

SENIOR WEBSITE DESIGNER BADGE

Badge Purpose: When you've earned this badge, you'll know how to design, build, and promote your own website.

Activity	Materials Needed
Brainstorm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What's your website or blog going to be about? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Brainstorming worksheet <input type="checkbox"/> Pen or pencil
Where's It Going to Live? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decide where you want your website to be hosted. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Computer with internet access
Design It! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a draft of your website. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Computer with internet access <input type="checkbox"/> Paper <input type="checkbox"/> Pen or pencil
Write It Up! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create content for your website. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Brainstorming worksheet <input type="checkbox"/> Computer with internet access
Introducing... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spread the word about your new website. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Computer with internet access

Getting Started

- Before you start working on this badge, sign the Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge.
- Make sure that everything you put on your website was created by you. Want to include some cool stuff you've found too? Make sure to give credit where credit is due—contact the author for their okay before you put it on your website.

Activity #1: Brainstorm

Badge Connection: Step 1 – Find a worthwhile subject for your website or blog

Materials Needed: Brainstorming worksheet; pen or pencil

- Before you start creating, you'll need to figure out what you want your website or blog to be about.
- Fill out the brainstorming worksheet. Write one of your interests in the circles and then think of topics related to that interest you could write about or want to investigate more.
- After you fill out the worksheet, decide which interest your blog or website is going to be about—pick one of the circles.
- Remember, it doesn't really matter *what* you write about—but it should be something you enjoy or like and want to share with other people. (Otherwise, it's going to feel like homework!) And you don't need to be an expert in your interest to write about it. You can use your website or blog to dive into your interest and find out more about what it's all about.



Activity #2: Where's It Going to Live?

Badge Connection: Step 2 – Be the host with the most

Materials Needed: Computer with internet access

1. Next, you need to decide where your website or blog is going to live, i.e. a site-hosting platform. There are pros and cons for each.
2. Some popular hosting sites:
 - Wordpress
 - Weebly
 - Squarespace
 - Wix
3. Remember that some of the hosting sites you find will be free and some will be paid. Decide which one works best for you.

Activity #3: Design It!

Badge Connection: Step 3 – Build a blueprint

Materials Needed: Computer with internet access; paper; pen or pencil

1. What do you want your website or blog to look like?
2. Think about some websites or blogs that you enjoy reading or browsing. Pull these up on the computer. Make a note of what you like and don't like about the website. As a reader or user, what makes the website easy to navigate? What makes it hard to use?
3. Keep these in mind as you sketch out what your blog is going to look like.

Activity #4: Write It Up!

Badge Connection: Step 4 – Create must-see content

Materials Needed: Brainstorming worksheet; computer with internet access

1. Now it's the meat of the matter—your website's content. Before you launch your site, make sure it has some interesting stuff on it!
2. Look at the brainstorming worksheet you filled out in Activity #1. You should have also thought of some topics related to that interest you want to write about. Use those as a launch pad and write up a few blog posts.

Activity #5: Introducing...

Badge Connection: Step 5 – Go live—then drive!

Materials Needed: Computer with internet access

1. What's a website if there are no readers? Spread the word about your new site! Announce your blog or website on your other social media sites (Instagram, Facebook, etc.) to help build an audience.



Circles of Interest Brainstorming Worksheet

Write one of your interests in each circle. Then, think of topics related to that interest that you could write about, or want to investigate more. For example, if you're interested in the environment, one of the topics you could write about could be female scientists researching climate change.

