

Gingerbread Houses

Description: This project provides youth with the opportunity to design and construct gingerbread houses using real gingerbread and edible decorations.

No State Fair Exhibit

- Enroll in 4-H, pay annual program fee, and enter project in V2.4honline by May 15
- Enter exhibit(s) in FairEntry by May 24, 2024. See page 7 Rule #24.
- Exhibits checked-in Saturday, June 15, 2024 from 9am-12 pm, judging starts at 12:30 pm

An Allen County 4-H General Record Sheet must be completed, signed and turned in at the beginning of check-in for All Exhibit Building Projects.

All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

4-H'er may exhibit a maximum of three (3) gingerbread houses.

Gingerbread houses for this project must be made of real gingerbread (not graham crackers or cardboard). All decorations must be edible, and Royal Icing will be used for glue. Gingerbread houses can be more than just Christmas decorations. You may choose any holiday theme, fairy tale castles, barns, churches, stores, forts, or other historical buildings. Decorations may be added to the yard and roof, and you may add people, trees, animals, etc., but everything must be edible.

All age groups must have their gingerbread house mounted on a covered base. The gingerbread house and the extra items in the yard all need to be securely anchored to the base with Royal Icing. All materials in the house and the decorations must be edible. No plastics allowed.

Levels:

Beginner Grades 3 – 5

Intermediate Grades 6 – 8

Advanced Grades 9 -12

Exhibit Requirements:

Beginner – Grades 3-5

A simple house structure. Your gingerbread house should be mounted on a covered sturdy base. Beginners have the option of using a kit. You may choose to decorate the house and yard.

Intermediate – Grades 6-8

A basic house or other structure. Your structure should be mounted on a covered sturdy base. No kits may be used in this division.

Advanced – Grades 9-12

The structure for the advanced category needs to be a more complicated than intermediate structures. The structure may have more than one section. The walls of your structure may be textured to look like brick, stone, siding, or a log cabin, etc. Your structure should be mounted on a covered sturdy base. The house may have more than one section. The windows need to be cut out and filled with candy "window panes" made of melted hard candies (see manual). The walls of your structure may be textured to look like brick, stone, siding, or even log cabin, etc. You also have the option of using a colored Royal Icing glaze on your walls. Your gingerbread house should be mounted on a covered sturdy base. You have the option of lighting your house from the interior (see description in manual). If so, you may have your house lit during judging, but it will not be lit during fair week. No kits may be used in this division.