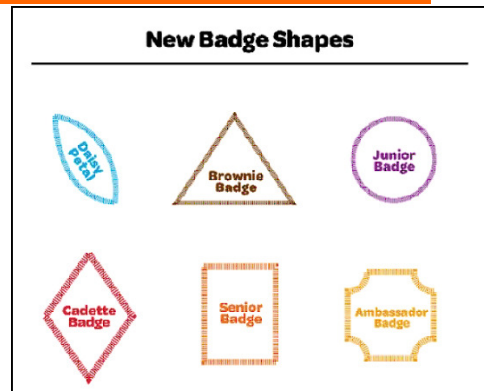


What's Happening With Badges?



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Skill-building badges remain an important part of the Girl Scout program. As promised, Girl Scouts of the USA is working on new badges for Brownies – Ambassadors, and new content for Daisies to enjoy as they earn their petals. The new badges will offer a great mix of tradition, variety, fun and challenge. They will have the shapes pictured in the box to the right.



In a more inclusive, less-jargon heavy approach, all shapes (except the petals) will be referred to as badges. No more "Try-Its", "Interest Project Patches", etc. Everything remains the same except the name. The shape and the content or focus of the awards will be nothing new.



What happens to the existing badges and other resources like Studio 2B?

Some are remaining (see Legacy badges below) while some are being retired over the next 18 months. The goal is for Girl Scouts in the United States to be participating in the national program – Leadership Journeys and The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting – by June 2012.

Here's a few of the categories of badges that will be available:

Legacy Badges – to honor the past and keep badges relevant to today's girls, new content will be incorporated into the topics that have been a part of Girl Scouting since the beginning. These badges will be offered for Brownies through Ambassadors: Artist, Athlete, Citizen, Cook, First Aid, Naturalist, The Girl Scout Way.

Financial Literacy Badges – these awards will be offered for Daisies through Ambassadors. (Daisies will have two "leaves" to add around their Daisy petals.) Through these, girls will learn how to: use money wisely to reach goals, be educated consumers, develop business skills for the workplace, become independent women who can support themselves and give back to their communities.



Cookie Badges – these badges will also be offered for Daisies through Ambassadors. (Daisies will, once again, earn two additional "leaves" to add around their Daisy petals and Promise Center.) Through these recognitions, girls will learn business skills through the practical application of the cookie sale.

Some other categories of badges will include religious recognition, lifesaving awards, specialty badges and more.



How will the Journeys and the new badges work together?

Journeys engage girls in exploring Girl Scouting's three keys to leadership. Badges provide skill-building opportunities in a variety of topics that are part of the Girl Scout legacy (like nature, art, cooking, sports, first aid and more) and topics girls love like photography, design, animals and car care. The new badges will have fun ideas about how earning them links to the Journey experiences. ♦