed</u>	<u>Advisor Signature</u>
What's out there?		

2. Who's Out There?"

Talking to people about their jobs not only gives you more information, but also builds communication skills and a network of contacts you may need when you do your girl Scout Silver Award Project.

Talk to a college student – find out what classes he/she is taking and why. What job do they expect to get when they are done?

Talk to three different adults about their jobs, this will help you get information and will also help build your ability to communicate! Answer the following specific questions, all the adults should have different jobs: you're trying to explore possible career choices.

#1 – Name:
What does she/he do?
Describe a typical day:
What does she/he like best about the job?

#2 – Name:
What does she/he do?
Describe a typical day:
What does she/he like best about the job?

#3 – Name:
What does she/he do?
Describe a typical day:
What does she/he like best about the job?

Record the date completed for:

	<u>Date Completed</u>	<u>Advisor Signature</u>
Who's out there?		

3. Be Your Own Boss” Earn the “Your Own Business” Interest Project.

Like to do your own thing? Maybe you are an entrepreneur at heart. Earn the *Your Own Business* Interest Project. If you have already earned this Interest Project, earn an Interest Project related to the field in which you would like to start a business: for example, *Invitation to the Dance* if you like to run your own dance studio, *Desktop Publishing* if you would like to offer publishing and design services to clients, etc.

Write in the activity numbers from each section and dates you completed. (For example: *Skill Builders, #2 completed on 6/20/07*)

- **Skill Builders**
(Two activities)

Date Completed

- **Technology**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Service Projects**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Career Exploration**
(One Activity)

Date Completed

- **Two Other Activities**
(Category and Activity Number)

Date Completed

Complete the following statements:

I have these three new ideas about making career choices. They are:

A talent, quality, or skill that I could use in a future career and on my Silver Award Project is:

A person I met who could help me with my Silver Award Project is:

I think this person could help me by:

Record the date completed for:

	<u>Date Completed</u>	<u>Advisor Signature</u>
Earn "Your Own Business" Interest Project Award		

STEP 4: EXPLORE - Girl Scout Silver 4Bs Challenge

This challenge focuses on “Become, Belong, Believe and Build” and how activities relate to these concepts and the Girl Scout Law. The challenge is meant to lead a girl to a relevant Girl Scout Silver Award Project.

Become: celebrate yourself today and become your best self in the future.

Belong: be part of a group where you have fun, relate to others with respect, and develop lasting friendships.

Believe: develop your ideas and voice what’s important to you.

Build: take action on what you care about and make a difference.

The Girl Scout Silver 4B’s Challenge gives you the opportunity to apply the 4B’s to making a difference in your community and prepares you for taking on an even bigger challenge, the Girl Scout Silver Award Project.

1. Become: Yourself

- In order to become your best self, you need to set goals for your personal growth.
- What are your strongest skills in managing projects? Are you organized? Good at motivating others? Excellent at getting work done in the time you have planned?
- Which skills need work? Giving clearer directions? Using your time more effectively? Solving conflicts among group members better?

Figure out what you need to do to become your best self in the future. This chart will help you:

<u>Skill</u>	<u>I'm Great at This</u>	<u>I Could Use Some More Practice</u>
Listening to others		
Talking to people		
Making Decisions		
Planning and organizing		
Time Management		
Budgeting and Money Management		
Helping People get along		
Getting along with people different from myself		
Solving problems		
Dreaming up great ideas		
Getting and keeping people enthusiastic		
Teaching others something I'm good at		

Pick a skill from the "I could Use More Practice" column and set an improvement goal. **Be Smart.** When setting your goal, use these questions as a guide:

Specifically what will you do? _____

How will you **Measure** your progress toward your goal? _____

How will you know if you have **Achieved** your goal? _____

Is your goal **Realistic**? Can you really achieve it or is it too hard? _____

What is your **Timeframe** to reach your goal? _____

2. Belong: Your Community

The more you get to know yourself, other girls, and adults, the more successful you will be at setting and reaching your Girl Scout Silver Award Project goals. Earn the charm for STUDIO 2B Focus: *Looking In, Reaching Out* by setting goals for yourself with the help of an adult advisor. If you have already earned the charm for this STUDIO 2B Focus book, read through it again and set a new goal for yourself.

Activities	Date Completed	Advisor's Signature
1. Belong: Your Community. Earn the charm for Studio 2B Focus Book: Looking In, Reaching Out		

The goals I set were:

3. Believe: A vision for change

Identify an issue in your school or community that you feel strongly about. Read the newspaper (either a print version or online), watch your local TV news, find out what community organizations are working on, or attend a town meeting.

1. Issue? _____

How can you make a difference in seeing that the issue is resolved in the way you would like? One voice can change minds. Use your voice by:

- making a presentation to your school, community group, place of worship, Girl Scout group, or other group
- writing a letter to an electronic community bulletin board or Web site or a local newspaper
- organizing a group meeting
- writing a letter or e-mail, making a phone call, or making an appointment to speak with a local elected official

2. What did you do? _____

3. What did you learn about your issue and your community? _____

4. Build: Your network

In “Believe”, you chose an issue, but to make your mark, you need to have the right information and lots of it. Step 4 is to think about your issue from all angles and brainstorm many possible solutions before you take action. Collect as much information as possible using questions such as these as a guide.

Are there people who have points of view different from your own? If so, ask them to explain their viewpoints to you, _____

How many people does your issue affect and who are they? _____

What other issues relate to this particular issue? _____

What other organizations are working on this issue? _____

What have other people tried to do in support of this issue? What has worked and what hasn't? _____

What rules are in place that affect this issue one way or another? _____

When you have gathered all this information and considered factors such as time, people needed, and potential problems, use this worksheet to sketch several plans:

<u>My Plans and Solutions</u>
Issue
Possible Solution 1
Possible Solution 2
Possible Solution 3
Which solution would you choose and why?

Up to 10 hours of the time you spend completing the Believe and Build sections of Step 4 may be applied to your Silver Award Project hours.

The 4Bs must be completed before visiting with your Silver Award Consultant and beginning the Silver Award Project.

STEP 5: CREATE – Plan your Girl Scout Silver Award Project

Step 5 can be found in the packet entitled *“The Girl Scout Silver Award Project Proposal”*.

STEP 6: ACT

Once your project has been approved:

- Do it! Put plans into action.
- Adjust your plans if necessary.
- Carry out your project.
- Be sure to document everything you do!

STEP 7: REFLECT

- Evaluate.
- Submit your Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report to the Silver Award Committee for approval. This can be found in the packet entitled *“The Girl Scout Silver Award Paperwork”*.
- Celebrate.