

Gingerbread House Contest Rules

Deadline to register for the competition and drop off house is **Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 3pm.**

2019 Contest Divisions

- **Adult /Group Division:** Adult: ages 17 years & up | Family: Group of 2-7, 1 adult & 1 child minimum
- **Youth Division:** Up to 16 years old
- **Child Division:** Ages 9 and under
 - Child division is not scored. Every entry receives a participation certificate. If you want a chance for a ribbon you will need to enter as a Youth category.

*A registration fee of **\$10.00** is due for each entry. Cash or credit cards are accepted.
Each entry will receive two tickets to attend ElectriCrittters on the night of 11/27/19.*

- All Entries will be judged on the following criteria on Wednesday, November 27th prior to the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony.
- First and second place ribbons will be awarded in each division.
- Certificates will be placed for overall most unique, best use of edible decorations, technical difficulty, conservation message, best zoo animal. All child division entrees will receive a participation certificate.
- Winners will be announced from the stage prior to the Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6:00 PM. All entries must be delivered to the Pueblo Zoo in completed form on Tuesday Nov. 26, 2019 between the hours of 9am and 3 pm. Early and late deliveries will not be accepted.
- The entries will be displayed on Wednesday, November 27th. Entries that did not win first place may pick up their items on Friday, November 29 between 9am and 3pm. Failure to pick up will result in the disposal of your entry.
- The Pueblo Zoo reserves the right not to display an entry, if the entry is not considered of show quality. The Pueblo Zoo will display the first place gingerbread houses in the Islands of Life till December 13th. Items may be picked up on December 14th. Failure to do so will result in the disposal of your entry.
- Frosting and materials tend to dry out while on display. Entrees may get damaged or fall apart while on display. The Pueblo Zoo is not responsible for any loss or damage.
- The zoo will contact the winners to pick up the house before 12/13 if the house is no longer of show quality. The zoo has the right to toss out displays if the zoo reaches out twice (either by phone and email) and does not get a response to pick up.
- Entry fees are non-refundable.
- Tickets included with entry are only valid on the night of 11/27/19. They may not be redeemed for another date. Tickets will be given at the time of drop off.

If you have any questions regarding the contest entry or rules, please contact **Pueblo Zoo at 719-561-1452 x 106**. Thank you for entering our Gingerbread House Competition!

RULES (APPLIES TO ALL DIVISIONS):

- 1) Any structure - real or imaginary - is eligible for entry.
- 2) **Gingerbread kits are only allowed for the Child Division. Youth & Adult/Family Division must be original.**
- 3) Please include your name and Gingerbread House title in a visible place on the base.
- 4) Entry must have all MAJOR components, such as walls and roofs, must be constructed of gingerbread (no graham crackers, cookies, etc.).
- 5) All components must be edible. For example, all foil or plastic wrapped candies must be unwrapped; lollipops cannot have paper or plastic stems. NO perishable food items can be used in the making of an entry.
- 6) No artificial interior materials, such as Styrofoam, are to be used to construct or decorate the house.
- 7) Entries must be freestanding and attached to a strong base measuring no bigger than 18" L x 18" W. Entries cannot exceed 26" in height. The base must be completely concealed with an edible product; however, the sides of the base do not have to be concealed.
- 8) Structure must be the dominate feature of the entry. Structure must be no smaller than 7" in height by 8" wide.
- 9) You may add electric lighting to your entry. Please keep the power switch accessible for display purposes.
- 10) Entry must have been constructed in 2019.
- 11) All entries will be judged on a combination of construction and creativity.
- 12) Points will be deducted for non-edible items, use of a kit, undersized, over-sized, missing decorations.
- 13) A list of materials used to create your Gingerbread House along with a title and brief description should be submitted with your entry.

Deadline to register for the competition and drop off house is **Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 3pm.**

Entry forms may be obtained by visiting the Pueblo Zoo, or downloading an entry form at <http://www.pueblozoo.org>

Gingerbread House Tips and Recipes

- Royal icing is the glue that holds the gingerbread house and materials together. The icing should be stiff enough to work as a glue and hold its shape, but flexible enough to spread easily.
- To prevent freshly made royal icing from hardening, keep a moist towel over the mixing bowl.
- If you would like to color your icing, use paste food coloring. Liquid food coloring will thin out the icing.
- Let the icing dry completely. If your icing is soft the walls and roof will slip and slide around when you add candy and decorations.

Below you will find two recipes for royal icing and resources for gingerbread templates. Please feel free to find and use any recipe you would like!

Royal Icing Recipe 1

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons meringue powder
- 4 cups sifted confectioners' sugar
- 6 tablespoons water

Directions Beat all ingredients at low speed for 7 to 10 minutes, or until icing forms peaks.

Royal Icing Recipe 2

Ingredients

- 3 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 2 egg whites, beaten

In a bowl, sift together confectioners' sugar and cream of tartar. Using electric mixer, beat in 2 beaten egg whites for about 5 minutes or until mixture is thick enough to hold its shape.

Gingerbread Templates:

All Recipes:

http://images.allrecipes.com/site/allrecipes/gingerbread_house_diagram.pdf

Gingerbread House Heaven:

<http://www.gingerbread-house-heaven.com/support-files/free-gingerbread-house-pattern.pdf>

Martha Stewart Swedish Gingerbread House Template

http://images.marthastewart.com/images/content/web/pdfs/2009Q4/ms_hol09_swedish_gingerbread_house_temp.pdf

King Arthur Flour:

<https://www.kingarthurflour.com/guides/cookie-decorating/docs/gingerbread.pdf>

Registration Form: Gingerbread House Contest



Thank you for entering our Gingerbread House Competition!

Deadline to register for the competition and drop off house is Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 3pm. If you have any questions regarding the contest entry or rules, please contact the **Pueblo Zoo at 719-561-1452 x 106.**

Please submit your registration form along with the \$10 entry fee to the Pueblo Zoo ticket office.

Cash or credit cards are accepted. Each entry will receive two tickets to attend ElectriCrittter for the night of 11/27/19.

Please select you Division:

____ Adult/Family (17 & up) | Entry Fee: \$10

Not scored: ____ Child (9 & under) | Entry Fee: \$10

____ Youth (10-16) | Entry Fee: \$10

Name to be acknowledged on the house: (ex: name of child, youth or adult entering, family name, corporation name)

____ Youth or Child Division: Age: ____

Contact First Name: _____ Contact Last Name: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Gingerbread House Title: _____

Short Description: _____

The Pueblo Zoo reserves the right to photograph and use photographs of all entries and participants for advertising and promotional purposes. Competition entry constitutes participant's consent to use their name for editorial advertising and publicity purposes. The Pueblo Zoo is not responsible for any loss or damage. By signing this entry form, I understand and agree to all of the rules of this competition and understand entry fees are non-refundable.

I also agree I will pick up my entry on Friday Nov. 29, 2019.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Guardian required if under 18: _____