girl scouts
of greater atlanta

Make the most of every troop meeting.

Volunteer Toolkit FAQ

1. What will I find in the Volunteer Toolkit (VTK)?

Five tabs make managing your troop easier:

My Troop
Manage troop contacts, track awards and badges, track attendance, and communicate with caregivers/parents.

Year Plan
Broadly manage your troop year based on what girls want to do.
When you log into VTK for the first time, you'll have access to three full year plans, including one Girl Scout Badge year, and two Girl Scout Journeys ("It's Your Story–Tell It" and "It's Your Planet–Love It"). These pre-populated plans provide everything you need to get started. At the beginning of each year, you'll spend the first two meetings deciding with the girls what they'd like to do. You'll also set your meeting calendar including locations, dates, and times. New content will be added throughout the year.

Meeting Plan
View meeting details including activity descriptions, meeting aids, materials lists, and more.
Customize activities, delete ones that your girls don't want to do, and replace them with new ones.
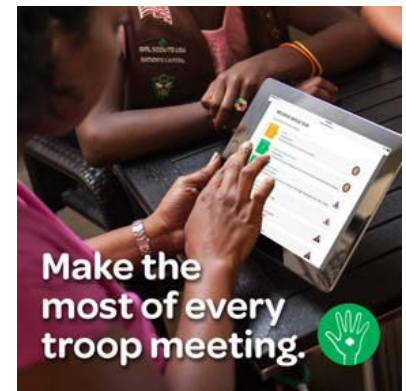
Resources
Find additional resources to support the activities that your girls choose to do.
Easy access to Safety Activity Checkpoints and other helpful resources. Add meeting aids to specific meetings in your year plan.

Finances
Share financial information with caregivers and submit financial information to the council.
This feature's live date is TBD.

2. Why should I login to the VTK as soon as possible?
This exciting new resource is designed to meet your needs. We encourage you to login and get familiar with the functionality and materials available to you. It will make planning your meetings and engaging parents much easier!

3. How will I use the VTK if I have two troops?
You can easily switch back and forth between troops
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4. Will there be training on the VTK?
VTK is designed to be intuitive and require no formal training; however, video tutorials are available via on the GSUSA YouTube channel.

5. How do I access the VTK?
Once you are an approved troop volunteer and have registered or renewed your membership, visit our website and click on the My GS tab. You will enter your login credentials there to gain access. The VTK integrates with our council website, allowing you to seamlessly go back and forth between the two. Your 2016–2017 year plan will be available July 1 to troop leaders who have reregistered for the new year. If you have trouble accessing the new year plan after July 1 please contact our Customer Care Hotline and we will be glad to help you.

6. Will all troop leadership and parents have access to VTK?

Direct primary volunteers will have access to the VTK co-leaders). In future releases, the VTK will grow to include other secondary primary troop volunteer roles such as troop cookie volunteers. Parents also will see read-only views of the My Troop (excluding contact info), Year Plan, Meeting Plan, and Finance tabs (finance tab release TBD).

7. Why is full functionality limited to K-5 troops?

Going digital is a new direction for our national organization. In order to use our resources wisely, we had to narrow our focus as a starting point. That doesn't mean that we don't care about our older girls, that's why GSUSA has worked hard to give older girl volunteers some functionality as they grow this new and exciting resources.

8. What can grades 6-12 volunteers see in the VTK?

Older girl direct primary volunteers have access to the My Troop, Resources, and Finances tabs (finance tab release TBD) they do not have access to Journey, and badge year content but they can "Create Your Own" year plan and look up key resources like Girl Scout Safety Activity Checkpoints and more!

9. If I don't have internet access at my meeting place, how will I access the VTK?

You can easily download the materials to your device or print them to take to your meeting. The VTK can be accessed via computers, tablets or smart phones. You can save the materials on these devices, or access them using your mobile broadband or Wifi network.

10. What about volunteers who don't have internet access at home?

The VTK is a website that can be accessed from any computer or electronic device with internet capability. Libraries are a great resource for those who don't have access to the internet at home. You can print meeting plans or download them to your personal computer or drive using remote internet access. The print materials are also still available in our councils shops and online store.

11. Why has Girl Scouts decided to go digital?

We know you spend countless hours supporting troops. The VTK is designed to help cut down the amount of time it takes for you to manage your troop by planning meetings (in partnership with the girls), communicating with parents, and finding support resources. The VTK puts all of this at your fingertips by having a central location for all of your Girl Scout "stuff." Now you can easily find resources, access the website, and communicate with parents in one location!

Be prepared!

Resources

- Visit LARC to check out videos on the VTK and for more information tips and tricks.
- If you are having trouble, contact our Customer Care Hotline at 800-771-1139 or helpline@gsgatl.org