OFFICIAL RULES & GUIDELINES

For complete list of rules & regulations, visit www.thegingerbreadfestival.com

1 FREE TO ENTER
The deadline for completed entry forms is DECEMBER 5, 2025

2 2025 CONTEST CATEGORIES

PROFESSIONAL 18 years years & older
Entry by an individual or team.

AMATEUR 18 years of age & older
Entry by an individual or team.

TEEN 13-17 years of age
Entry by an individual or team.

YOUTH 9-12 years of age
Entry by an individual or team.

CHILD 5-8 years of age
Entry by an individual or team.

PINT SIZE ELVES 5 years of age & under
Entry by team.

3 JUDGING
Entries will be judged on a scale of 1-5 based on:

- Overall Appearance
- Originality
- Use of Materials
- Consistency of Theme

The "People's Choice Award" will be awarded based on public voting.

Winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony on Sunday, December 14, 4-5 pm

4 ENTRY DROP OFF
Completed entries must be delivered to Crystal Coast Civic Center on Friday, December 12, between the hours of 10 am and 2 pm. The Gingerbread Festival Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry deemed inappropriate which does not follow the rules and guidelines. Any entry which begins to look in disrepair may be removed from display.

5 ENTRY SPECIFICS
There is no overall theme for the competition. Although, it is titled Gingerbread House Competition, entries are not limited to the structure of a house. Competitors are encouraged to uniquely design their entry. Entries must have been constructed in 2025.

6 MATERIAL & CONSTRUCTION
The main structure should be constructed 100% of gingerbread, some of which should be exposed and not fully covered in incing or other decorative element. Everything above the base should be edible materials. The use of gingerbread house kits is allowed ONLY by entrants in the Youth (9-12), and Child (5-8) Categories. Entries in the **Pint Size Category** should be constructed using a milk carton and graham crackers.

Everything visible on entries in ALL categories must be edible. Candies must be unwrapped and free of any non-edible materials, for example, lollipop sticks. Two-dimensional fondant/marzipan/gum paste components cut with a smart cutting machine (Circuit, Silhouette, etc,) are permitted. No 3D printed components. No hot glue, icing only. No electric will be available for entries.

Display Board Rules: All entries should be submitted on a wooden or plastic base, no larger than 24"L x 18"W. Entries should not exceed 26" in height. Non-edible materials such as paint and/or ribbon are approved and encouraged to decorate the outer edge of your base only. The base is considered part of the judging criteria and should complement your creation.

7 ENTRY IDENTIFICATION
Following receipt of the Competitor Entry form, entrant will receive a confirmation email providing the GBF number. Entries must be clearly labeled with its assigned GBF number. This can be incorporated into the piece or on the outer edge of the base.

8 ENTRY DESCRIPTION SUMMARY
The Description Summary form will be emailed to you along with your assigned GBF number. The purpose of the summary is to better inform the judges of your vision, theme, process, and material usage that may not be obvious from viewing your entry. Summary should be anonymous and free from identifying factors.

9 ENTRY PICKUP
Entries may be taken after the Awards Ceremony on Sunday, December 14 or picked up on Monday, December 15 between 8:30 am -12 pm. Any entry not picked up by the specified time will be discarded.