

Gingerbread Creations

Gingerbread Village is one of the most loved areas of the Festival of Trees and features over 100 houses and other adorable structures each year. These intricate and charming auction items are also created by community members of all ages. The confectionary creations bring joy (and an inviting scent) to the Festival of Trees!

The Gingerbread Village committee hosts a workshop in September (invitation only) to teach their donors tips and tricks, including the recipe to make gingerbread that is the perfect consistency for building, as well as a recipe for icing that best helps adhere the walls and decorations together.

The Gingerbread Village committee recommends the following guidelines:

- We encourage the use of only edible materials, but allow the use of small, nonedible props—sometimes this helps the gingerbread creation sell.
- The base on which your gingerbread creation sits must be wooden or another type of sturdy base, such as a cake or seasonal plate (no cardboard), and should not exceed 24” by 24”. Bigger is not always better; smaller houses and creations are more likely to have more bids because bidders don't always have room for the larger creations.
- Halloween-themed gingerbread creations are prohibited but fall-themed creations are acceptable.
- Store-bought gingerbread house kits are allowed, but please do not use the plastic tray that comes with the kit. Be sure to use more edible items than just those provided in the kit.
- Please do not use hot glue to hold the walls and other parts of the structure together and please do not spray your creation with any varnishes or clear coat.

For additional information on Gingerbread Village, including submission forms, guidelines, and deadlines, please contact Jean Kaufman at (309) 827-7421 or Linda Park at (309) 452-7052.