

# Membership Pin FAQ's

## What is it?

The *Membership Pin* replaced the girls *Service Stars* and the women's *Long Service Bars* and is worn by all Members. While the *Service Stars/Long Service Bars* acknowledged completion of service, the *Membership Pin* celebrates the length of time a person is a member of Girl Guides of Canada/Guides du Canada and the fact that she has contributed from youth to adult.

## Is there one for every year?

There is a pin for years 1 to 15 inclusive and then a pin for each 5-year increment thereafter. Even though Members will receive a new pin every year, only one pin is worn at a time.

## Who do I get it from?

Girls receive their Membership pin from their Guider or Commissioner, women receive their pin from their District Commissioner, and District Commissioners will receive their pin from their Area Commissioner.

## When do I get one?

In the past, the *Service Stars/Long Service Bars* were awarded at the end of the year to acknowledge a girls attendance at meetings and to reflect a Guiders service to Guiding. The *Membership Pin* is awarded at the beginning of the year to celebrate and acknowledge a commitment to belonging for the year. A good time to present them to both the girls and Guiders would be at a Unit/District Enrollment ceremony or at any fall "kickoff" celebration. They should be presented to new members whenever they join throughout the year.

## What happens if I leave Guiding and return a few years later?

Membership does not have to be continuous to receive the *Membership Pin*. Many members, both girls and women, resign and rejoin later. Their membership years will be adjusted to reflect any lapses. An adult Members iMIS profile will show girl membership years as well as adult years, which both count towards her Membership pin.

## How do I know which one to give to my girls/Guiders?

There is an iMIS report available, the "Membership Pin Report", which lists Members (adults and girls) eligible for specific Membership pins. It can be requested from your iMIS home.

## Who pays for them?

Your District and/or Area Council decides who should be responsible to purchase the Membership pins. It can be the unit, District or Area and can be different for each District/Area. If you are not sure how it works in your District/Area, talk to your District Commissioner. There is no paperwork required to purchase the pins; you can buy what you need from the Guide Shop at any time.

If you have any more questions about the Membership Pin, ask your area membership adviser or email them to [membership@albertagirlguides.com](mailto:membership@albertagirlguides.com). We will answer every question and add to our "Membership Pin FAQ's" page.

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