How to make a Gingerbread House

Creative themes and textures

Winter Wonderland: Cover the roof and walls with fluffy white marshmallows to look like snow. Use colored marshmallows or sugar for details like trees and snowflakes.
Candy Cane Cabin: Use candy canes to outline the roof and make a path leading to the door. Incorporate red and white candies for a cohesive, festive look.
Log Cabin: Use pretzel rods or skinny pretzel sticks to create a rustic, log-cabin-like design on the walls.

Using candy for unique effects

Snowy Roof: Use small, white candies, dragees, or a mix of white and silver sprinkles for a snowy or icy roof.
Sparkling Walkway: Icing the base with white icing and then sprinkling with sparkling sugar creates a snowy yard. Use gold star sprinkles to make a walkway leading to the door.
Cereal for Roofing/Decor: Use cereals like Cinnamon Toast Crunch as roof tiles or to create a textured pattern on the walls.
Sweet "Trees": Cover ice cream cones with green icing and star tips to create different-sized trees. Use Bugles chips to make "trees" for a unique look.
Decorative Fence: Create a fence from sour patch kids or mini candy canes.

Piping and icing techniques

Piped Trees:
Create realistic trees by piping pull-out dots in a triangle shape on the house using a star tip, then add nonpareils or a gold star on top.
Piped Snow/Icicles:
Use white icing with a star tip to create fluffy snowdrifts or drippy icicles around the windows and roof.
Textured Walls:
Paint the walls with watered-down royal icing and then add sugar or glitter for a sparkly, snowy effect.