



Tip: Assemble your ingredients and plan your project before you begin!

One question that came up repeatedly in my gingerbread classes was "What is the shelf life of molasses?" It is 24 months.

## Checklist

### Items You Must Have:

Candy, cookies, and other edible decorations (including ready-made sugar decorations)

Ingredients for the gingerbread dough (or purchase store-bought, pre-baked pieces)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> flour                | <input type="checkbox"/> vegetable shortening (good quality) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sugar                | <input type="checkbox"/> baking powder                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> unsulphered molasses | <input type="checkbox"/> salt                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ground ginger        | <input type="checkbox"/> cinnamon                            |

Ingredients for royal icing

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> powdered sugar | <input type="checkbox"/> meringue powder |
|---|--|

Pattern (or cutters or mold)

Sturdy base

### Very Useful Items:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cake decorating bags                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Shiny, heavy-gauge aluminum pans  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cookie rack for cooling pieces         | <input type="checkbox"/> Small, angled spatula used to spread the icing  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couplers and tips                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Toothpicks  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drying table                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Turntable for turning the house while decorating  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foil covering for base                 | <input type="checkbox"/> X-acto knife  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy-duty stand mixer                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yard sticks, rulers, or special rubber bands for your rolling pin to help ensure even dough thickness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marble rolling pin                     |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parchment paper                        |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paste colors to color icing (or dough) |  |

Some of the items listed are discussed in detail on pages 9-14 (in the order they appear in this list).