

CAKE DECORATING

PLEASE NOTE: Any changes/updates from the previous year will be **BOLDED and **ITALICIZED**! Pay special attention to any projects with **BOLD, ITALICIZED WORDS** because they have changed from last year.**

The cake decorating project allows youth to utilize their artistic ability and expressions as they learn decorating techniques and skills. Anyone wanting to learn baking skills should refer to the 4-H Foods Project.

Completion, exhibition participation, and State Fair information for Cake Decorating			
Division/Level	Grades <i>(suggested)</i>	Completion Activities Needed*	Maximum State Fair Entries
Beginner	Skills Techniques	Record Sheet and Skill Sheet	1 Entry
Intermediate	Skills Techniques	Record Sheet and Skill Sheet	1 Entry
Advanced	Skills Techniques	Record Sheet and Skill Sheet	1 Entry

GUIDELINES:

1. Refer to the Hendricks County 4-H Policies, Entry & Exhibit **Guidelines** for poster and general display guidelines.
2. The cake decorating project provides skills-based educational experiences that provide an opportunity for mastery before building on that experience to develop more advanced skills. This subject area is divided into three levels: Beginner (Grades 3-5), Intermediate (Grades 6-8), and Advanced (Grades 9-12). While the defined grades are intended to be a guide, older youth enrolled in this subject for the first time may start in a lower grade skill level with permission by the county extension educator, followed by an appropriate level the following year.
3. Skills and techniques demonstrated should be age/grade appropriate. While it is not to say a beginner level member cannot master an advanced level skill, it would be rare and unique. Therefore, exhibited cakes must demonstrate the minimum five techniques from their given level outlined in Indiana 4-H Cake Decorating Skills and Techniques, 4-H 710A, but may also include higher/lower level techniques that have been mastered. Any higher/lower level techniques will not be counted as part of the minimum five, but nevertheless will be evaluated for quality. All exhibited cakes must be created using a Styrofoam, foam, or other solid dummy. Unless otherwise stated, cakes are to be iced using royal icing or buttercream. Buttercream icing will not withstand environmental conditions and may become soft, melt, not withhold its shape, and colors may bleed when being displayed an extended period of time. When displaying a cut-up cake or tiered cake, the exhibitor must include a diagram and description indicating how the cake was assembled. This diagram and description can be attached to or written on the skills sheet. All exhibits must include a completed Cake Decorating Skills Sheet (4-H 710) and must accompany the cake for the judge's reference during judging. Skills Sheets are available in the Hendricks County Extension Office.

EXHIBIT CLASSES

Beginner Level (Grades 3-5) *(suggested)*

A minimum of five beginner level skills are to be demonstrated. A list of skills to choose from can be found on the Indiana 4-H Cake Decorating Skills and Techniques, 4-H 710A sheet. Cakes must be on a cake board approximately 3/8" thick and 2-4" larger than the cake. For example, if the cake is 8" in diameter, then the cake board must be 10-12" in diameter. The cake board must be neatly covered and well taped or otherwise attached underneath. Cakes exhibited in the beginner level are to be a single tier/layer, no more than 5" tall, and may be round, square, or rectangular and the cake board is to be no more than 12"x12".

Intermediate Level (Grades 6-8) *(suggested)*

A minimum of five intermediate level skills are to be demonstrated and the cake may include additional skills from the beginner level. A list of skills to choose from can be found on the Indiana 4-H Cake Decorating Skills and Techniques, 4-H 710A sheet. Cakes must be on a cake board approximately 3/8" thick and 2-4" larger than the cake. For example, if the cake is 9"x13" rectangular, then the cake board must be 11" x 15" to 13" x 17" rectangular. The cake board must be neatly covered and well taped or otherwise attached underneath. Cakes exhibited in the intermediate level are to be a single or double tier/layer, no more than 12" tall and may be any shape. Youth may choose to decorate an inverted (upside down) character pan or create a 3-dimensional cake. It is also permissible to cut-up pieces of Styrofoam, foam, or other solid material to create a new shape, like a butterfly or castle for example. The cake board is to be no more than 24"x24".

