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# Gingerbread Riddles



**30 riddles** from easy to tricky. Write your answer on the line. Answers are on the last page.

## Easy riddles ★

1. I have two arms and two legs, but I have never taken a step on my own. My eyes are raisins, my smile is icing, and I smell like spice. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

2. What does a gingerbread man put on his bed?

   ANSWER _____

3. My walls are baked, not built. My windows are drawn with icing, and my path is paved with candy. Nobody lives in me, and by January somebody has usually eaten my chimney. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

4. I look like a knobbly brown root with pale yellow insides. Grate me or grind me into powder and I add a warm, spicy kick. Gingerbread is named after me. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

5. I'm white, sweet and sticky. On a gingerbread house I do three jobs: I'm the glue, the snow and the icicles. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

6. I'm a small, chewy candy shaped like a little dome and rolled in sugar. On a gingerbread man, I'm the buttons down his front. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

7. I have a door, but nobody walks through it. Gingerbread dough goes into me soft and pale and comes out firm and brown. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

8. In the old story, a little old woman, a little old man, a cow and a horse all chase the gingerbread man and can't catch him. I catch him by being clever, not fast. I have red fur and a bushy tail. Who am I?

   ANSWER _____

9. I'm made of metal and shaped like a little person with no face. Press me into rolled-out dough and I leave a gingerbread man behind, again and again. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

10. Take the spice out of the word "gingerbread." What food is left?

    ANSWER _____

11. I'm a thick, dark brown syrup left over when sugar is made. I give gingerbread its deep color, and I pour very, very slowly, especially on a cold day. What am I?

ANSWER _____

12. I'm a spice that starts out as the bark of a tree. I'm sold as curled brown sticks or as powder, and I'm in gingerbread, apple pie and the sugar on a snickerdoodle. What am I?

ANSWER _____

13. We're dried flower buds that look like tiny brown nails. We smell strong and sweet, and bakers grind us up for gingerbread or poke us whole into oranges. What are we?

ANSWER _____

14. I'm red and white and bent at the top. On a gingerbread house, I stand by the door like a striped lamppost. What am I?

ANSWER _____

15. The farmer couldn't stop the gingerbread man, and neither could the cow or the horse. I stopped him without chasing him at all. I run all day, but I have no legs, and a cookie can't swim across me. What am I?

ANSWER _____

16. I'm a thin, crisp ginger cookie. I'm named after the sharp little sound I make when you break me in half. What am I?

ANSWER _____

17. In this fairy tale, collected by the Brothers Grimm, a brother and sister lost in the forest find a house made of bread, cake and sugar, and they start nibbling on it. Gingerbread houses became popular in Germany after it was printed. Which fairy tale is it?

ANSWER _____

18. On a gingerbread house, I'm the last big piece to go on. I come in two slanted halves that lean together at the top, and I need the most icing to stay put. What am I?

ANSWER _____

19. What do you call a gingerbread man who gets top marks on every test?

ANSWER _____

20. Once I was a plump, juicy grape. Then I dried in the sun and turned small, dark and wrinkly. Now I'm a gingerbread man's eyes. What am I?

ANSWER _____

21. One gingerbread house needs 4 walls and 2 roof pieces. You baked 20 pieces, all the right kinds. How many whole houses can you build?

ANSWER _____

## Tricky riddles ★★★

22. Dutch speculaas are thin, crunchy spice cookies, close cousins of gingerbread. The dough is pressed into carved wooden molds, and in America the cookies are named after the picture most often stamped on them: a building with four big sails that turn in the wind. What is the picture?

ANSWER _____

23. A popular story says that a queen of England in the 1500s served the first gingerbread men: figures baked to look like her important guests. Her father was King Henry VIII, and a later queen with the same first name reigned until 2022. Who was she?

ANSWER _____

24. In Sweden, thin and crisp gingerbread cookies are called "pepparkakor," which means "pepper cakes." Which half of the word means "cakes"?

ANSWER _____

25. The story of the runaway gingerbread cookie was first printed in an American children's magazine in May 1875, under the title "The Gingerbread Boy." How old was the printed story in May 2025?

ANSWER _____

26. The gingerbread man runs 3 meters every second. The fox runs 5 meters every second, but the gingerbread man starts 20 meters ahead. How many seconds does the fox need to catch him?

ANSWER _____

27. Every gingerbread man gets 3 gumdrop buttons and 2 raisin eyes. You have 40 gumdrops and 22 raisins. How many gingerbread men can you finish completely?

ANSWER _____

28. Four gingerbread kids named Gus, Molly, Pip and Dot cool in a row on a tray. Molly is at the far left. Gus is not at either end. Dot is directly to the right of Pip. Who is at the far right?

ANSWER _____

29. I'm the hard brown seed of a tropical fruit, about the size of a small olive. Bakers grate me into gingerbread and sprinkle me on eggnog. My name begins with something a squirrel collects. What am I?

ANSWER _____

30. How many gingerbread men can you put into an empty cookie jar?

ANSWER _____

# Answers

Gingerbread Riddles · answer key · print or fold this page away before you hand out the sheet

1. **A gingerbread man**
2. **A cookie sheet**
3. **A gingerbread house**
4. **Ginger**
5. **Icing**
6. **A gumdrop**
7. **An oven**
8. **The fox**
9. **A cookie cutter**
10. **Bread**
11. **Molasses**
12. **Cinnamon**
13. **Cloves**
14. **A candy cane**
15. **The river**
16. **A gingersnap**
17. **Hansel and Gretel**
18. **The roof**
19. **A smart cookie**
20. **A raisin**
21. **3 houses.** Each house uses 6 pieces, so 3 houses use 18 and 2 pieces are left over.
22. **A windmill.** That's why speculaas are often sold as "windmill cookies."
23. **Queen Elizabeth I.** The story is told often, though historians haven't found firm proof of it.
24. **Kakor.** "Peppar" is the Swedish word for pepper.
25. **150 years old**
26. **10 seconds.** The gap of 20 meters shrinks by 2 meters a second.
27. **11.** The gumdrops are enough for 13 men, but the raisins only stretch to 11.
28. **Dot.** The order from left to right is Molly, Gus, Pip, Dot.
29. **Nutmeg**
30. **One.** After that, the jar isn't empty anymore.

Need a hint? Every riddle has one at **riddlepedia.com/gingerbread-riddles/**, where you can also play them as a game.