

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Rusk County, Texas?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

HOME OCCUPATION

Varies

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

SALES CAP

\$150,000 / year

TEXAS RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Texas permits PDF](#)[Texas cottage food law page](#)[Texas Department of State Health Services cottage food program](#)[Statute: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

What you need

Rusk County, Texas. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

ANNUAL SALES CAP

\$150,000 / year

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Varies

LOCAL HEALTH

No

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

PICKUP AT THE HOUSE

Yes

HOME KITCHEN ONLY

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

HOW THIS PLACE WORKS

Texas does not let counties charge a cottage-food permit. State law says a local government may not require a permit, license, or fee for a cottage food production operation. The leftover local steps are usually city zoning, a DBA (assumed name) at the county clerk, and sales tax if your products are taxable. This packet shows the state DSHS page for the food rules.

Official source: [Texas DSHS cottage food production operations](#)

CONTINUE ONLINE

Texas permits PDF →

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

Texas cottage food law page →

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

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/texas/rusk-county>

Rusk County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/texas/rusk-county>

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

Where to file

State

Texas registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: No. Sales must be made directly to consumers or to a 'cottage food vendor' (a new category created by SB 541 in 2025 – a person with a contractual relationship who sells on behalf of the cottage food operation to consumers in-state). Cottage food products may not be sold as ingredients to a food service establishment. No retail grocery store or wholesale sales permitted under the pre-2025 framework; SB 541 (2025) adds the cottage food vendor intermediary option. Products must be delivered to consumer or vendor at point of sale or consumer-designated location.

Texas permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/texas.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/texas

Texas Department of State Health Services: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

Statute: [Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Varies. Rusk County is an East Texas county (Henderson, near Kilgore oil fields). Texas state law preempts local health regulation. Contact Rusk County government or City of Henderson for home occupation/ business license requirements.

Health

No. Only to prevent immediate and serious public health threat.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct and some indirect sales. Online orders permitted.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

DSHS does not let locals permit cottage food. A commissary is different. Texas cottage food is exempt from food-establishment rules. A commissary, restaurant, or shared kitchen is a retail food establishment permitted by the local health department or DSHS.

Official source: [Texas DSHS retail food establishments](#)

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

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

Rusk County and nearby places

Regulation	Rusk County	Cherokee County	Nacogdoches County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific TX or Rusk County restriction.	Not specified in state cottage food law.	No specific statutory prohibition; food handler training covers safe practices
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and some indirect sales. Online orders permitted.	Sales allowed directly to consumers in Texas, online, at farmers markets, through cottage food vendors (SB 541, 2025), and by mail/delivery...	Direct sales and wholesale to registered cottage food vendors allowed (SB 541, 2025). Sales at home, farmers markets, events, and retail st...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	No
RESTRICTIONS	All non-TCS foods allowed. Annual cap \$150,000. No inspection or registration required.	Must produce in home kitchen. All non-TCS foods allowed. Annual gross income cap \$150,000 (as of SB 541, 2025). No meat/poultry/seafood, ic...	Cottage food must be produced in the home kitchen of operator's primary domestic residence. Local health departments have NO authority to i...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products. Prohibited: meat, poultry, seafood, ice/frozen treats, low-acid canned goods, CBD/THC, raw milk.	Products must be non-TCS; proper storage implied.	Non-TCS foods primarily; proper storage required
POPULATION	52,755	50,824	64,768

More pages for this place

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

Texas permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/texas.pdf

Texas cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/texas

Rusk County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/texas/rusk-county