



Taste of Home Gingerbread Open House

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Taste of Home is hosting a **Gingerbread Open House** where you can share stories, pictures and tips and tricks for making gingerbread houses on their [facebook page](#). The [Taste of Home Gingerbread Open House](#) will run from December 9th to 15th so be sure to share your creations this week on Facebook.

I have fond memories of making gingerbread houses with my son and daughter when they were younger. It used to be an annual tradition. Now that they're in high school it's not high on their list of holiday traditions, but my daughter and I had fun making this house to share with the Taste of Home readers. If you are a regular reader of my blog, you know that I typically don't share recipes that are time intensive. I'm not a purist when it comes to making gingerbread houses. Target, Wal-Mart and craft stores sell a lovely preassembled house for \$10 that comes with a few decorations and they work great.

Years ago, I bought a plastic house at The Kansas City Holiday Mart which you can decorate for any season. I thought the idea was genius. As luck would have it, right after I bought the house the interest in making gingerbread houses started to wane. You can purchase a candy cottage by clicking [here](#). It's reusable and you can decorate it for other holidays as well. I was excited to use my house this year for the first time. You just snap it together and start decorating. I purchased store bought icing and some candy canes, and used leftover candy and pretzel sticks to decorate the house. Shredded coconut makes great snow. The chimney is decorated with Kraft Caramel bits that had passed their expiration date. I have two more packages of them in my pantry. I'm sure I had grand plans to make caramel apples with them at one time.





My daughter and I spent a nice afternoon decorating the house and working as a team. She's a much more patient froster than I am. I'm so glad [Taste of Home](#) invited their group of bloggers to join in the fun. I spent some quality time with my daughter doing something that brings back happy memories instead of rushing around buying gifts. My daughter still enjoys the gifts, but it's easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of things and not spend any time with those you love. I hope you'll share your stories and creations on [Taste of Home's facebook page](#) this week. For more gingerbread house inspiration you can go to their [website](#).

Linking to: [The Sunday Showcase Party](#), [Time To Sparkle Link Party](#)

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