



**Girl Scouts of  
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**Celebrating 100 Years of Girl Scouting**

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### **Girl Scout Cookies: A Centennial Legacy**

**December 15, 2011**-Girl Scouts has been building girls of courage, confidence and character since 1912. That's a 100-year-old legacy. Girl Scout cookies have been a major part of this legacy and it all started with one cookie. Since its origin in 1917, the Girl Scout Cookie Program has become a great American tradition.

The first Girl Scout cookie, the shortbread, was originally baked in the shape of a trefoil, the signature Girl Scout logo similar to the shape of a three-leaf clover. At this time, the cookies were baked by Girl Scouts and sold for about 25 cents. The first documented council-wide sale of commercially baked Girl Scout Cookies took place in Philadelphia in 1934, and two years later, the first national cookie sale took place. Over the course of 90 years, Girl Scout cookies have sky-rocketed from being homemade goodies to making up five of the top 10 best selling cookies in America and raising more than \$700 million in revenue each year. This success doesn't go unnoticed, as funds raised from cookie sales are used for the girls that make the sale possible, all while teaching goal setting, decision-making, people skills and money management.

This year, Girl Scouts of Southern Alabama's cookie sale begins on January 1, 2012, and will feature a special edition design on the Shortbread boxes to commemorate 100 years of Girl Scouting. This year, cookies include Shortbreads, Caramel Delites, Peanut Butter Sandwiches, Peanut Butter Patties, Lemonades, Thanks-A-Lots, Shoutouts and Thin Mints! They are all priced at \$3.50 per box. There will be booth sales and a Walkabout Weekend providing many opportunities for patrons to buy these delicious treats. In the meantime, here is a recipe for the original shortbread cookie.

#### **An Early Girl Scout Cookie® Recipe**

1 cup butter

1 cup sugar plus additional amount for topping (optional)

2 eggs

2 tablespoons milk

1 teaspoon vanilla

2 cups flour

1 teaspoon salt

2 teaspoons baking powder

Cream butter and the cup of sugar; add well-beaten eggs, then milk, vanilla, flour, salt, and baking powder. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Roll dough, cut into trefoil shapes, and sprinkle sugar on top, if desired. Bake in a quick oven (375°) for approximately 8 to 10 minutes or until the edges begin to brown. Makes 6 to 7 dozen cookies.

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Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

