

## American Heritage Girls Joining Award Requirements

For the requirements for the Joining Award, please see page 56 of the Girl Handbook.

1. Oath: pages 13 and 14. Memorize and agree to live by the AHG Oath

**The Oath:**

I promise to love God, Cherish my family, Honor my country, and serve in my community.

2. Creed: pages 15-17.

Tenderhearts: Understand and agree to live by the AHG Creed.

Explorers, Pioneers, Patriots: Memorize and agree to live by the AHG Creed.

**The Creed:**

As an American Heritage Girl, I will be compassionate, helpful, honest, loyal, perseverant, pure, resourceful, respectful, responsible, and reverent.

3. AHG sign: page 48. Learn the AHG sign and when to use it.

**The Sign:**

Made by raising 4 fingers on your right hand. The elbow is held at a 90 degree angle, upright.

The stands for the 4 parts of the AHG Oath. The sign is given when reciting the Oath or Creed.

4. AHG Salute: page 48

**The Salute:**

Made by raising 4 fingers of the right hand and bringing that hand up just above the eyebrows.

The salute is used only when in full AHG uniform and see the flag pass by or recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Pledge of Allegiance: please memorize

6. AHG Mission Statement: page 12. Please familiarize yourself with this.

**AHG Mission Statement:**

The mission of American Heritage Girls is to build women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country.

7. Uniform: pages 20-21. Present yourself in full uniform. Tell when and where to wear it.

The uniform is worn at all AHG meetings and activities unless otherwise designated.

**Tenderhearts:** Official AHG White Girl Polo, red vest, navy or khaki bottoms

**Explorers:** Official AHG White Girl Polo, blue vest, khaki bottoms

**Pioneers:** Official AHG White Girl Polo, sash, khaki bottoms

**Patriots:** Official AHG Red Polo, sash, khaki bottoms

8. Requirement #1 of the "Our Flag" Badge: page 110

- Learn how to carry the flag in a flag ceremony. Page 54

- Learn how to display the flag during troop meetings and ceremonies. Page 52

- Learn how to display the American Flag along with other flags, such as the state flag.

- Learn the proper way to carry the flag in a parade by itself and with other flags. Page 52
- Learn what you should not do with the flag.
- Learn how to properly fold the flag

9. Learn the History of AHG: page 11

**The History of American Heritage Girls:**

American Heritage Girls was founded in 1995 in West Chester, Ohio by a group of parents wanting a wholesome scouting program for their daughters. These parents were disillusioned with the increasing secular focus of existing scouting organizations for girls. They wanted a Judeo-Christian focused organization for their daughters and believed that other parents were looking for the same for their daughters. This became the catalyst for the birth of the organization we have come to know as the American Heritage Girls.

American Heritage Girls began its first year of programming in the fall of 1995 with about 10 troops and roughly 100 members. Most of the troops met in the West Chester area and worked on badges written by the founding parents. Organizational events were started that year which assisted the organization in tying city-wide troops together.

American Heritage Girls is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country. The organization offers merit badge programs, service project, girl leadership opportunities and outdoor experiences to its members. The program will continue to do so long into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The founders of the American Heritage Girls and the volunteers of today give all credit for the success of AHG to God for His constant hand upon the organization and His unceasing blessings.

10. Talk with your Unit Leader about safety during Troop Meetings. Under the Buddy System and other ways to be safe during a Field Trip or Troop Meeting.

11. Have a conference with your Unit Leader. Be prepared to talk about yourself, your family, hobbies, pets. Take this time to get acquainted with your leader.