



Why do my cookies say “May Contain Allergens”?

All Girl Scout Cookie packaging labels include a required “Contains” statement to declare the allergens used as ingredients for the cookie. For the 2019-2020 season, ABC added a voluntary “MAY CONTAIN” statement to declare the presence of allergens in the bakery where cookies are made. The statement was added to be transparent and sensitive to the needs of customers pertaining to severe allergies.

Q: Can you provide an explanation as to why the allergen warning statement was changed?

A: It is always our goal to be as transparent, open and honest with our customers as we can so they can make informed decisions about what they buy. To that end, we changed our labelling this year to “may contain” in order to be sensitive to the various needs of consumers as it pertains to potential allergens.

Q: What options are available for families who suffer from allergies?

A: While we’ve added the “may contain” language, the recipe itself hasn’t changed. Furthermore, we continue to list all allergens under the “may contain” statement in our labelling. Only those allergens explicitly listed under the “Contains” statement are actually contained in the cookies.

Q: Have the ingredients changed?

A: Customers will be buying the same great cookies they’ve purchased year after year, with no changes to the ingredients, recipes, or production process.

Q: If the ingredients or processes haven’t changed, why were some cookies safe last year, but potentially dangerous now?

A: It is not the case that these cookies are potentially dangerous now—there is no change to the allergen risk this year compared to previous seasons. The cookies are every bit as safe this year as they were last year and the year before that. Nothing has changed in our processes, recipes or ingredients. This is a question of words on a label, and our desire to be as open and transparent as possible with customers.

For additional questions, please contact abcbakers@westonfoods.com



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