

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Mercer County, Ohio?

Home kitchen sales. Not a shop or rented commercial kitchen. Last verified 2026-05-06.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

HOME OCCUPATION

Varies

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

SALES CAP

—

OHIO RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Ohio permits PDF](#)[Ohio cottage food law page](#)[Ohio Department of Agriculture cottage food program](#)[Statute: O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

This is what it takes to sell from a home kitchen in Mercer County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

Mercer County, Ohio. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Varies

LOCAL HEALTH

No

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

PICKUP AT THE HOUSE

Conditional

HOME KITCHEN ONLY

If you want a shop or a rented commercial kitchen, these rows do not apply.

CONTINUE ONLINE

Ohio permits PDF →

<https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/ohio.pdf>

Ohio cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/ohio>

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/ohio/mercercounty>

Mercer County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/ohio/mercercounty>

Not legal advice. Rules change. Confirm with the office before you file.

Where to file

State

Ohio registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: No. Labeled cottage food products may be sold to or used by retail food establishments and food service operations licensed under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3717. This enables indirect/wholesale sales within Ohio. Products may not be sold outside the state of Ohio.

Ohio permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/ohio.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/ohio

Ohio Department of Agriculture: <https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/food-safety/cottage-foods>

Statute: [O.R.C. §3715.023](#); [§3715.025](#); Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20

Zoning / home occupation

Varies. No state-level permit required. Mercer County zoning resolutions may require a home occupation permit for unincorporated areas. Contact Mercer County Regional Planning Commission in Celina for local requirements.

Health

No. ODA has sampling authority; no routine inspection required.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct sales (home, farmers markets, events) and indirect sales to licensed retail food establishments permitted within Ohio. No out-of-state sales.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

ODA cottage food is not a food-service license. Ohio cottage food may be sold to licensed food-service operations. Baking in a commissary means that kitchen's food-service or food-establishment license applies. Local health departments license food service.

Official source: [Ohio food safety program](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.mercercounty.gov>

This file is the home-kitchen path. A rented kitchen uses a different permit. Ask the kitchen manager which license they expect, then call the local health office.

SOURCES

<https://www.mercercounty.gov>

<https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/food-safety/cottage-foods>

<https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3715.025>

<https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/chapter-901:3-20>

Mercer County and nearby places

Regulation	Mercer County	Auglaize County	Shelby County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific pet restriction in Ohio state cottage food law.	No specific pet restriction in Ohio state cottage food law.	No specific pet restriction in Ohio state cottage food law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales (home, farmers markets, events) and indirect sales to licensed retail food establishments permitted within Ohio. No out-of-sta...	Direct sales (home, farmers markets, events) and indirect sales to licensed retail food establishments permitted within Ohio. No out-of-sta...	Direct sales (home, farmers markets, events) and indirect sales to licensed retail food establishments permitted within Ohio. No out-of-sta...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Ohio cottage food law allows production of approved non-potentially-hazardous foods in a home kitchen with no sales cap and no registration...	Ohio cottage food law allows production of approved non-potentially-hazardous foods in a home kitchen with no sales cap and no registration...	Ohio cottage food law allows production of approved non-potentially-hazardous foods in a home kitchen with no sales cap and no registration...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous, shelf-stable foods only per OAC 901:3-20-04 approved product list.	Non-potentially hazardous, shelf-stable foods only per OAC 901:3-20-04 approved product list.	Non-potentially hazardous, shelf-stable foods only per OAC 901:3-20-04 approved product list.
POPULATION	42,321	46,263	48,145

More pages for this place

These Crosodo pages cover the same home cottage-food path:

Ohio permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/ohio.pdf

Ohio cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/ohio

Mercer County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/ohio/mercercounty