



# Shopping with Girlguiding

We understand that how and where products are made is an important part of your decision to buy something.

And we're proud to meet the highest requirements to ensure our products are responsibly sourced and safety checked and we're doing our best to reduce our impact on the planet.

Please note this only applies to official Girlguiding clothing and merchandise purchased from [girlguidingshop.co.uk](http://girlguidingshop.co.uk) or one of our approved stockists.

## Ethical

It's crucial to us that the people who make our products are treated fairly and work in safe conditions. So, we ask our suppliers to meet a minimum set of requirements in order to work with us. As a minimum all suppliers must:

agree to sign our Ethical code of conduct, that's based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Further details can be found at [www.ethicaltrade.org](http://www.ethicaltrade.org)



answer a questionnaire that is graded by independent experts



We record any certificated and external accreditations suppliers have including SMETA ethical audits.

We're always monitoring our suppliers but sometimes the best way to check they're meeting our standards is to walk around the factories and meet the people. So every now and again we visit them and get to experience the working conditions first-hand.

## Product safety

Safety is at the heart of everything we do, whether it's a leader polo shirt or a Brownies teddy bear! All our products:

are tested in labs to make sure they're safe before we sell them.



have their own information file to make sure they meet all relevant compliance regulations.



have manuals, compliance records and technical packs so we can improve and develop them to make sure they're always safe and the best quality.



Did you know 2142 products were recalled in the EU in 2021 due to not meeting relevant regulations? 20% of these items were classed as giftware. That's why we're proud to work with our suppliers to safety check all of our products before we sell them. We make sure we're complying with all regulations to avoid any issues because it's important to us that anything you buy from Girlguiding is fit for purpose, good quality and most importantly, safe to use.

## Environmental

We're dedicated to doing our bit to protect the planet, from our products and packaging options to how we send your orders. Here are some positive changes we've already made:



we've swapped most of our external packaging to eco-friendly alternatives, including sugar cane which is fully recyclable and uses no fossil fuels.

we're working to make sure all our packaging is labelled correctly and shows you how to recycle it.

all woven badge orders now come in recyclable packaging, replacing 100,000 plastic bags per year.



we're always looking to avoid single-use plastics. If there's a recyclable option, we'll use it.



These changes save 1 ton of plastic per year - this is approximately the weight of an adult walrus!

We are on a journey with sustainability and we have a long way to go, but we'll get there one walrus at a time!