

# How to Host a Gingerbread House Fundraiser

**Habitat's Gingerbread House Challenge is the ultimate festive fundraiser! Build hope as you build your gingerbread house and raise funds, which will help more children have a safe place to live.**

## Choose your venue

This could be at home, in your office, church or community hall.

## Promote your event/Invite your guests

Download a poster for printing or just share on social media.

## Plan your fundraising

**For children/young people** - Gingerbread House Sponsorship forms are available to download from the Habitat website.

**For adults** – suggest a donation to take part or ask other colleagues to sponsor a team!

## Plan the event

The easiest way to organise, unless you have serious bakers on board, is to buy your gingerbread house kits – you'll need to make sure that you have enough for all the teams. *(IKEA do the cheapest we have found at £2.99 but you can check your local supermarket too!)*

You will need enough tables and space for the participants to work.

The best 'cement' for gingerbread houses is royal icing, you can buy ready-made or whip up a batch before your event, so there's enough for each team to use.

Put a bowl of icing at each work station.

You could ask each team to supply their own edible decorations, or make sure you have a good supply for sharing – candy canes, mini marshmallows, jelly tots, chocolate buttons: just ask your guests to bring their own.

Choose some Christmas music to set the scene.

## Divide into Teams

Unless your fundraiser involves only a few people, divide into teams.

We suggest 2 participants per team, with a mix of different ages, especially if you have lots of younger builders!

If you plan to award prizes, each team should choose a name.

## Let the fun begin!

Allow time to build and decorate.

You may like to take a break after the basic structure is built to allow the icing to harden. You could play games, serve snacks or just take time to chat.

Take lots of photos, award prizes/certificates – categories could include most creative, most sturdy, most festive, etc.

Tidy up, celebrate the build and then send the funds to Habitat as soon as possible!

Don't forget to share your photos and videos on social media & encourage others to get involved!

Tag us **@habitatforhumanityireland** on Instagram or **@habitatireland** on Twitter & TikTok! Don't forget to hashtag **#habitatgingerbreadbuild**