Advanced Level (Grades 9-12) *(suggested)*

A minimum of five advanced level skills are to be demonstrated and the cake may include additional skills from the beginner and intermediate levels. A list of skills to choose from can be found on the Indiana 4-H Cake Decorating Skills and Techniques, 4-H 710A sheet. Cakes must be on a cake board approximately 1/2" thick and 4" larger than the base cake. For example, if the cake is 26" in diameter, then the cake board must be 30" in diameter. The cake board must be neatly covered and well taped or otherwise attached underneath. Cakes exhibited in the advanced level may be multiple layer and/or tiered and may include multiple cakes, like a wedding cake. Youth may choose to create a character or 3-dimensional cake by cutting-up pieces of Styrofoam, foam, or other solid material to create a new shape. Dowel rods, plates, etc. should be used to support multiple layers and tiers. Fondant icing, gum, and sugar paste is permissible. Cakes may be any shape, no more than 36" tall and the cake board is to be no more than 36"x36".

ENTRY & EXHIBIT GUIDELINES FOR THE HENDRICKS COUNTY 4-H FAIR

All exhibits and entries must be made during the period indicated on the fair schedule.

1. All exhibits must be picked up during the allotted time period or ribbons and awards will be forfeited.
2. All project selections must be made on 4-HOnline. Exhibits that will be presented/displayed at the Hendricks County 4-H Fair must be entered into FairEntry online by designated date.
3. **Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this handbook as a guide rather than a requirement.**
4. All non-livestock exhibits must include an exhibit label in the lower right hand corner of their exhibit available from FairEntry. Livestock exhibits will receive stall/cage cards when the project is brought to the fairgrounds.
5. In case of an unavoidable circumstance, such as death of animal or drought, which prevents members from exhibiting, insert an explanation in your record book, signed by your parent or guardian and 4-H Leader, and turn book in at the Extension Office to be considered as completing the project.
6. White cards ("My Record of Achievement") must be turned in to exhibit in 4-H. Completion cards must be presented at check-in.
7. **Members are eligible to exhibit their project via Interactive Demonstration during the County Fair, but will not qualify for State Fair. Additionally, Interactive Demonstrations will be a non-judged exhibit option where members may showcase what they have learned in the project to the general public. All projects have the option for Interactive Demonstration exhibit at the county level.**
8. A 4-H member can exhibit in only one division of each project.
9. All exhibitors will receive ribbons. Exhibits in the livestock classes will receive ribbons designated first to tenth places with all exhibits below tenth receiving achievement ribbons. All other projects will be graded as to quality with the highest quality to receive blue ribbons; average quality, red ribbons; below average, white ribbons. Any exhibit not meeting the **guidelines** of the project will be judged on its merit then lowered one placing ribbon. Exhibit entered late, improperly, or not judged will receive a green merit ribbon. Exhibits with exceptional merit will be awarded honor group ribbons as determined by the judge.
10. **Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect its 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.**

The dimensions for the poster are 22 inches tall and 28 inches wide.

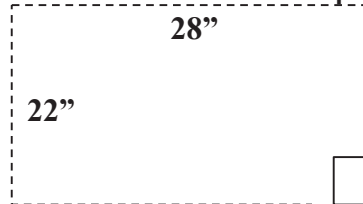


Exhibit tag comes from information entered on FairEntry prior to the 4-H Fair. The exhibit tag needs to go on the outside of the plastic sleeve in the bottom right hand corner.

11. State Fair Livestock 4-H entries are to be entered on the State Fair website by the 4-H member by June 1. The Extension Office will make all other non-livestock project entries through FairEntry.
12. Use of skateboards, skates, roller blades, and bicycles are prohibited on the grounds unless in conjunction with a fair event.
13. Dogs and other domestic animals are prohibited on the grounds unless in conjunction with a 4-H Fair event or dogs being used as service animals for impaired individuals.
14. All judges' decisions will be final.
15. **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. Reference Sheets are available at the Extension Office for use.
16. For personal safety concerns, notebooks/posters/displays exhibited should only contain name, county, grade, level, and club if needed. Do not list personally identifiable information (i.e. phone, address, etc.).