

Gingerbread template directions. Since I hope to do this twice a year for many years, I decided to trace all the pieces onto reusable wax paper to use year after year. If you would rather just use printer paper to cut out your dough, free too.

Print out all pages, the scale box should be 1x1 or pretty close!

cut out page 11 and 12- set aside the three hat pieces, you will need to attach them to the correct pieces as we go.

cut out page 1 and 2 (these are the roof pieces that cover sides B and the middle of the house respectively.) They have little extension pieces that need to be taped to make them 12", see the directions on pieces and tape them.

note: After baking, the notch on piece L will need to fit snugly around pieces E and A, you might need to carve it out a bit more if the gingerbread expands, just kind of gently file it down if needed. If the notch turns out too large, just use extra frosting to cover and hold it.

cut out pages 3 and 4. these are the roof pieces that will hang over side A and E.

cut out page 5 twice for piece B and C.

note: C is an inner wall. It will jut out behind piece D in the final construction and will help hold up the roof piece L. It is needed for structural integrity.

cut out pages 6 and 7. attach hat to part A #2 (from page 7). then tape part A #1 to part A #2. as directed on the pattern piece. (final piece will be 13" long).

cut out page 8.

cut out page 9- attach hat piece as directed.

cut out page 10- attach hat piece as directed.

Once you have cut out and created your wax paper templates, you can use them over and over again! Practice makes perfect, and returning to this project as a Halloween or Christmas tradition year after year (maybe with different themes) is truly the key to gingerbread mastery. Even if its just a "one and done" thing for you, using the checklist will make it much easier- it really is just two small houses connected via inner wall C. You can do it I promise!!!

You can choose to cut the windows and doors out of your pieces and then just cut them out of the gingerbread using the template as a guide. Or use the window and door template pieces to cut around the templates directly on the gingerbread, judging placement by eye. If you do this, which is fine, just make sure to keep the door at one inch from the bottom of the house on piece E, but not much more than that so the porch will work out.

page	letter piece	description	cut out?	notes:
11	G	porch roof		
	H	porch floor		
	I	porch support		
	J	porch support		
	K	porch poles		
		chimney side front		
		chimney side left		
		chimney side right		
		chimney side back		
		window template		
		door template		
		hat piece		
12		hat piece		
		hat piece		
		chimney flue		will attach to side piece B
1	L	roof over A, B and D will have decorative chimney pieces attached		hangs over side B needs to be 12''x 7''
2	M	roof over D, C and A connects with K along top has M and N placed over it fits with its notch around E and A, might need notch trimmed/ filed		rests along C, D and A needs to be 12'' x 7''

3	N	roof over A and E part of house, connects with N		covers pieces A & E
4	O	roof over A and E part of house, connects with M		covers pieces A & E
5	B	Side of house will have decorative chimney flue attached with frosting		outer wall
	C	inner wall		inner wall
6	A #1	large back of house		will need to be attached to A#2 on page 7 for a final measurement of 13''x10'' *will need sugar glass in windows if using
7	A #2			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attaches to A#1 *needs hat attached
8	E	front face of house, will have porch placed in front, take care when cutting out door / windows to accommodate porch if not using template		*will need sugar glass in windows if using
9	D	front of house		front face that juts out *needs hat attached

				*will need sugar glass in windows if using
10	F	side of house		*attach hat to this side piece *will need sugar glass in windows if using

After the pieces have cooled, start construction. You can use the sugar glass recipe to make an edible hot glue that you will dip the edges of your pieces in. To do this in the most efficient way, pour half your melted sugar onto a rimmed cookie sheet, leave the rest in pot on stove, but turned off with the thermometer still in. Work with your melted sheet until it cools too much and hardens. At this point, melt the leftover sugar glue and repeat your steps in a new sheet pan.

Working quickly if using sugar glue, attach pieces B, D and C. Attach piece A to the edge of piece B, then attach F to the other edge of A. Nestle in piece E, it will be glued to the other edge of F and along an inner line of piece C about 2.5" from piece C's edge.

Spoon melted sugar glue along the top edge of piece B and along the edge of the "hat" part of pieces A and D. Attach roof piece K.

Spoon sugar glue along the top rim of piece K and attach piece L, fitting the notch snugly around pieces E and A.

Spoon sugar glue over the edges of E and F, and then dip the diagonal edge of M and attach. Spoon sugar glue over the edge of A and F and then dip the diagonal edge and long top edge of N in the sugar glue and attach.

Dip one long edge of piece I (porch support) in the sugar glue and attach to the long side of piece H (porch floor). Dip a short and long side of porch support in sugar glue and attach to the H/I piece. Dip side opposite piece J and back long edge of this H/I/J piece in sugar glue and attach to piece E. This is the base of your porch. Spoon sugar glue onto porch supports and attach along outside of porch. Spoon sugar glue on tops of supports, and dip piece G along back edge, one short edge and, front edge. Attach to porch supports and piece E.

Attach chimney flue piece with thick frosting along middle of piece B. On top of the roof attach the chimney side pieces, using diagram on page 11 if needed.